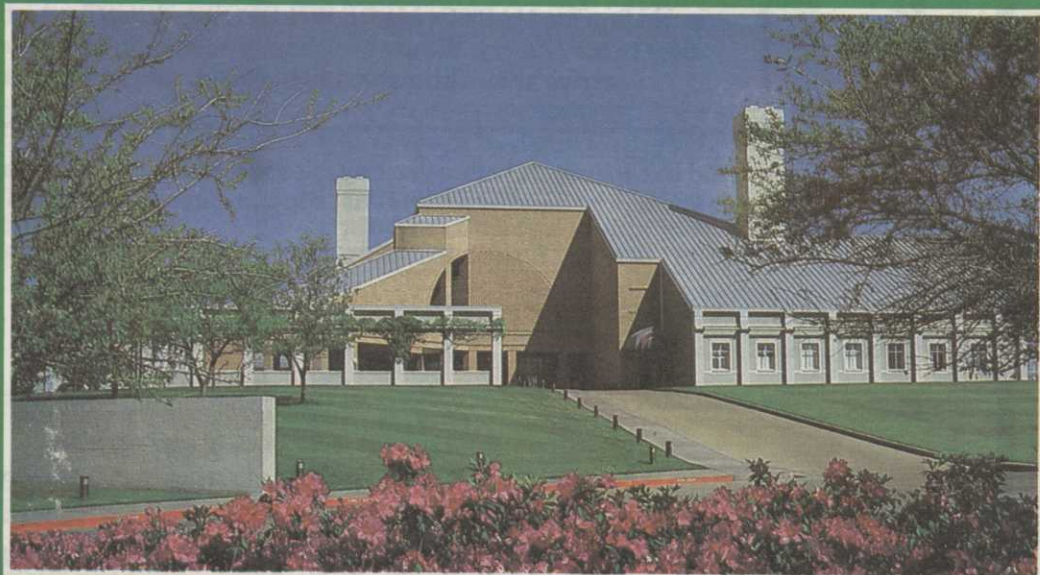


the Golf Course

MARCH 1988

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



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**BIGGA 1984
UPDATE**

JANUARY and February proved to be exceptionally busy months at Headquarters, with large amounts of mail to be processed each day in terms of membership applications/renewals. Particularly encouraging is the number of new applications for membership.

It remains essential for section secretaries to ensure that their sections are giving priority to increasing their local membership as strength lies in numbers, and on a national basis the impact of the Association will be that much greater with a strong and growing membership.

Annual General Meeting

Apologies to members for the change of location. However, it is a positive decision based on an anticipated attendance far in excess of that originally envisaged. The interest shown in the meeting and the members prepared to travel long distances to attend is all very encouraging for the future. Although they do not have voting rights, we would welcome the attendance of associate and trade members at the meeting.

Section Secretaries

Members should note that Jim Russell has departed to pastures new in Surrey whilst Bill Pile will step down at the end of April in Devon and Cornwall. Their replacements are Mr D C Johnson (Surrey), The Flat, New Zealand Golf Club, Woodham Lane, Surrey. KY15 3QD tel: 09323 48818 and Mr J H Wood (Devon and Cornwall), Morwenna, New Road, Cornwall.

Telephone 0736 63232.

Thanks are due to Jim and Bill for all their hard work. We hope that David and Jim will

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CHANGE OF VENUE

The Annual General Meeting will now be held on 23rd March, 1988 at 2.00pm in the Ainsty Suite at York Racecourse and NOT at the Royal York Hotel.

Trade and Associate Members as well as Greenkeeper Members are invited to attend.

**Neil Thomas
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

Continued on page 9

the Golf Course

MARCH 1988

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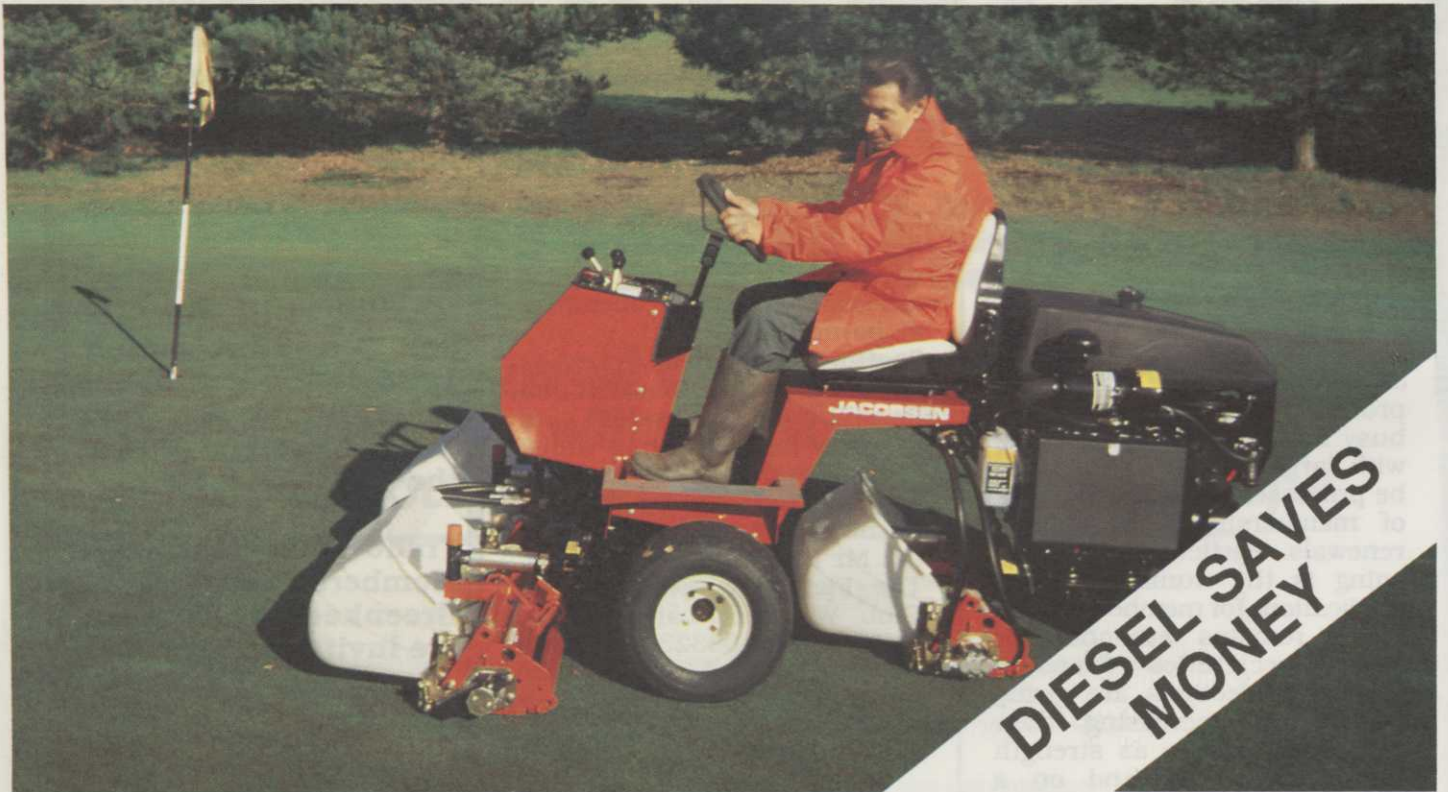
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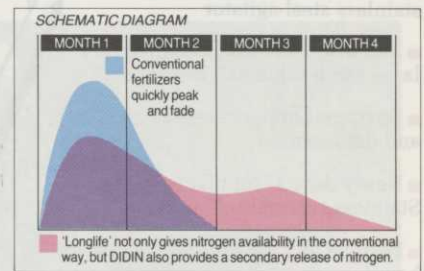
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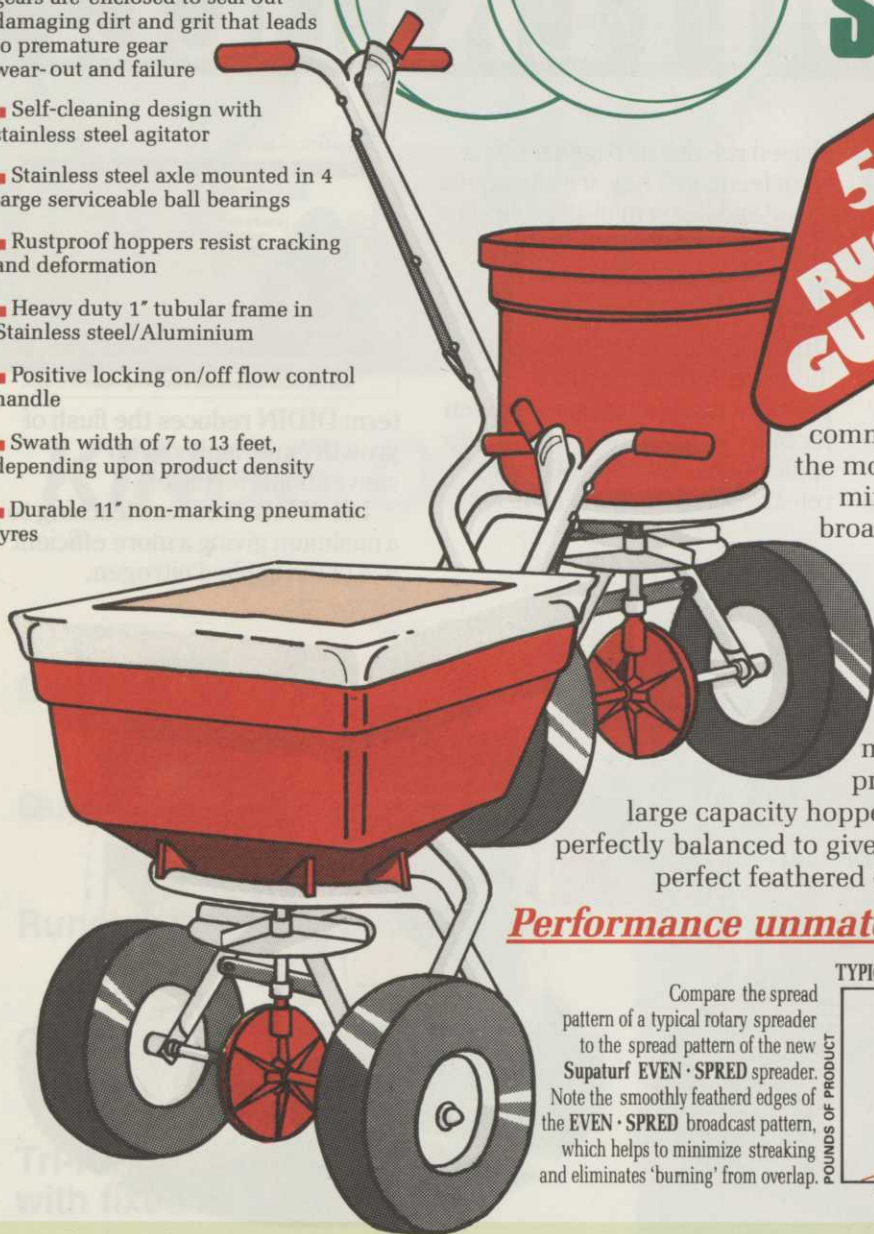
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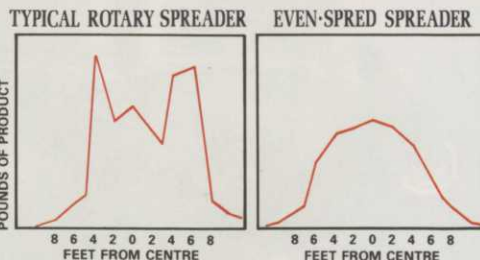
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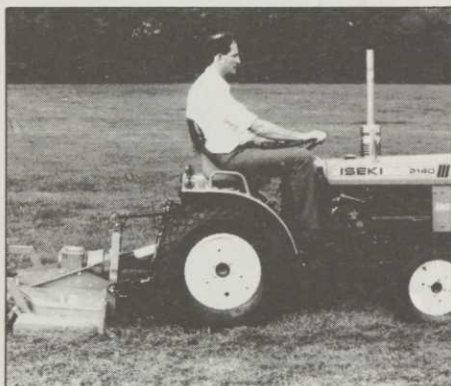


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Five regional finals of 18 holes medal play lead to qualification for the National Final - to

be played over 27 holes medal play this September.

There's some great prizes on offer and, we hope, excellent golf too.

Look out for more details in the March issue.



Iseki U.K. Limited, Bydand Lane, Little Paxton, Cambs. PE19 4ES. Telephone (0480) 218100. Telex 32528

ISEKI
Par Excellence

Continued from page 3

soon settle in and enjoy the challenges which lie ahead. An amendment to last month's list - Arnold Phipps-Jones can be contacted at 1 Devonshire Place, Priors Park, Glos. GL20 5ES Tel: 0684 850129/295405.

Uniform

There has been some confusion in relation to the Association's badge. An embroidered badge has now been considered and rejected.

The badge will therefore definitely be a wire one and samples are awaited. It is appreciated that the delay is frustrating but it is essential that the Association exercises caution in its choice of uniform as the end result must create a professional image. Supply times on all items have been lengthy in terms of the initial deliveries but future turn-round times should prove acceptable. Once again, I would stress that all orders should be submitted via your section

secretary and NOT direct to headquarters.

Diary

Section secretaries, please ensure that all section dates are forwarded to your regional administrators who should liaise with each other and co-ordinate dates for submission to myself. This will prevent clashes within regions/sections and ensure an organised approach throughout the country.

Neil Thomas
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS AND SECTION SECRETARIES

SCOTISH REGION

ADMINISTRATOR:
Mr. C. Kennedy
82 Dumbreck Road
GLASGOW
Scotland
G41 9DW
Tel: 041-427-4242

SECRETARIES:

Ayrshire
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Ayrshire
KA23 9AQ
Tel: 0294-823210

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Crossford
DUNFERMLINE
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KY12 8XR
Tel: 0383-737753

East
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Scotland
EH14 2HP
Tel: 031-443-3214

North
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31 Blantyre Crescent
FRASERBURGH
Aberdeenshire
Tel: 0346-26631

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Flat 1
10 Viewfield Street
STIRLING
Scotland
FK8 1UA
Tel: 0786-64098

NORTHERN REGION

ADMINISTRATOR:
Mr. D. Golding
38 The Grove
Flixton
MANCHESTER
M31 3JH
Tel: 061-928-0761
061-748-8680/8562

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20 Aston Way
Clavering Park
WHICKHAM
Tyne & Wear
Tel: 091-4886765

North West
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Pensby
WIRRAL
Merseyside
L61 8TF
Tel: 051-648-1084

Northern
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MENSTON
Nr. Ilkley
West Yorkshire
LS29 6HB
Tel: 0943-72008

Cleveland
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DARLINGTON
Co. Durham
DL1 2TT
Tel: 0325-489287/55738

Sheffield
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302 Redmires Road
Lodgemoore
SHEFFIELD
South Yorkshire
S10 4LD
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MIDLAND AND NORTH WALES

ADMINISTRATOR:
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1 Devonshire Place
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TEWKESBURY
Glos
Tel: 0684-292892/29540

SECRETARIES:

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27 Condor Close
Broughton Astley
LEICESTER
LE9 6RR
Tel: 053-431795

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26 Loxley Road
BERKHAMSTEAD
Herts
HP4 3PS
Tel: No Telephone

Berks/Bucks/Oxon
Mr. R. P. Kates
6 Honey Hill
HILLINGDON
Middlesex
UB10 9NP
Tel: 0895-53581

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SUTTON COLDFIELD
West Midlands
B75 5NA
Tel: 021-308-6694

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Greenwell Cottage
Church Street
Barrowby
GRANTHAM
Lincs
Tel: 0476-68656/63355

SOUTH EAST REGION

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Mr. N. Exley
1 The Farmhouse
Hills Lane
NORTHWOOD
Middlesex
HA6 2QL
Tel: 09274-24737

SECRETARIES:

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The Flat
New Zealand Golf Club
Woodham Lane
Weybridge Surrey.
KY15 3QD
Tel: 09323 48818

Sussex
Mr. D. Coomber
1 Friars Oak Cottages
HASSOCKS
Sussex
BN6 9NA
Tel: 07918-5084

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Canterbury Golf Club
Scotland Hills
CANTERBURY
Kent
CT1 1TW
Tel: 0227-470025

London
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10 Hills Lane
NORTHWOOD
Middlesex
Tel: 09274-26167

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2 Golf Cottages
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Buckingham Road
IPSWICH
Suffolk
IP3 8UG
Tel: 0273-723101

SOUTH WEST & SOUTH WALES

ADMINISTRATOR:
Mr. G. Child
Archways
Churston Road
CHURSTON FERRERS
South Devon
Tel: 0803-844056/845274

SECRETARIES:

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Mr. J. R. Dennis
The Bungalow
Hampshire
Sparsholt, Winchester
Hampshire SO12 2NF
Tel: 086 272 441 Ext.288

South West
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17 Chesterton Grove
CIRENCESTER
Glos
Tel: 0285-61908

Devon & Cornwall
Mr. H. J. Wood
Morwenna
New Road
PENZANCE
Cornwall
Tel: 0736 63232

South Wales
Mr. P. J. Swain
7 Elm Close
Underwood Estate
Llanmartin
NEWPORT Gwent NP6 2HT
Tel: 0633-413227

GREENKEEPER TRAINING COMMITTEE

Members should note that the administration of the Greenkeeper Training Committee is now in the process of being transferred to Mr. Neil Thomas who will become the General Administrator to the Committee. All matters relating to greenkeeper training should henceforth be directed to the General Administrator, Greenkeeper Training Committee at the Sports Turf Research Institute, BINGLEY, West Yorkshire. BD16 1AU - Telephone (0274) 560556. For members' benefit, the Greenkeeper Training Committee has recommended that the following Colleges be the approved establishments for greenkeeper training:-

ENGLAND AND WALES
Cheshire College of Agriculture
Reaseheath
NANTWICH
Cheshire
Tel: 0270-625131

Askham Bryan College of Agriculture
and Horticulture
Askham Bryan
YORK

Tel: 0904-702121

Somerset College of Agriculture
and Horticulture
Cannington
BRIDGWATER
Somerset
Tel: 0278-652226

Plumpton Agricultural College
LEWES
East Sussex
Tel: 0273 890454

Hampshire College of Agriculture
Sparsholt
WINCHESTER
Hampshire
Tel: 086 272 4411

IRELAND
The Botanic Gardens
Gaasnevin
DUBLIN
Republic of Ireland
Tel: 0001 377596

SCOTLAND
Elmwood Agricultural and Tech College
Caralgie Road
CUPAR, Fife

Tel: 0334-52781
Langaide College
Woodburn House
Horticulture Dept
Buchanan Drive
Rutherglen
GLASGOW
Tel: 041-649-4901

Oatridge Agricultural College
Ecclesmachan
BROXBURN
West Lothian
Tel: 0506-854387

ISEKI

GREENKEEPERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

PLANS for the BIGGA/Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Championship are now well advanced with dates for the regional finals now allocated as follows:-

Northern England: 24th May, Moor Allerton Golf Club, Leeds.

Scottish: 2nd June, Hilton Park Golf Club, Glasgow.

South Western: 15th June, Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol.

Midlands: 27th June, Tewkesbury Golf Club, Gloucestershire.

South Eastern: 29th June, Wentworth Golf Club, Surrey.

These regional finals will be played over 18 holes of medal play, with prizes on offer for all

three categories of handicap player plus spot prizes as well.

Category 1: Handicap 0 - 9 inclusive.

Category 2: 10 - 18 inclusive.

Category 3: Above 18.

The first four players from each category will then qualify for the national final which will be played in early September.

If you would like to play in the 1988 Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament, please send the registration form to your regional administrator. Each regional final will be confined to 60 qualifiers apportioned equally between the sections in the region, ie. in a region with five sections, each section will provide twelve qualifiers, four from each category.

REGISTRATION FORM 1988 ISEKI GREENKEEPERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

I would like to be considered to play in the 1988 Iseki Greenkeepers Golf Tournament

NAME _____

GOLF CLUB _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

HOME TEL: NO: _____ WORK TEL: NO: _____

OFFICIAL HANDICAP _____

ISSUED BY GOLF CLUB _____

PLEASE SEND THIS FOR TO YOUR
REGIONAL BIGGA ADMINSTRATOR
AS INDICATED

BELOW:

Scottish Region

Mr C Kennedy,
82 Dumbreck Road, GLASGOW,
Scotland. G41 9DW Tel: 041 427 4242

Midland and North Wales Region

Mr A Phipps-Jones,
1 Devonshire Place,
Priors Park, Tewkesbury, Glos.
GL20 5ES. Tel: 0684 850129/295405

South West and South Wales Region

Mr G Child,
Archways, Churston Road,
Churston Ferrers, South Devon.
Tel: 0803 844056/845274

Northern Region

Mr D Golding,
38 The Greve, Flixton, Manchester.
M31 3JH Tel: 061 928 0761

South East Region

Mr N Exley,
1 The Farmhouse, Hills Lane,
Northwood, Middlesex. HA6 2QL
Tel: 09274 24737

BIGGA NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

THE Scottish Region Sub-Committee is hard at work on the organisation of this event and it is anticipated that the brochure will shortly be with the printers. Full details of the week will appear in the April edition of *the Golf Course*. However, some preliminary details are set out, and a form for those wishing to register their interest in attending can be found below. Completion of this form and its forwarding to Chris Kennedy will ensure priority attention when the brochure is distributed.

Tournament: This will be played over three days, 26th - 28th September and competition will be for all the Association's major trophies, eg. News of the World Trophy and Golf Illustrated Challenge Cup. The team to represent the Association in the Kubota Challenge in October will be selected from the national tournament results.

Conference: This will be held at the Concert Hall in Troon over two days, 29th - 30th September. Invitations have been issued to speakers at home and abroad with a view to having a truly international conference.

Transport: Coaches will be arranged from major regional centres to Ayr and there will be no extra charge for this over and above the fixed rates for the week. Arrangements will be co-ordinated through regional administrators.

Social Events: There will be varied entertainment incorporating live music at a number of hotels each evening and major events will include a civic reception, a 'Scottish night out', big band dance and the banquet and prize-giving.

Coach Trips/Visits: There will be a number of interesting excursions, eg. Land O' Burns Centre, Monument Gardens, Burns Cottage and Auld Brig; 'Electric Brae', Culzean Castle, Crossangel Abbey - including tea at The Turnberry Hotel; 'Johnny Walkers' Kilmarnock; and 'By Popular Demand' which could include for instance a shopping trip to Edinburgh.

Sponsorship: Trade readers interested in sponsorship of the event should note that Jim Paton is co-ordinating this aspect and he can be contacted at Glenhaven, 1 North Road, West Kilbride, Ayrshire. KA23 9AQ. Telephone: 0294 823210.

Neil Thomas, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BIGGA 1988 NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**I am interested in attending the National Tournament/Conference.
Please forward me the brochure as soon as it is available.**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

I am interested in the following (PLEASE TICK)

Full Package - Single Person (£170.00)

Full Package - Couple (£320.00)

Full Package
without accommodation (£ 50.00)

Conference only
(£10.00 per day) (£20.00)

I require details of bed and breakfast accommodation

PLEASE FORWARD TO:
Chris Kennedy, 82 Dumbreck Road,
Glasgow,
Scotland. G41 9DW
Tel: 041 472 4242

BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



1988 GREENKEEPER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

(NB. Not to be completed by 1987 Members)

To be returned to: The Executive Director, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute,
BINGLEY, West Yorkshire. BD16 1AU.

FULL NAME HOME ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

DATE OF BIRTH

NAME OF EMPLOYER ADDRESS

.....

.....

.....

PRESENT POST DATE OF APPOINTMENT

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

.....

I wish to be affiliated to the Section (see below).

I HEREBY APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

SIGNED DATE

Subscriptions are NOT to be sent with this form but will be invoiced separately.

Fees payable will be:

(i) Full Member	£25.00
(ii) 18 years of age and under	£12.50

Sections:

- Scottish Region : North, East, West, Central, Ayrshire.
- Northern England Region : North East, North West, Northern, Cleveland, Sheffield.
- Midland and North Wales : East Midland, Midland, East of England, Mid Anglia,
: Berks/Bucks/Oxon.
- South East : East Anglia, Greater London, Surrey, Sussex, Kent.
- South West and South Wales : South Coast, Devon and Cornwall, South West, South Wales.

BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



1988 ASSOCIATE AND TRADE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM (NB. Not to be completed by Trade and Associate Members who joined during 1987)

To be returned to: **The Executive Director, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute,
BINGLEY, West Yorkshire. BD16 1AU.**

FULL NAME HOME ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

POSTCODE

NAME OF COMPANY (where appropriate) PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS:

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Categories:	B. 1.	Associate Member	£25.00
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I HEREBY APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

I wish to join as Member in Category.....

and I enclose my cheque as indicated above in the sum of £ made payable to BIGGA.

A receipt will not be issued unless specifically requested.

SIGNED DATE

Announcing the Winners of our Questionnaire Competition

In the November/December issue of "the Golf Course" we asked our readers to fill in a questionnaire, covering chemicals, fertilisers and their distribution. The results were most interesting - the answers to "What product not now available, would you most like your current supplier to offer....." were in the main humorous therefore our winners reflect that response:-

John Winterbottom, Course Superintendent, The Greenock Golf Club,
"A greens committee "bright ideas" suppressant"

Tim McCreadie, Head Greenkeeper, Hesketh Golf Club,
"A powder or liquid which is antagonistic to thatch"

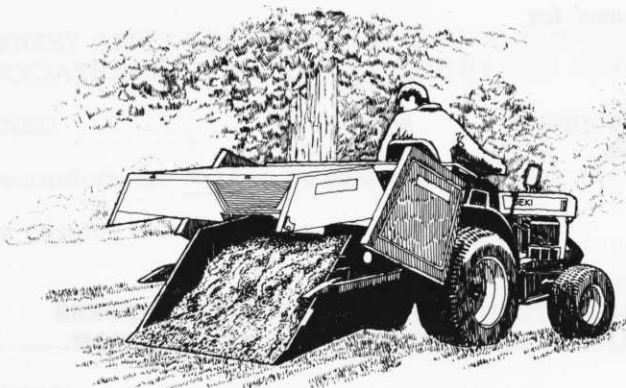
Bill Lawson, Course Manager, Heswall Golf Club,
"An effective irritant to be used on all greenkeepers who are not members of BIGGA"

Michael Pierce, Head Greenkeeper, Roehampton Golf Club.
"Instant hydraulic oil remover for greens"

Gareth Roberts, Assistant Head Greenkeeper, North Middlesex Golf Club.
"A liquid feed greens with whisky, so they come up half cut"

**To all our winners - congratulations
prizes are on their way.**

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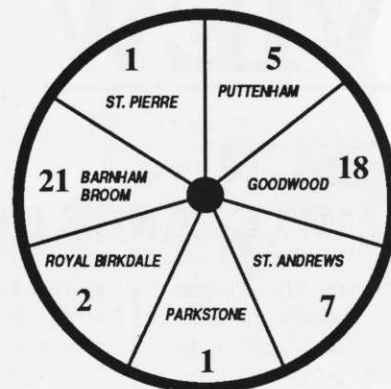
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COMPANY REVIEW

JACOBSEN - TURF MAINTENANCE SUPPLIERS

FOR over 65 years the name Jacobsen has been prominently identified as a leading supplier of turf maintenance equipment. The company provides mowers, blowers, seeders, aerators, sweepers, etc. that help to preserve well manicured landscapes around golf courses, sports fields and recreation areas. In North America the name Jacobsen is a household name among greenkeepers and their equipment is extensively used on golf courses in many parts of the world, including the UK.

RELIABLE

Chris Smith, manager of Jacobsen, at Kings Lynn, Norfolk, said. "The increasing amount of equipment we have sold in this country is a good indication of the popularity and reliability of the Jacobsen range of machinery. We are also aware that the best machinery is no good if you cannot depend on fast after-sales service. Jacobsen's products line is backed by factory trained mechanics providing speedy, competent service". Chris continued, "Our service agents maintain a large inventory of spare parts

and these inventories are further supported by our computer ordering network, so that any part can be on its way to the customer within 24 hours. With Jacobsen, machinery spends its time on the job, not in the workshop".

Chris went on, "A friend of mine who has been in the golf course business as advisor and agronomist, says that golf clubs are like governments they like a change now and again with their equipment. Once you get them to change it is up to you to ensure that they keep using your products and the way to do that is by giving them the best service.

FAIR

"There is a wide choice of machinery now available in the market place. Competition is keen. We have always encouraged our appointed agents to be scrupulously fair in their dealings with customers and give good service. And that can lead to further sales".

Explained Chris: "When a greenkeeper recommends the purchase of one of our machines to his club and it is approved, it goes without saying we will guarantee he



Chris Smith

gets a first class follow-up service so that he will have no complaints from his committee if any minor faults develop in the machine's performance.

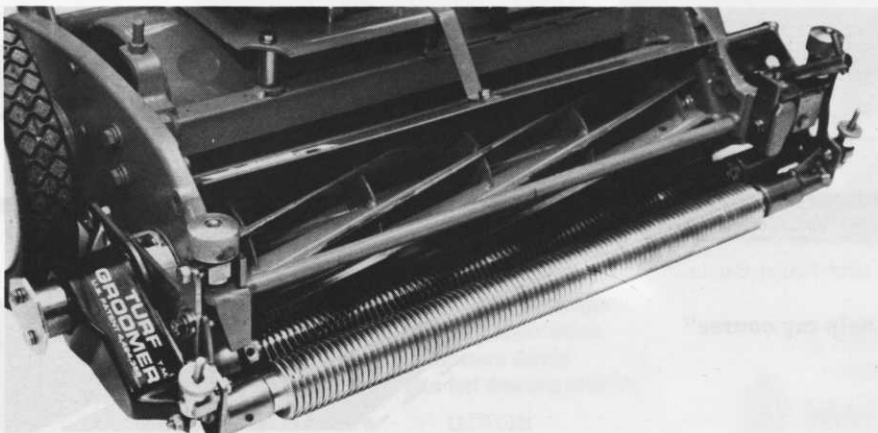
DEMONSTRATIONS

"During machinery demonstrations we like to invite club officials as well as greenkeepers so that everyone gets involved. Practical demonstrations are important because they allow every potential user to see the machine in action and be able to judge its performance under their own particular conditions.

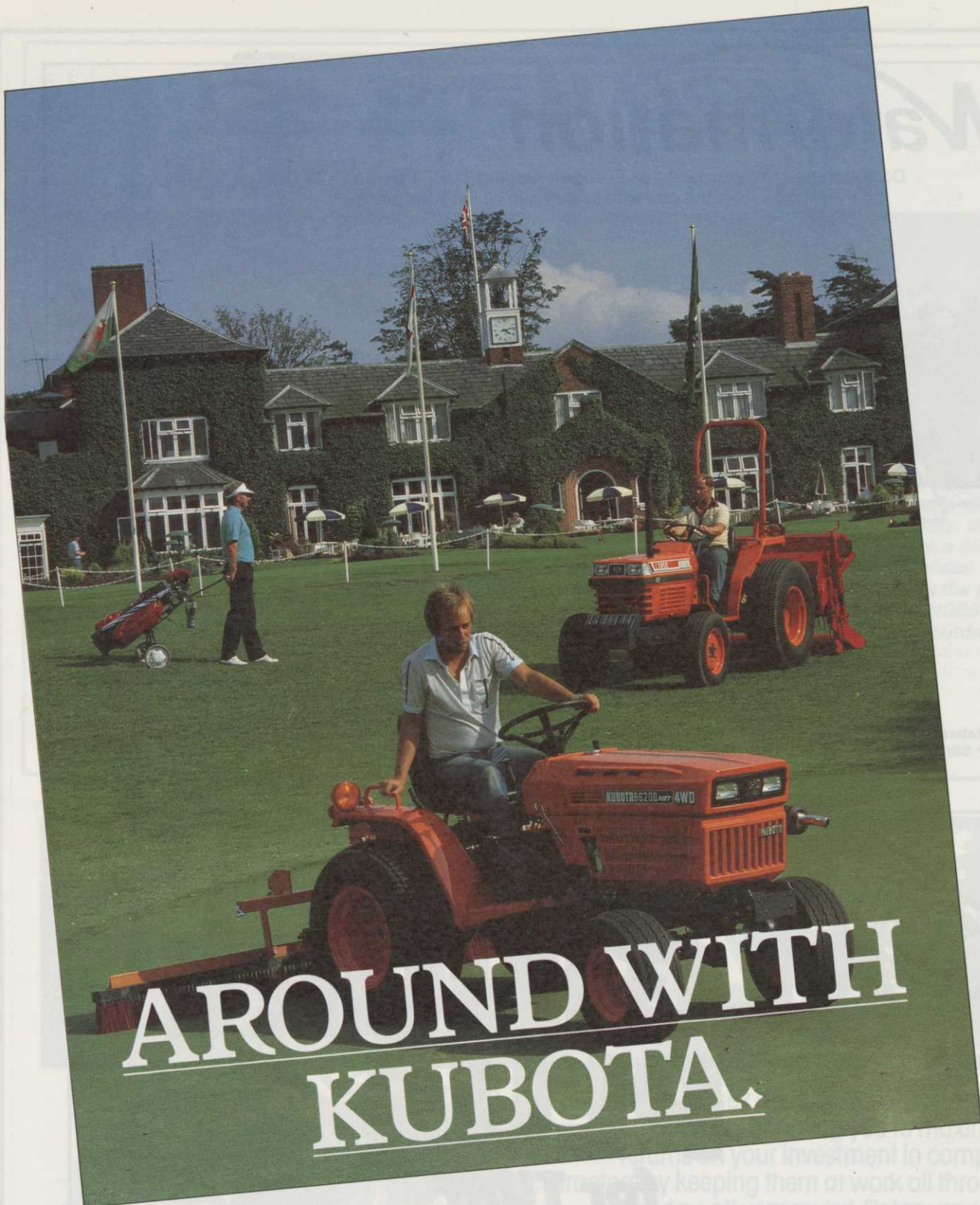
"As a matter of policy we are usually quite happy to leave our demonstration machinery with the greenkeeper for a couple of days to allow him to make a detailed assessment of its capabilities. When an experienced professional uses any of our machines we are confident that he will be impressed by its performance and that is the secret of our success.

"We sell direct through service agents in different part of the country. At Kings Lynn we have a technical service department, spare parts, accounts and sales co-ordination departments, and all work as a team. Our headquarters here are centrally situated for easy access to all parts of the country".

It was Jacobsen that produced the first ride-on Triplex Greens Mower. The Greens King IV is their latest example of the reliable, sophisticated greens mowing equipment that is a tribute to the ingenious engineering expertise of the company. Other popular products among greenkeepers are the Tri-King, Turf-Cat and Gang Mowers. ■



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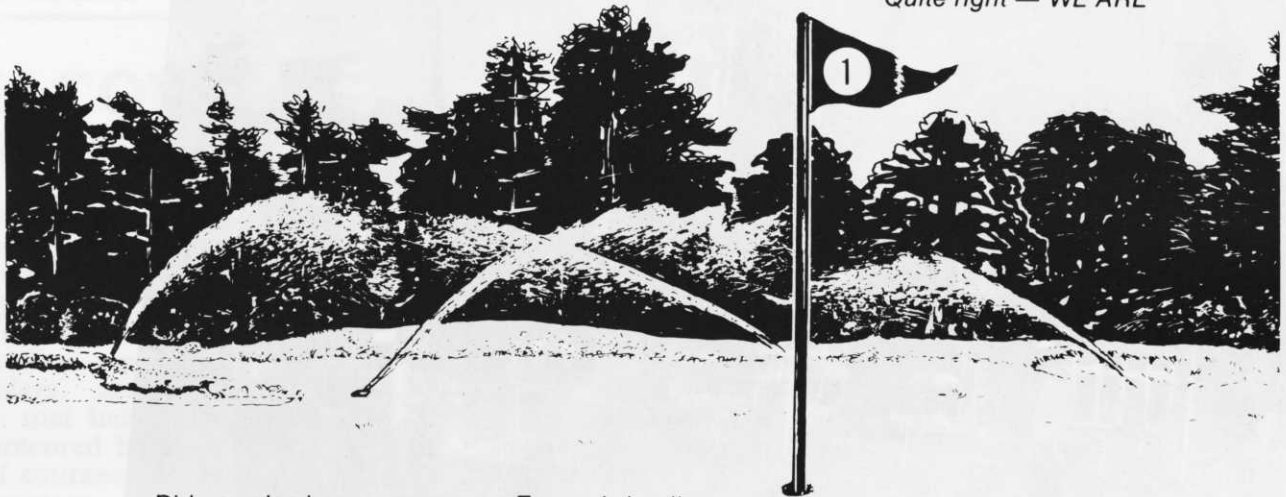


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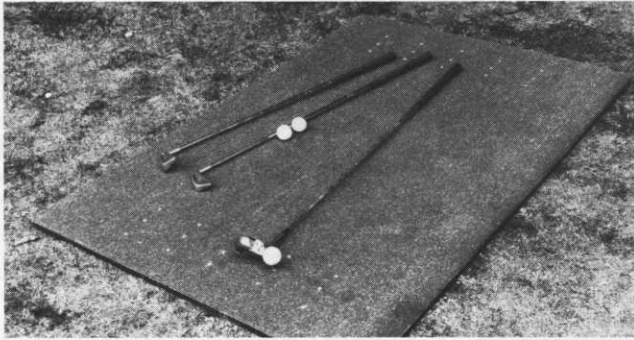
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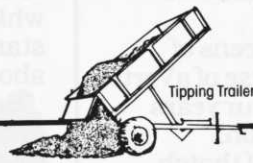


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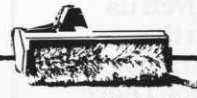
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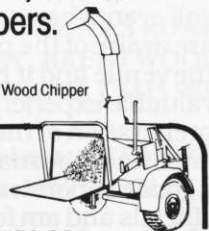
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THE history of Woodcote Park, Epsom, Surrey, goes back to the middle of the 12th century and it provides an admirable setting for the layout of the two 18 hole courses which belong to the RAC Country Club. From the elegant clubhouse building one has a commanding view of a lovely Capability Brown type of landscape, dominated by the golf courses which were laid out in 1915 by Herbert Fowler, the well known golf course architect.

The RAC Country Club has a good reputation among golf enthusiasts and those in the professional ranks, and the strategy of the courses was put to the test when the Martini International was played there in 1978. The Bob Hope Classic event allowed TV viewers to appreciate the beautiful surroundings and the superb golfing qualities of many of the holes.

The head greenkeeper responsible for the upkeep of the golf courses, Bob Wiles, 43, is a genial, friendly man, who is held in high esteem by all his enthusiastic staff. Said Bob: "I left school at the age of 15 and went to work on a farm briefly, then eventually go employment at Epsom Golf Club in 1962.

"I came to the RAC Club ten years ago with my wife, Janet and three children, Nicola, Sharon and Scott. We live in an old farmhouse on the edge of the course. My main hobby is karate, I am a brown belt and am studying for a black belt at the moment.

"I love the challenge of the job here," Bob continued, "and hope to remain with this club for the rest of my career. We have two courses, the Coronation and the Old course - the Coronation being the shorter of the two.

"Having staged international golf events here in the past we are aware of the popularity of the venue and it has given us valuable experience in the preparation of the course for important tournaments. I have a good rapport with all my club officials and am fortunate to have a knowledgeable and experienced estate manager, Keith Symon, with whom I have an excellent working relationship

OUT ON THE COURSE



THE RAC COUNTRY CLUB

When Bob Wiles was proudly taking me on a tour of his new greenkeeping headquarters at the club I was agreeably impressed and can honestly say his facilities must be among the best in the country and will be the envy of all his contemporaries. He explained "We have converted the old stable block into a modern greenkeeping complex, having a fully equipped workshop employing a qualified engineer, Tony Worsfold, and a trainee assistant. All our repairs are done here. No machinery is sent to manufacturers agents for overhauls. Each unit gets stripped down every year and is completely rebuilt with our own labour force."

Story by John Campbell

"Our main items of equipment are three Toro GM 3's, two Toro 216's, four Cushman and four tractors. There is a lot of grass here to cut - altogether about 300 acres, every blade of which gets clipped on a monthly rota during the growing season. On the chalky downland, drainage and growth is good and we are able to present the course in first class condition for major tournaments and club competitions. At one time we did have quite a bit of compaction on the greens of the Old Course, but use of a Verti-Drain over the past four years has cured the condition.

"We have a little bit of thatch on some of the greens and I have recently purchased a 'Coremaster', an Australian aerating machine, to start a hollow tining programme combined with overseeding in

the spring. The greens tend to hold a lot more surface water than they used to due to amount of thatch that has accumulated. After de-thatching operations we will follow up with an 80/20 dressing to help break down the build up of fibre".

Bob went on to talk about his staff: "I have two course foremen - Andy Davey, is in charge of the Old course, and John Shepherd, who recently joined us from Piltown Golf Club last year, is in charge of the Coronation course. There are five experienced staff working on the Old and three on the Coronation course. We also have a YTS lad who goes to college once a week. Good training is important for your greenkeepers. The job is much more technical now that courses are expected to be open 365 days a year. Nowadays, financial matters dictate that we have to be like the Windmill - never closed!

"All our staff are very industrious and we like to give them every encouragement. The club is good to us; there is a bonus and non-contributory pension scheme and meals are also supplied. We have all attended first-aid classes, chain saw instruction courses and we are about to start a course on pesticides which will help us to understand the rules and regulations about their application.

"Being fortunate in having first class workshop facilities, we are sometimes able to modify pieces of equipment to suit our particular requirements. One example was on our hydraulic 5-gang mowers, where no matter how securely the height of cut

setting was adjusted on each unit, it always seemed to work loose and slip out of alignment to affect the mowing height. To eliminate this we put a bolt right through the complete framework on each unit and now keep them permanently at three quarters of an inch. This was done two years ago and I have found no detriment to the fairways in mowing at this height all the year round".

When I asked Bob Wiles if he has any ideas on how a golf course should be run, he said, "An experienced head greenkeeper should be left to get on with the job. I am very lucky here at the RAC Country Club and it is left to me to run the course as I see fit - I do report to the greens committee once a month, but they never interfere with the day to day running of the course and they expect me to sort out my own problems. Everything I have asked for machinery-wise has always been provided and in return they expect me to keep the courses in first class playing condition.

"Our country club is embarking on a great expansion programme of some £2.5 million. This includes a sports complex consisting of six tennis courts, four squash courts plus an undercover heated swimming pool to be built over the next year" said Bob; "In my opinion the RAC is going to be one of the premier clubs in Europe".

On reflection, after seeing over his operation, I would tend to agree with him!



The RAC lost 400 trees during the hurricane force winds last year.



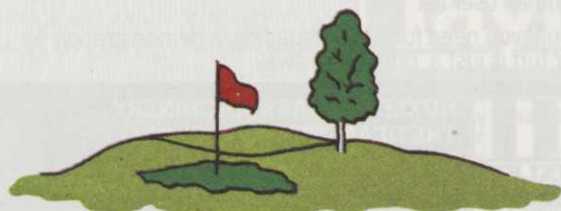
Bob Wiles (extreme left) and his staff at the RAC Country Club.

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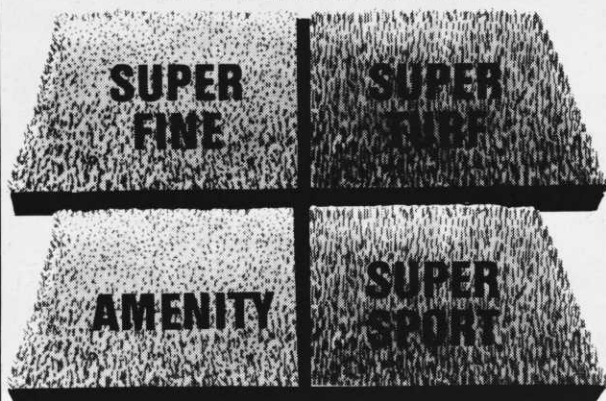
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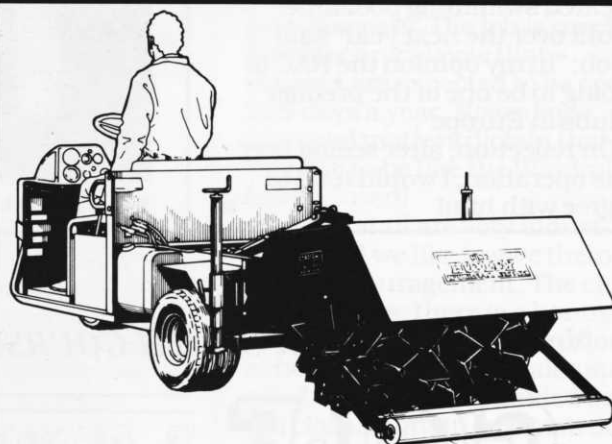
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REGULAR readers of this magazine will know that I have always advocated the attendance at some time by everyone in the golf course industry at the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's conference and show. This year, GCSAA held their annual event in Houston, Texas, during February. A sizable party of 'Brits' travelled on a package put together by Richard Frost, public relations officer of the IOG, through Pressplan Travel Ltd. Personally I dislike travelling in groups but the organisation of this trip was excellent. Several of us, including Howard Swan, Peter Wisbey and other of their colleagues from Portugal flew on the Sunday ahead of the main party.

Our flight was a little delayed, due to one of our number believing that the Continental Airlines flight might offer greater comfort and facilities than that of the booked British Caledonian flight! However once he was 'recaptured' we had a most enjoyable passage. The plane being less than a third full, we were able to take advantage of the space and enjoy two particularly violent films after Sunday lunch - and no washing up!

On arrival our group piled into the customary 'van' and made our way to the hotel. Again the arrangements were very good. The "Grand" is situated next to the Galleria, Houston's answer to Knightsbridge or Prince's Street all under one roof - three levels of shops and restaurants surrounding, amongst other things, a full sized ice rink.

We tried to keep going on the Sunday for as long as possible and in this we were helped by the screening of the American Superbowl.

I managed to stay awake longer than most, having backed the underdogs. The Washington Redskins triumphed over the Denver Broncos, amidst incredible razamatazz and some of the most dreadfully obvious sporting commentary I have ever heard.

Our advance party had arrived early in order to attend specific seminars, and amongst the topics chosen were "Basic Turf-grass Botany and Physiology"



The advance party

by James B. Beard PhD. "Golf Course Construction and Project Management" by Stephen Harrell, and "USGA Golf Course Rating Systems" by Dean L. Knuth. By common consent everyone learnt something of value.

Peter Wisbey said that he had never experienced any educational event like it, even when EIGGA was at its height. Peter also felt that a modular conference with other bodies, such as the Course Builders, Architects, Turf Managers and the USGA all participating, had enormous benefits. A change in view-point for him, as after "Golf Course '84" at Cambridge, he had been in favour of greenkeepers going it alone as far as conferences and seminars were concerned.

GRACIOUS

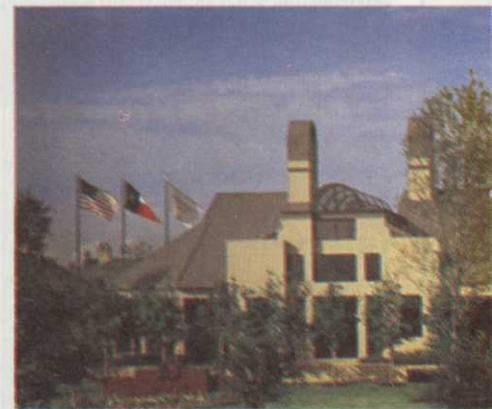
During the first three days much had been learnt, friendships renewed with the staff of GCSAA, all of whom are most gracious with visitors, especially Judy Jones and Colleen Pederson for whom nothing appears to be too much trouble. Thursday was to be a rest day ahead of the weekend's trade show, so through an introduction from Christine Langford, former chairman (or should that be 'person') of the WPGA and now one of a growing band of lady club professionals, we visited the Sweetwater Country Club where, on the magnificent estate, the LPGA have their headquarters and "Hall of Fame". On our arrival we were met by a former compatriot, Elaine Scott, a Wentworth member, former writer with *Golf World* and now Media Services Co-ordinator for the LPGA.

Elaine was kind enough to

arrange a tour of the LPGA Hall of Fame, golf at Sweetwater and a tour of the country club and its marvellous facilities. The \$28 million club was officially opened in 1983 and offers three nine hole layouts, designed by Roger B. Packard who sought the assistance, most diplomatically, of several prominent LPGA members.

There are four indoor and six outdoor tennis courts, raquet ball (similar to squash) basketball and volleyball courts, and the most frightening health club - all power and perspiration. Some of these facilities were put to full use, for as Elaine left us to go back to work, we sallied forth. Only four holes later, soaked to the skin and colder than I have ever been, even on the Kent coast in winter, we called it a day.

Sweetwater appeared to be one of the less extravagant American creations, with one particularly memorable short hole being sampled - no pars were recorded! Having come to the conclusion that it was time to stop, getting a buggy back to



Sweetwater Country Club, located in the heart of the Professional Golf Association

The 1,800 square foot tribute to the games goes on 9 to 5 Monday through Friday



FIRST COLONIAL

A Development of Sugarland

the clubhouse in something approaching a straight line proved to be a challenge and to the driver who met us head on, coming down the wrong side of the estate's dual carriageway in blinding rain - my apologies. After an hour in the steam room, sauna and shower, in a locker room that would have not been out of place in a five star hotel, we collected our freshly pressed clothes and adjourned to the club's restaurant. Over an excellent

was a promotional film splendidly produced by GCSAA's media director Bob Still detailing the work of the superintendent. This film will be shown to BIGGA members later this year and it is something that the Association would do well to immitate.

Friday is the first day of the Trade Show for distributors and trade personnel only. Luckily the press are allowed a preview. Although trade day is pretty hectic there is not a great

Eric Hunter of the Eric Hunter Grinders in Newcastle, Trevor Martin of Vitax who supports the IOG's Young Groundsman and Master Groundsman of the year awards, both of whom make the trip as part of their prize, Rolf Loewgren of the Swedish Golf Federation, Ron Fream the golf course architect who is doing so much work on the continent, Gerry Brouwer of Brouwer Equipment from Canada which is now part of Cushman/Ryan and many,

MICHAEL COFFEY OUT AND ABOUT IN TEXAS

lunch, again of five star standard, Elaine Scott told us a little of the LPGA's history and how thanks to the Galleria's developer Gerald Hines, who owns Sweetwater, their multi million dollar operation has such a luxurious home.

STIRRING

We returned to the George R. Brown convention centre for the opening session hosted by GCSAA's president Donald Hearn. This featured not only a stirring address from Jim Tunney, whose many accomplishments include being an NFL referee, former head teacher and highly professional speaker and motivator, but also a new TV advertisement for GCSAA. Additionally there

volume of traffic, so I managed to get round most of the show while other members of the by now greatly increased UK party went off in other directions to the NASA Johnson Space Centre, New Orleans or even to the golf course.

There were a number of interesting items, a new ride-on from Jacobsen, the LF100. On the Ransomes stands, of which there were several (a novel approach) were one or two SIS machines which are now being marketed in the USA by Ransomes Inc. Arthur Harrison of SIS was there to obtain first hand reactions. David Jenkins and Phillip Treadgold were helping Verti-Drain's sales along. This machine is really starting to take off in the States.

Many superintendents, having listened to Jack McMillan's talk in Pheonix last year on "deep aeration," have taken the plunge after being reassured that putting surfaces would not be permanently damaged. Chris Smith of Jacobsen was busy on their stand and Gerald Bruce the winner of the Jacobsen Greenkeepers Golf Tournament also got a preview of what was new.

It is a testament to the success of the GCSAA's show how many people you meet from all over the world drawn together for this one event. Len Breakwell of E.T. Breakwell in Birmingham, Mike Eddington of STS in Edinburgh, Stan Ellison of "Turf Management"

many more.

That evening Ransomes Inc. gave a splendid reception at which the whole UK contingent was present. Ransomes chief executive Bob Dodsworth, sales director Keir Wyatt, as well as Brian Mitchell, played hosts and much goodwill was created with customers and friends from around the globe.

STRIKING

Saturday sees the trade show floor opened to the general public. Some 15,000 visit the show over the three days, and most make a dash to claim their Jacobsen's baseball cap - a prized souvenir each year. The most striking stand was Toro's with their entire staff decked out in red, white and blue, to match the convention centre, including white flat caps 'a' la Bobby Locke, red 'knickers' (plus fours to us!), and red, white and blue argyll socks - the equipment took a back seat. Even Peter Roberts of Toro Irrigation, happily recovering from a recent illness, was so attired. Toro also hosted an international reception which included a prize draw. One can only conclude that sales in Japan needed a boost by the number of winners from that country! Graham Dale of Lely, Toro's distributors in the UK, saw to it that the UK party were again well fed and watered especially Messrs Hayes and Baldwin of the STRI. Prawns must be in >



part of First Colony, is the home of the Ladies Golf Club. The club's new Clubhouse and Offices and Hall of Fame. The club's greatest women players is open to the public from Friday with no admission fees.

ST
NY



< short supply in Bingley, but then they have Harry Ramsden's fish shop down the road!

Sunday is a repeat of Saturday for most, as the trade show is so vast that it takes over 20 minutes to walk round the perimeter without stopping.

At the same time and therefore to a thin audience, the Sports Turf Managers Association programme was under way. The STMA had invited Dr Peter Hayes to speak, as well as Christine Smith of *the Groundsman* and Huw Morgan and Laurence Pithie the Groundsmen of the Year. I had the pleasure of lunching with an old friend, Jim Prusa, the former assistant director of GCSAA who now heads the National Office Machine Distributors Association. Jim was in attendance as a former superintendent, member of GCSAA and member of the USGA rules committee to speak at the USGA session on the Monday. This he did, his theme being the need for superintendents to support the turfgrass research programme to which GCSAA and the USGA amongst others have contributed substantial sums, which have been used by universities country-wide to study a variety of turfgrass problems, such as new varieties for extreme climatic conditions, the effect of reduced watering, thatch and its related diseases.

Clearly as the turfgrass research programme is something of a 'hot potato' currently within GCSAA, both the USGA and the Association felt that an update on progress halfway through was called for. The USGA Green Section director Bill Bengeyfield gave an illustrated report on the programme thus far. One can only hope that this kind of research, irrespective of its actual subject, continues to grow worldwide, not just in America, and that all involved in golf, especially the players, continue to support such programmes.

Reverting to Sunday, GCSAA's president Donald Hearn gave a reception for a few hundred honoured guests, clearly a time for some to start winding down. I had an opportunity to talk to Bob Ochs, GCSAA's

lawyer, who sits at the right hand of the president at the AGM to ensure that the Association's business is carried out to the letter of the law - I hope it never comes to that with the BIGGA! Jacobsen International's dinner followed with at least fifteen countries represented. Our host, Curt Kimpfbeck, was as gracious as ever and he presented a number of awards to the top salesmen for all the Jacobsen range in the International division. This was followed by a presentation to Jacobsen from the IOG, made by Ray Johnson, of an Institute Crest. Finally all the guests were given a gift of a Jacobsen paper knife when leaving.

INTERNATIONAL

On the Monday after the USGA session we joined a party of Germans, all involved in the golf course industry, at a seminar organised by the Toro company at Woodlands, the Tournament Players course and home of the Houston Open. After lunch Howard Swan and I accompanied by Peter Wisbey, played nine holes, in buggies, in an hour and twenty minutes - being called through by three fourballs and a two ball - surely a record in America! The golf wasn't bad either. The course was, in all honesty, not that great - suffering from an excess of water. Whether natural or man made it was hard to tell.

For me this was the end of another enjoyable trip to the US as I had to return on the Monday night flight.

GCSAA honoured Gene Sarazen with their 'Old Tom Morris' award. Sarazen joins Arnold Palmer, Bob Hope, Gerald Ford, Patty Berg and Robert Trent Jones Snr as

recipients of the prestigious award for services and commitment to the game of golf. Sarazen was the first man to achieve the professional Grand Slam having won the 1932 Open Championship, the 1935 Masters and won the US Open twice and the USPGA three times.

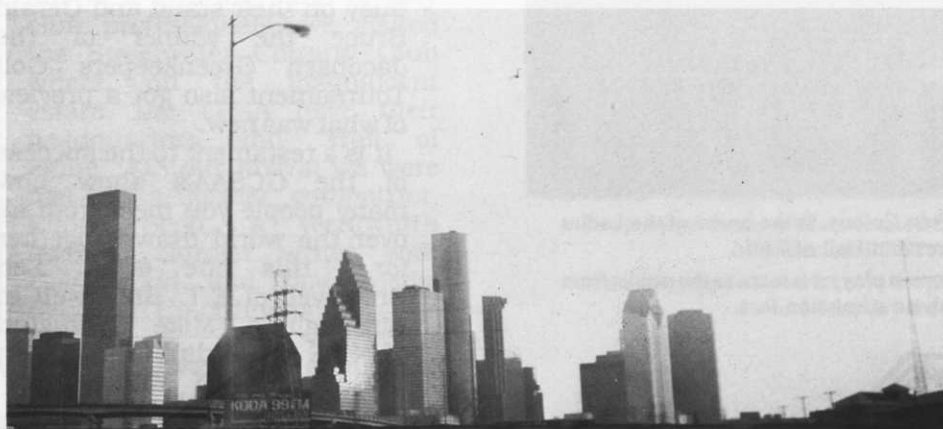
INTERESTING

It was a most interesting trip and one which, as I have said, I would encourage anyone involved in golf to make. One learnt a great deal, not necessarily about American climatic conditions or their huge maintenance budgets, but about the way they organise their Association, the way they project greenkeeping as a profession, the individual's attitude to education, the education of the establishment to reward the better educated superintendent, not to mention sight of new products, machinery and ideas which like automatic irrigation, the ride-on triplex and a host of other new products will, whether we like it or not, arrive in our own country sooner or later.

The cost of the package, plus daily living expenses, shopping and sight-seeing, would probably total between £600 and £750. Certainly not a cheap trip. and for the next two years (Anaheim, California, 1989 and Orlando, Florida, 1990) the cost will be greater than the oil-effected economy of Houston.

But then ask anyone who has been, especially those bright greenkeepers who have attended the educational sessions, and ask them whether they think it is worthwhile. I think their answer would be an emphatic 'yes'.

The Houston skyline



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MANAGING A SURREY HEATHLAND COURSE

IN an earlier article John Harris described the management philosophy that has provided the foundation for course management at Hankley Common. I would like to cover the greenkeeping practices that have been built on this basic management philosophy and used to develop and maintain the unique Surrey heathland that is Hankley Common Golf Club.

The club was established in 1895 as nine holes and redesigned in 1921 as 18 holes by the great James Braid at a cost of £1800. It became an Army training area during the 1939-45 war and was restored post-war by club members, the Tyler brothers. In 1976 a large area of the heath was devastated by fire.

The late Bobby Locke used the course to prepare for the championship and he always described it as the course nearest to an inland links.

In 1972 the late Charles Lawrie described the course as "One of the best inland layouts in Britain, in the worst possible condition".

UNIQUE

Hankley Common is a dry heathland site of 856 acres, which is classified as an area of special scientific interest and with natural characteristics that justify my claim to its uniqueness.

It requires no drainage apart from aeration to relieve compaction. There are several bridle paths that go through the site and cross several fairways, adding to the strategic value of the holes. For example, standing on the 17th tee, golfers are faced with

the option of going for the carry across the bridle path or playing short.

The course's sand soil structures are best illustrated by the photographs with this article showing the various stratas of soil and sand. The grasses are fescue/agrostis indigenous grasses as on other heathland sites, but unfortunately, as on other courses they are no longer the only species to be found on the greens due to the induction of annual meadow grasses for a variety of reasons.

MAJOR ATTRACTION

A major attraction is the ling and bell heathers, of which there is an abundance, whilst moss, algae and lichen can be a problem and crop up on compacted and thin areas of the fairways.

The ingenious trees are rowan, scrub oak, silver birch and some pine. A point worth noting is that there is virtually no molinia grass other than in the rough on the 3rd, which is very close to the water table.

Wildlife on the heath includes a combination of pests and endangered species: namely - rabbits, foxes, deer, badgers, sand lizards, snakes (adder, smooth and grass), Natterjack toad, rare birds (Dartford Warbler, hawks, Yellow Hammer etc) and crows and magpies.

Imported characteristics include past ryegrass overseeding imported by 1970's divoting and in the use of alien turf in past construction programmes. Fairway overseeding in the 1970's after the leatherjacket devastation imported annual



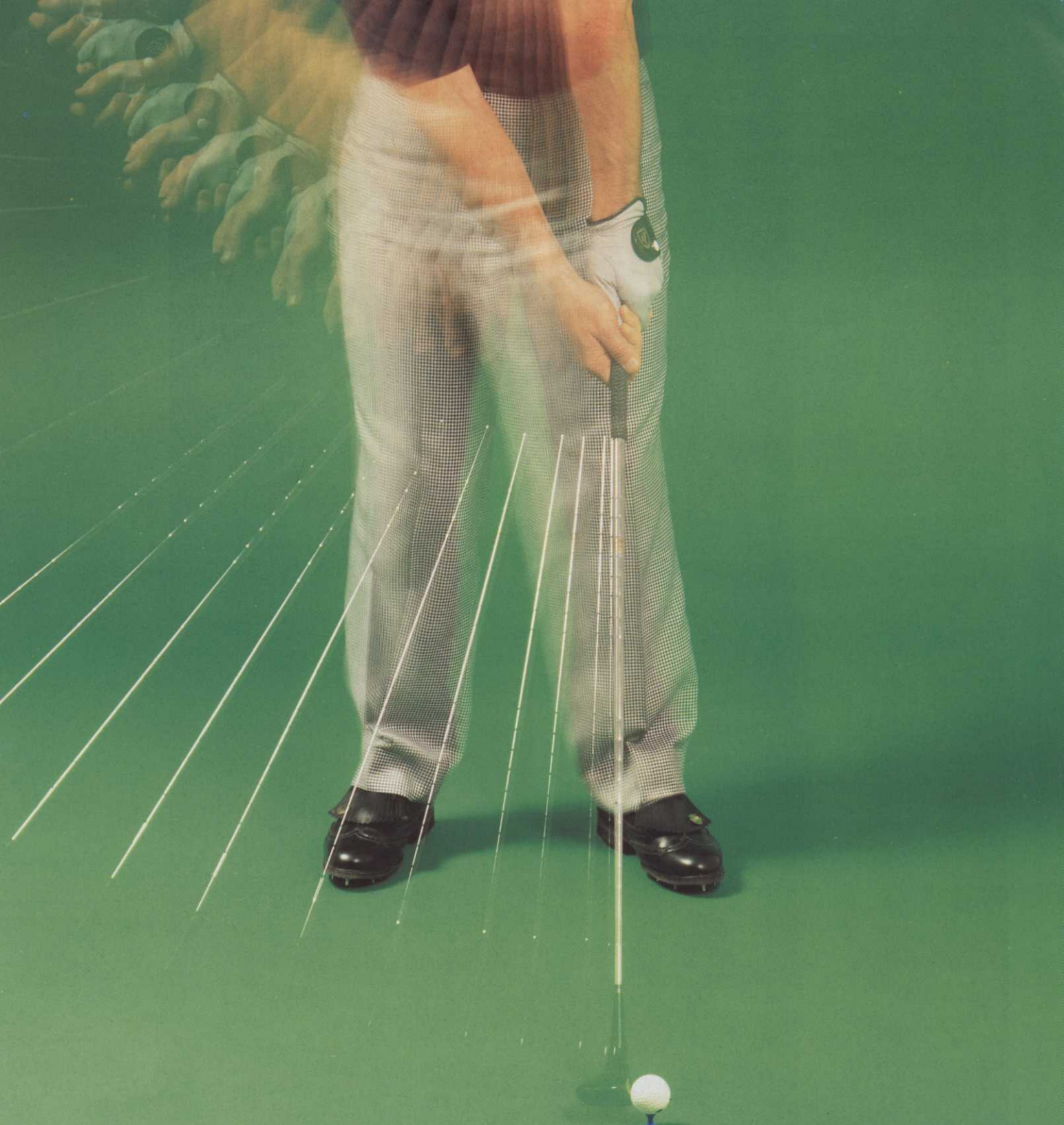
Ian McMillan
Course Manager
Hankley Common G. C.

meadow and other "farmers" grasses. Compaction, over-watering and misuse of fertilizers has also contributed to the colonisation by the enemy of all professional greenkeepers, *poa annua*. Its only virtue is its ability to fill in any wound or opening in the turf, giving coverage for a short period of time.

War is being waged with every method known to us.

The sward on the greens is generally agrostis, isolated but multiplying patches of fescue on some greens, with the balance which I would estimate at 25% being *poa annua*. The fescue is a rare sight on inland greens and only time will tell if this will return in the percentage that we would like. I have reservations about this because I am not convinced that it will flourish cut below 3/16th".

The past use of downland turf has also brought with it the additional problems of worms and non indigenous weeds such as daisies, buttercups, and buckshorn plantain. The latter may have also been introduced in imported soils and by the use of sludge (sewage) as a fairway fertilizer. Scots



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TEES AND SURROUNDS



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FAIRWAYS



Motor 350D

Ransomes Motor 350D is tailor-made for cost-effective fairway maintenance, it offers fast mowing and simplicity of operation plus real savings in running costs. The 3.5m cutting width combined with the powerful 38hp diesel engine adds up to an exceptionally high work rate. Mowing efficiency comes from the choice of Sportcutter floating head units or large diameter, fixed head Magna cutting units. All hydraulic drive and lift, instant forward and reverse, and



power steering, provide outstanding manoeuvrability and ease of handling making the Motor 350D a leader in cost-effective fairway maintenance.



Hydraulic 5/7 Sportcutter

The Hydraulic 5/7 Sportcutter, fitted with 8-knife floating head cutting units giving a 4.65m cutting width, produces a finer finish on fairways. Hydraulic drive and lift to each cutting unit allow any combination to be used to vary the width of cut, and easy folding for transport. High work rate, versatility and ease of operation make the Hydraulic 5/7 one of the most popular compact gang mowers of its type.



Mounted Hydraulic 5

The Mounted Hydraulic 5 is a fully-mounted, fine-cutting gang mower that's particularly effective on fairways where undulations can make mowing difficult. The five floating head, 6-knife cutting units produce a fine ground-following cut of 3.43m width. Finger-tip control hydraulically raises the mower and folds the outer units for easy transport.

GREENS

The new Ransomes GT is a revolutionary all-hydraulic greens triple mower incorporating many unique features that give precise control over all mowing operations. The three, 9-knife hydraulically driven cutting units give consistent precise mowing to a width of 1.68m. Height of cut can be adjusted from 3 to 19mm and units can be changed in seconds without tools. Hydraulic control raises the cutting units and push-buttons locks any combination out of work. Hydrostatic power steering, the rugged 2-cylinder, water-cooled diesel engine and variable speed with instant forward and reverse create a machine that's a pleasure to operate and exceptionally manoeuvrable. Quiet, fast, and super-efficient, the Ransomes GT is the ultimate greens machine.



Super Certes

The new Super Certes is designed to produce an immaculate finish in greens with ease and precision. Available in 51 and 61 cm cutting widths, the high-speed, 10-knife cutting cylinder gives 140 cuts per metre with height of cut adjustment from 3 to 13mm. Features include an easy-start, single cylinder petrol engine, a separate cutting cylinder clutch and a pawl box differential which ensures easy turning without marking the green. Power driven wheels can be fitted for transport between greens.

BUNKERS

The all-hydraulic, ride-on Super Rake is tailor made for cost-effective maintenance of bunkers. The 16hp engine with electric start, ensures fast inter-bunker transport and efficient operation of the 3-section rake and finishers and weeder attachment. The wide tyres and rear wheel traction, together with a low centre of gravity, ensure optimum efficiency and operator confidence. A Motor Rake with mechanical drive is also available.



Super Rake and Motor Rake

COURSE MAINTENANCE

The TM80 Aerifier overcomes the problem of ground compaction. It improves soil texture and promotes healthy turf growth, thatch control, and wear resistance. The fixed axle allows deeper penetration of 'high spots' on undulating ground, creating a level surface. Smooth action of discs enables faster working speeds without vibration. With a working width of 1.65m, the 80 aerifier spoons will cultivate to a depth of 127mm allowing stronger root formation.



TM80 Aerifier

It's the most effective method of maintaining your playing surfaces in top condition.



Verticut 214

Ransomes Verticut 214 controls the lateral surface growth of turf on fairways by verticutting, thereby preventing the build-up of thatch. New growth is encouraged and surfaces are maintained in peak condition. The floating head action of the 18-disc verticut units follows undulations, preventing damage to the turf. A single lever movement puts the hydraulically-driven units into drive, neutral or reverse. Quick attachment to the tractor and narrow transport width make the Verticut 214 the most practical, cost-effective course maintenance machine.



TMV20

Whatever the maintenance job around the course, you'll find the Ransomes TMV20 invaluable. Its 23hp petrol engine and hydrostatic drive makes operation simple and gives low running and maintenance costs. In addition to the hydraulically tipped, standard dumpbox, there's a host of optional attachments available from other suppliers: aerator, roller, seeder, sweeper, turf-cutter, and more. It's the most versatile turf maintenance vehicle available today.

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Cross section of sand pit.

pine has been introduced in quantity by the planting of post war years. These plantations account for the most major change in the character of the heath.

CONSERVATION

The club has had a policy of conservation for the last four years and as John Harris said in his article, the club has a policy to retain the natural heathland characteristics for future generations. The programmes to achieve this goal include heather re-planting/seeding, heather revetting, indigenous grass encouragement, birch and pine culling, culled tree root control, preservation of rowan and scrub oak, re-routing foot and vehicle traffic and educating golfers.

Communication to members plays an important role in these activities because, like all golf clubs, we have members who confuse conservation with preservation. The heathland is by nature an open environment and to conserve this, control of the silver birch weed and the imported Scots pine is very necessary".

Unfortunately until four years ago the trees had been allowed to reproduce themselves profusely. The chainsaw has a most important role to play at Hankley Common in the programme of conservation of the heath. Trees are culled and the roots are then treated with the mixture of diesel oil and Garlon.

The heather at Hankley Common is quite spectacular, if not always appreciated by the wayward golfer. The heather is always allowed to flower and seed before being cut

and extensive transplanting of heather has a place in many of our construction programmes. I am investigating means of collecting heather seeds for seeding purposes, and if this proves successful it will provide a less labour intensive means of propagation.

Routine maintenance programmes include mowing, verticutting, top dressing, fertilizing, aeration, spraying, bunkers, irrigation reviewing hole and tee positions and course presentation.

Vigour in growth on our course is very slow and therefore it is necessary to provide stimulation, especially on the fairways, in order to cope with the ever increasing wear and tear by traffic and golfers' divots. All rhizomes and stoloniferous growth are removed with every divot and due to dryness, lack of fibre, removal by birds and sweeping of fairways for presentation purposes, the take rate for divot re-generation is extremely low. Divoting takes place on a regular monthly basis and prior to major competitions.

IMPROVEMENTS

It is hoped that our programmes will create the necessary improvements so that the divoting is reduced and reclamation is achieved by means of rhizomes and stolons.

Growth is encouraged by the use of nitrogenous and organic fertilisers. Sulphate of iron is applied to control moss, algae and lichen and produce colour for presentation purposes. Nitrogen in the form of sulphate of ammonia is applied in an attempt to keep

annual meadow grass at bay. The fairways are cut weekly with a hydraulic 5. This is a testimony to the gradual improvement that is being made - in quite recent years I understand that cutting only took place about four times a year. Fertilization and weed control programmes must be very carefully timed with minimal rates of application at any one time. If you get it wrong on this heath the damaged can be long lasting. As the late Bobby Locke said, the fairways at Hankley are most definitely the closest in character to the seaside links that can be found on any inland course in Britain. Our intention is to improve their condition whilst retaining their character.

FERTILIZERS

Greens are dressed at least once per month, and more often early in the season, and in preparation for important club competitions. Nitrogenous fertilizers are used in several forms, such as sulphate of ammonia, dried blood and hoof & horn. Sulphate of iron is applied in liquid and solid form through autumn, winter and spring to keep disease at bay, harden plants and provide colour. We avoid using sulphate of iron and sulphate of ammonia during the summer because this is known to cause dry patch. We rely totally on the natural colour of the high percentage of bent grasses for the whole of the summer period.

Another indigenous grass that is found on the greens is the light coloured heathrush that gives a speckled appearance. This species is common to dry heathland sites as opposed to most other rushes, which are found on wet sites.

Irrigation is monitored most carefully and is applied in relation to the prevailing climatic conditions and soil moisture content. Artificial holding conditions are not created at Hankley Common. Localised hand-watering is used because even with maximum aeration and the use of wetting agents, surface run-

The 16th hole

off is inevitable on closely mown surfaces - especially during periods of drought.

The greens are cut on a daily basis during the growing season and weekly during the dormant period, using both pedestrian and triplex mowers as appropriate. Verticutting is less of a requirement here because the greens are naturally less vigorous. It is done only during lush growing periods and to keep thatch at bay. Similar practices are applied to surrounds, approaches and tees.

Holes are changed twice weekly and on all competition days. Tees are checked daily and moved if necessary to spread wear.

CONSISTENT

There is an on-going programme of course presentation to offer members consistent playing conditions with extra time and effort allocated for the club's major golfing days. All staff take an active role in course presentation and have an input at discussions to facilitate further improvements. Overall durability and the consistent all-the-year-round quality of the course is not sacrificed for presentation purposes.

The golfer is always kept in mind when planning work programmes and the practices employed in greenkeeper/golfer relations are:-

- Early starts
 - Work programmes 18th to 1st
 - No major work on competition days
 - Evening programmes at height of season
 - Afternoon course closure before major competitions
- Construction is carried mostly during the period November through to April. During the past four years, construction has been carried in relation to:-

- Tees
- Bunkers
- 2nd green re-build
- Heather turfing
- Roadways and paths
- Fences
- Carparks



The purchase of a back hoe has proved an important investment in relation to these major construction programmes.

To preserve the natural characteristics of the heathland/woodland, management programmes are an essential part of the greenkeeper's year. A major part of each winter's programme is devoted to woodland control by:-

- Thinning of pines
- Culling of birch
- Culling of pines
- Burning gorse

Heathland management is a vital consideration in preserving the unique golfing environment of Hankley Common. It is the stated aim of the club to preserve the natural heathland for future generations of golfers.

The heather is cut February/March and extensive heather re-planting has formed a part of the winter programme for the last four years. Heather is allowed to seed before cutting and the use of heather in the construction of tees and bunkers is the common practice.

The practice ground also provides the heather turf nursery of ling dwarfed by many years of annual cutting and gives a priceless supply of turfs.

Indigenous grasses are allowed to seed and indigenous grass species are used for all re seeding.

PESTS

There are a number of rodents and pests which are common to our heath. We control crows and magpies by shooting and rabbits by shooting and ferreting. Leatherjackets and

chafer grubs are controlled by spraying and the control of these grubs in turn controls badger and bird activity.

There are three irrigation systems in active use. There is an old mains water supply which proves its worth in periods of drought to provide hand-watering to all greens. This system proves invaluable in watering dry areas, proud areas and areas not covered by our early Watermation system. This is proving extremely problematical because spare parts are no longer available and each repair requires a complete new unit to be installed. In addition, a very useful piece of plant is a Molex tanker which is used to irrigate tees and some areas of fairways. It also has an important role to play in the event of heath fires.

FACILITIES

Working facilities currently leave much to be desired and they consist of a poorly equipped workshop. A residential caravan exists for staff and office facilities, and we have rotting greenhouses that leak and are not large enough to house the club's expanding inventory of plant and equipment.

On the plus side there is a recently constructed substantial concrete mixing yard with adequate storage facility for dressings. The really good news is that the club have just received planning permission for new propose-built facilities which are planned for this year and will include greenhouses, chemical and fertilizer stores and full staff facilities. Health and Safety regulations will be

Hankley Common's greens staff

fully met with this new development.

Greenkeeper training takes place on-site in the practice and use of chainsaws, machinery maintenance, use of machinery and greenkeeping practices.

Hankley Common is forward-thinking with regard to staff training and off-site training is organised. Staff are encouraged to take advantage of training for apprentice qualifications in a block release form. We currently have a school leaver on YTS and his training includes block release. Staff are encouraged to attend educational seminars, and trade presentations on special topics.

Plant and machinery in use includes:-

- 3x tractors
- 1x hydraulic 5-gangmowers
- 4x triplex mowers
- 8x handmowers
- Back hoe
- Molex tanker
- 2x landrovers
- 2x fairway spikers
- Cushman & attachment
- Vertidrain

There is a documented machinery replacement plan which has adequately been covered in the earlier article by John Harris.

Routine plant and machinery maintenance is mostly carried out by our own staff. The routine maintenance programmes include greasing, oil changing, filters, points and plugs etc. General checks to safety features and most



breakdowns and repairs such as bearing changes, tractor clutches, welding and winter overhauls are undertaken. A minimum of repair work and servicing is sent out to contract

As far as the Health and Safety regulations are concerned we have written procedures which all staff must read and sign that they have read and have understood and are aware of their reporting responsibilities and their own conduct relating to these matters. Each greenkeeper is supplied with protective clothing. Staff are made aware of the legislation relating to chemicals. Three of our staff will be required to take the written and practical examinations required by the new legislation. Routine safety checks are carried out to all machinery and staff are instructed to report any defects. They are instructed in the safe use of machinery and the safety practices to be followed when spraying.

Currently, consultancy is taken from the STRI under the subscription which entitles us to publications and remote

advice. There has been no visiting agronomist since 1984 but it is planned to extend our STRI subscription this year to include a visit. The area of heathland that is known as Hankley Common is a site of special scientific interest and therefore we enjoy the free advice of the Nature Conservancy Council. The golf club lives quite happily with this important body as it also does with the Forestry Commission who have been most supportive of our woodland management programmes.

To conclude, the practices relating to the management of this unique Surrey heathland course are designed for the conservation of those indigenous features which are most suitable for golf by using sound cultural practices that maintain good health and encourage and improve these indigenous features. We work with nature at all times, and whilst we occasionally assist nature, we are determined to avoid long term failures for the sake of short term gains available through the incorrect use of chemicals and fertilizers. ■

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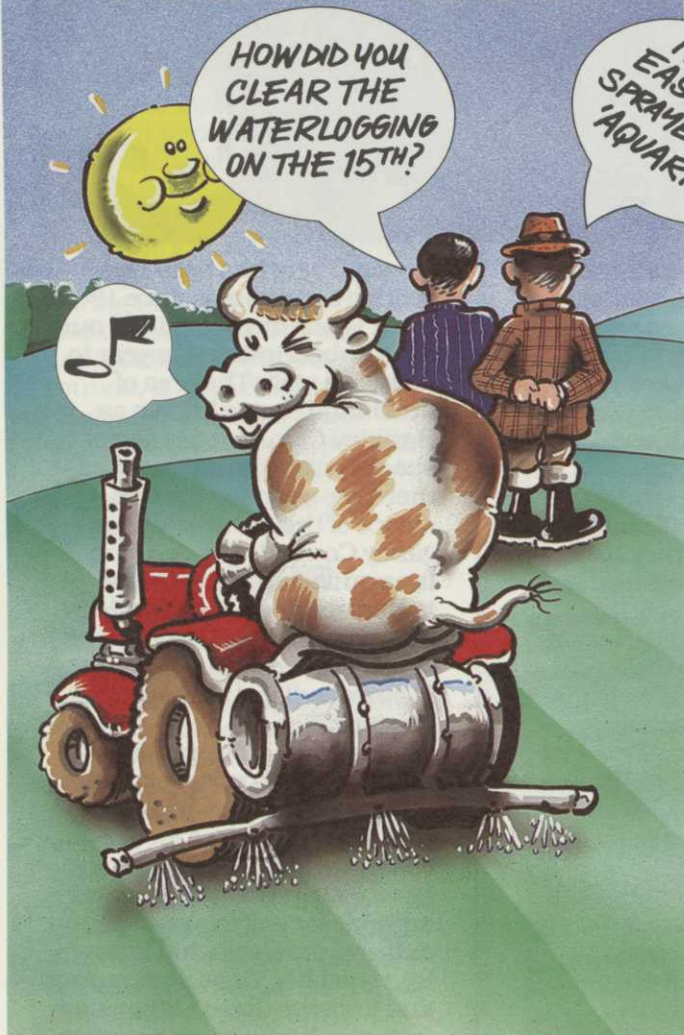
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Completed Application Forms should be returned to The Institute of Groundsmanship,
19-23 Church Street - The Agora - Wolverton - Milton Keynes - Buckinghamshire MK12 5LG
not later than Tuesday 31st May 1988.

NOTEBOOK...

A new path from Chipman

TEEPATH is a thermoplastic walkway for tee approaches and heavy wear areas on golf courses.

The life and practical usefulness of any tee, especially artificial, is seriously affected by the deposition of mud on the surface.

TEEPATH, from Chipman, is designed to reduce this dramatically and give a clean, pleasing surround to the tee.

TEEPATH is a high performance, interlocking, perforated thermoplastic tile, with a nylon mesh underlay, and provides a slip resistant, free draining, durable pathway. The nylon mesh underlay protects the surface from mud seepage and permits



grass to grow through.

TEEPATH can be laid directly onto an undulating surface or on a prepared level base. Installation is as simple as impacting the tiles into the ground with a rubber mallet

on top of the nylon mesh.

TEEPATH is supplied in a pack which contains a sheet of pre-clipped tiles which measures 4' x 12'6" with nylon mesh underlay, enough to cover 50 square feet.

STEVE SET FOR CHARITY ADVENTURE

3000 MILES in 30 days to raise £300,000 on a lawnmower for the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children 'Wishing Well' appeal.

That is the aim for Steve Perritt in his attempt to break the world record for the longest distance travelled on a lawn mower. The current record held by Ben Garcia of America stands at 2,801 miles in 38 days across America.

When Steve, who owns a touring and camping park in Oxfordshire, read of the existing record it crossed his mind that to set a new record would not only appeal to his sense of adventure but would be the basis for a major fund-raising effort.

Having a daughter - Kate, who has had extensive treatment at Great Ormond Street, Steve and his wife Jacqui felt that the 'Wishing Well' appeal to rebuild the hospital was a very worthwhile cause.

Meetings were then held with the major sponsors - Kubota UK Limited, who agreed to provide a Kubota G3HST ride-on lawnmower for Steve's record breaking run.



Steve Perritt

Various costs were identified and sponsors found to cover them so that the maximum effort could be placed on reaching the target.

The date was fixed for St. Valentine's day, setting off at Great Ormond Street Hospital. This coincided with the hospital's birthday and the team of five presented Great Ormond Street with a massive birthday cake prior to their departure.

New process hard-baked!

A NEW painting process, just installed by compact tractor and ride-on-mower manufacturer JOHN DEERE, bakes extra toughness into every painted component. Nearly £14 million has been invested in installing the system at the JOHN DEERE works in Wisconsin, USA, to give a finish which looks factory fresh longer and is more rust resistant.

Each machine part is first thoroughly cleaned in a seven stage pre-primer process. Only then is the primer coat electro-painted on the metal surface. The primer and metal are given opposite electrical charges which ensures a uniform and strongly bonded coating which is then firmly baked on at 425F.

The final top coat resembles the process of enamelling rather than traditional paint spraying. A dozen spray guns spray paint powder on to primed parts which are then baked. At 425F the paint powder melts and flows across the component surface before baking to a tough hard finish with a deep lustre.

NOTEBOOK...

A NEW concept in commercial sponsorship started in Britain recently - sponsored seat benches at private golf clubs throughout the country.

Advertisers are being given the chance to reach the high-spending 5.5 million participants in one of the UK's most popular recreational activities - and catching their target audience when they are at their most relaxed: taking a breather or waiting to tee off. It is estimated over one million men and women play at least once a week.

Already many of Britain's leading courses have agreed to accept benches, and negotiations are being conducted with advertisers ranging from the Ravel shoe group and men's wear manufacturer Honorbilt to Johnny Walker whisky. In addition to national advertisers, companies such as builders, solicitors and estate agents are being invited to participate on a local or regional basis.

The company running the scheme is Master Seats Ltd, formed by Alan Zoltie, joint managing director of premiums and incentives specialists Alan Salter (UK) Ltd, and fellow golf enthusiast Colin Levene, an accountant.

"The idea came from noticing the number of sponsored benches in New York, coupled with a personal belief that benches on golf courses would be a good idea," say Zoltie.

"The benches are purpose-built from 80-year-old teak and designed to complement any surrounding. The sponsor's message will not be in any way obtrusive so as risk offending or down-grading a club's image.

Master Seats is offering sponsorship on a three-year basis with a minimum of 20 benches per national advertiser at £450 per bench. Local companies are being offered the option of single bench locations at £650 each.

For further information contact: Master Seats Limited, 3 Kendrick Mews, London, SW7 3HG Tel: 01 225 0404

New at Mitsui

MITSUI Machinery Sales (UK) Ltd., distributors of the Yamaha range of machinery, have established a range of new power products department for the sales and marketing of their new range of lawn mowers, and their range of generators, all terrain vehicles and golf cars.

Mike Bush is appointed as sales manager of the new department, and joins Mitsui with extensive experience of the requirements of the grass machinery market and the needs of associated specialist dealer trade.

Also appointed is Phil Everett, who joins Mitsui as area sales manager.

Sales & marketing director, Ray Ross, said: "These new appointments are initial steps in our plans to become a major force in the market, and we are already seeking another area manager".

GOING SPARE!

SOLE distributors throughout the UK for the R & R Products Company of Tuscon, Arizona, who manufacture top quality spare parts suitable for imported American turf and grass machinery are Gerald and Trevor Brooks of Turf Machinery Hire.

R & R guarantee that their products are equal to or better than the original and their prices reflect considerable

savings over original manufacturers prices.

Initially, parts available are suitable for use with Toro, Ryan and Cushman machinery. As demand increases the full range of R & R spare parts will become available.

For further information contact Gerald or Trevor Brooks on Woking (04862) 28658 & 64467.

New option for valves

WEATHER-MATIC has announced a pressure regulating option for their 8000CR and 11000CR series valves. The XPR pressure regulating module senses inlet pressure and maintains constant outlet pressure regardless of inlet pressure variations.

The Weather-matic pressure regulator may be installed in the field on existing Weather-matic valves where pressure regulation is required. Equipped with manual flow and bleed control, the XPR module regulates pressure when valve is operated either electrically or manually. A downstream connection is provided for accurate pressure sensing. The XPR will accommodate a maximum inlet pressure of 150 psi.

The Weather-matic division of Texas Industries is based in Dallas, Texas and manufactures a complete line of irrigation controllers, valves and sprinklers.



A NEW IDEA FOR GOLF CLUBS

NOTEBOOK...

MIKE LAWTON LEND A HAND WITH £1.4 MILLION HEADQUARTERS

FERTILISER specialists VITAX have started work on their new £1.4million production, sales and distribution headquarters at Skelmersdale, Lancashire.



Technical Director Mike Lawton, is pictured here lending a hand at the start of construction watched by Sales Director, Trevor Holmes.

Completion is expected by the end of June 1988.

For further information contact: Richard Frost on 01-736 9328 or Trevor Martin on 0704 893311.

HISTORICAL VIEW

SCOTLAND at play is an exhibition on the history of sport in Scotland.

Using records from the past, as well as paintings and objects, the exhibition gives an intriguing insight into the development of a range of sports and pastimes still popular today, including golf.

It is amusing to learn that some 500 years ago, in 1424, football and golf were so

frowned upon as distractions from military training that they were banned (to little avail, it would seem, for the ban was renewed only a few years later).

The exhibition 'Scotland at Play' is on at the National Library of Scotland until 15 May. Admission is free.



BOTHWELL CASTLE GOLF CLUB

require

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited from fully experienced persons with suitable qualifications and a through knowledge of Course Management and Machinery Maintenance combined with a proven management ability.

Salary negotiable.

Written applications with full Curriculum Vitae to:-

**The Secretary,
Bothwell Castle Golf Club,
Blantyre Road,
Bothwell,
Glasgow. G71**

BROUGH GOLF CLUB

require

FIRST ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

**No accommodation.
Applications in writing with full C.V.
to:-**

**THE HEAD GREENKEEPER
BROUGH GOLF CLUB
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NORTH HUMBERSIDE
HU15 1HB**

You can easily bring the worst out of your turf

In every frequently cut area of turf there lurks one of the worst problems you could find – thatch.

Of course, a little bit of thatch is normal and helps the turf wear better. But, if it builds up too much, it will block out air, light and water from reaching the roots with disastrous results.

Ryan produce a range of scarifiers designed to bring the worst thatch out of your turf – and to perform other tasks as well, like deep slicing the surface or breaking up cores after hollow tine aeration.

There's the powerful 19 inch, 10hp Mataway seen here – and now there's the new Mataway Overseeder as well. Then there's the versatile 18 inch Ren-O-Thin's, in 7hp and 5hp versions.

When it comes to bringing the worst out of your turf, it pays to put the best equipment on the job – and that means Ryan.



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PROFESSIONAL TURF CARE EQUIPMENT
Aerators, Scarifiers and Turf Cutters

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VICTA UK

HAVE YOUR SPRINKLERS LOST THEIR IMPACT?



REPLACE THEM WITH TORO, THE TOP PEOPLE'S CHOICE!

Ask your Head Greenkeeper if he's totally happy with the performance and reliability of the sprinklers around your course. If there are doubts, call your nearest Toro Distributor for helpful professional advice. He will show you the range of Toro gear-driven sprinklers designed especially for golf course watering. He will tell you just how technically superior they are – how they can improve watering efficiency and just how simple it is to improve your existing system.

Top people's choice? You'll find Toro Sprinklers watering the sacred turf of St. Andrews, Centre and No. 1 Courts, at Wimbledon and the pitch at Wembley Stadium...

P.S. Toro make sprinklers to water greens, approaches, fairways and tees – putting areas too!



TORO®

Toro Irrigation Limited

Unit 7, Millstream Trading Estate, Ringwood, BH24 3SD, Hampshire. 04254-6261

Your Toro Distributors are:

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Golf Landscapes Irrigation, Brentwood. Tel: 0277-73720

South & South West Irrigation Slurry Services, Downton, Wilts. Tel: 0725-20377

Midlands, North, Scotland & Wales

Turf Irrigation Services, Sandbach. Tel: 04775-255

The top people's choice!

NOTEBOOK...



A REAL asset for all types of golf courses and driving ranges which, until now, during bad weather, have had to rely on small size unresponsive mats, is MASTERTEE, manufactured from a composite of coconut fibres and polypropylene, upright to a height of some 30mm.

Chipman MASTERTEE is designed to fit flush with the surrounding turf, which makes it less obtrusive, more pleasant

to play off and provides a new answer to the problems caused by waterlogging and heavy usage throughout the worst months of the year.

MASTERTEE is also available with a thick resin backing which adds strength to the base and in this form is ideal for driving ranges or for use on hard standings such as concrete bases.

Large sizes (1.5 x 1.5yds; 1.5 x 3yds; 1.5 x 4.5yds;) give ample room for players and varied tee positions.

The tightly woven coir and nylon fibres are weather resistant, porous and will not rot or mould.

The tee is ideal for irons and woods. It responds like natural turf on impact and will not harm club heads.

For further details please contact: David R. Knight, managing director, Chipman Ltd., Horsham, Sussex. RH12 2NR. Tel: 0403 60341

THERMAY (STA-BRITE) products Ltd have announced their appointment as distributors of the Mommersteeg range of Grass Seeds for Dorset, Wiltshire and parts of Berkshire, Gloucester and Oxfordshire. The move follows Thermay's very successful first year selling Mommersteeg Seeds.

Thermay are already well known for their STA-BRITE range of sports goals, cricket sight screens and flagpoles. In addition, the Farnborough based company is rapidly becoming recognised throughout the south of England as a reliable wholesaler of grounds maintenance supplies, offering leading makes of chemicals, fertilisers, spreaders and sprayers, drainage pipes, line marketing products, bench seating and a wide range of sports equipment.

For further details contact Ken Marcham or Trevor Simmonds on (0252) 512595.

NEW, IMPROVED COMPACT TRACTORS LAUNCHED

NEW and improved compact tractors have been launched by Massey-Ferguson as part of its ground care and maintenance equipment range.

The company, the West's largest manufacturer of tractors, is introducing two new models - the 21hp M-F 1020 Hydro and the 31hp M-F 1035 - bringing the M-F compact tractor line up to six machines.

All are available with two or four wheel drive and with a choice of turf or agricultural tyres.

The existing 26hp M-F 1030 has also been upgraded, with improvements including a new synchromesh transmission, live 2-speed pto and wider wheel track settings for extra stability on sloping land.

In addition to these small, lightweight tractors, operators requiring highest work outputs can choose from a number of other models in the M-F range offering greater power, making them ideal for large-scale grass maintenance operations.

These extend the range of M-F tractors that can be specially selected for ground care and maintenance applications up to 58 DIN hp.

Comfortable cabs ensure they can be used all-year round, and there is an extensive choice of tyres to suit all needs.



Moving up the power range in compact tractors - this new 31hp M-F 1035 extends Massey-Ferguson's compact tractor line-up to six machines.

NOTEBOOK...

TURFLAND Professional Equipment, sole distributor in the UK of the Brouwer range of turf care machinery, will, in 1988, be undertaking major improvements to their existing premises in Cheshire to include new workshops and showrooms. To make room for these alterations they will be holding an open day demonstration and sale on 22nd March, 1988.

The Brouwer range includes reel mowers, vacs, turf cutters lawn renovators and turf rollers.

On offer at the open day will be ex-demonstration machinery and used machinery, with special offers available on brand-new machines.

Extended payment terms will be available, subject to status.

The sale will take place at the Turfland depot near Warrington in Cheshire between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm.

NEW APPOINTMENTS AT HAYTERS

FOLLOWING last October's acquisition of the Beaver Equipment Company, Hayters plc has announced organisational changes and new appointments.

From 1st February 1988, the sales and marketing activities of both Hayter and Beaver will operate from Spellbrook, Bishop's Stortford.

The company is establishing in domestic and professional machinery. The professional machinery division, incorporating both Hayter and Beaver equipment, will be directed by Richard Smith - formerly Beaver's sales director and now appointed to the board of Hayters. Domestic product sales, including key accounts, will be directed by Kim Macfie, Hayters' sales and

marketing director, at Spellbrook.

Richard Smith will be based at the Beaver plant in Rustington, West Sussex, and will be assisted by Duncan Martin who has been appointed UK professional sales manager following a successful period as Hayters' South West territory representative. Duncan will operate from Spellbrook.

It is the company's intention that, progressively, the Beaver range will be assimilated into the Hayter corporate identity under the Hayter trading name. The Beaver name will continue as a model designation.

The Hayter range, both professional and domestic, will continue in its current form.



VERTI-DRAIN SCORES 100

AFTER hiring a Sports Ground Verti-Drain on several occasions and using it in many different areas, including Buckingham Palace lawns, it was decided that the Department of the Environment should purchase its own machine, together with a new Massey Ferguson tractor.

It was no surprise therefore to see the one hundredth Verti-Drain sold in the UK being handed over to the Royal Bailiff, Mr Ashley Stephenson, on a cold and windy January morning.

Our picture shows the Royal Bailiff receiving the Keys for the new verti-drain from Michael Hill, watched by David Jenkins.

THE 1988 Kubota Golf Challenge is to be played on Monday and Tuesday, 10th and 11th October at The Belfry. It will be the seventh challenge between members of The Association of Golf Writers, the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, The Golf Club Stewards Association and The

Association of Golf Club Secretaries.

In the past six challenges there has been fierce competition resulting in the greenkeepers having won four times and the secretaries twice.

Associations establish their national team representation through qualifying events throughout the summer.

SEAMAC 16

GREENKEEPERS and grounds-men faced with the urgent need to bring greens and pitches into top condition for a special game or tournament are well aware of the need to revitalise turf within a matter of days. A product designed to do just this has been launched by plant growth stimulant specialists Seamac Limited.

Seamac 16 is a newly formulated blend of Seamac growth promoter, supplemented with 16 per cent nitrogen. Seamac say this is just enough to give an immediate 'green-up' effect while Seamac's concentrated seaweed extract gets on with building up the grass plant, increasing the sward's resistance to stress and wear.



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farmura

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farmura turf ¹

The original FARMURA. For use from initial pre-seeding through to maintenance. FARMURA TURF improves germination, encourages quicker establishment of grass seed, root development, tillering and a dense sward without undesirable flushes of growth. FARMURA TURF encourages fine grasses and can be used in ecologically sensitive areas. As a soil conditioner FARMURA TURF will increase soil bacteria count enabling locked up nutrients to become available to the plant. Other benefits include improved drought and disease resistance.

Uses: Reseeding, golf courses, sports pitches, racecourses, bowling greens, cricket pitches, land reclamation and ecologically sensitive areas.

farmura green ²

FARMURA GREEN is specially formulated FARMURA TURF with the addition of iron and wetting agent. Designed particularly for areas needing a high standard of presentation and a deep green colour without excessive growth. Applications of FARMURA GREEN will encourage the development of finer grasses, improve drought and disease resistance and increase soil bacteria count.

Uses: Golf greens, bowling greens, tennis courts, lawns, golf fairways and racecourses.

farmura N ³

A tailor made product manufactured to your specific requirements. FARMURA-N can be formulated with other major nutrients to produce a specially balanced semi-organic fertiliser to suit your planned nutritional programme. Available to your requirement by discussion and quotation FARMURA-N offers major savings in time and equipment by only making one application.

Uses: Land reclamation, low input management programmes.

Natural solutions to get you growing

FERROSOL ⁴

A major development in liquid iron application. FERROSOL, a unique iron-nitrogen bonded complex provides a quick green-up of the turf without over stimulation of growth and without wheelmarks or blackening. FERROSOL in liquid form can be mixed easily in water and is immediately available for spray or drench application. Ideal for use at any time when turf is in need of green-up boost throughout the year.

Uses: Turf, fine turf, golf greens, bowling greens, tennis courts, lawns, shrubs, etc.

FARMGRAN ⁵

An easily spreadable natural seaweed soil conditioner and improver. Applications of FARMGRAN will improve soil structure stimulating micro organisms and aiding moisture retention. FARMGRAN supplies all known trace elements in an organic chelated form for rapid assimilation by plants and fills the "fertility gap" so often present under today's high input management practices. Can also be incorporated into top dressing.

Uses: Golf courses, sports fields, landscaping, seeding, planting and land reclamation.

farmura pre-plant ⁶

When trees or shrubs are lifted prior to transplanting a large proportion of the finer root structure is lost and consequently the plant is subject to much stress and re-establishment becomes more difficult. FARMURA PRE-PLANT is a creamy liquid root dip which reduces dehydration of the roots and provides a protecting semi-permeable 'skin' protecting the roots from damage yet allowing them to breathe and take in moisture.

Uses: All plant, shrub and tree transplanting situations.

farmura

farmura

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS

For further information on any Farmura products, complete the coupon or write to FARMURA Ltd, Stone Hill, Egerton, Nr. Ashford, Kent TN27 9DU. Telephone: 023376 241

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BROUWERS ROADSHOWS

THE Brouwer range of turfcare machinery, turf rollers, sodcutters, verticut and reel mowers, vacs and fairway mowers manufactured by Brouwer are distributed throughout the UK by Turfland Professional Ltd of Warrington in Cheshire.

Over the past year, sales of Brouwer equipment have risen substantially. Therefore to ensure a comprehensive back-up service in terms of after-sales and spares facilities, as well as to keep sales rising, Turfland has appointed a young and dynamic new sales team, serving the customer.

Many new machines will be offered this year.

A series of roadshows is planned, starting in March, where there will be working demonstrations of many of the Brouwer machines and where Turfland professionals will be on hand to offer assistance and advice on choosing the right model for the job.

For further information contact Janet Watmore, Turfland Professional Ltd., on 09286 340.

Traffic Control by Tacit

AFTER an exceptionally wet winter, a must for golf courses are Tacit's Traffic Control Stakes. A multi purpose stake, complete with hooks, which when used with chain or rope makes instant fencing, particularly suitable for directing players, trolleys etc. around ground under repair or areas of turf where heavy traffic patterns have occurred.

As no ground sockets are required they are easily removed and replaced to other areas.

The stakes are £2.99 each, available in packs of ten with a discount of 10% when ordering five packs or more. Available only from Tacit - 0788 832166.

Iseki and Reekie sponsor quiz



Graeme Myles is presented with his prize

A RECENT competition held by Reekie Golf Course Equipment and Iseki Tractors was won on a high note by Graeme Myles, head greenkeeper at Huntly Golf Course.

The competition was open to all greenkeepers in Scotland and the competitors had to answer various questions with regards to the full range of Iseki Tractors.

Graeme's name was drawn out of the hat by Mr G R Reekie, chairman of the G Reekie group of companies, at the Scotsturf exhibition. Graeme has been head greenkeeper at the club for two years and with his £350 prize money chose a midi hi-fi system.

Reekie Golf Course Equipment intend to sponsor this competition along with Iseki on an annual basis.

THE United States Golf Association's Green Section have invited Nicholas Park, a member of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews greenkeeping panel, to address four regional conferences in the north east United States during March. Mr Parks, topic is "Trends and problems in British

greenkeeping". Other well known names on the programme include, Eric Shiel, regional director of the USGA and Melvin B. Lucas Jr, CGCS, a former President of GCSAA. Mr. Park will be visiting Golf House, the home of the USGA and the centre for balls and implements testing worldwide.

ALGINURE PLUS - for turf

A TOTALLY new addition to Alginure's range, designed for easier handling by greenkeepers, groundsmen and others responsible for turf maintenance, has been launched.

Alginure's production methods have been modified to produce a smooth-running material which is easy to handle and will flow freely through most conventional spreaders.

The new product, called "ALGINURE PLUS - for Turf" incorporates an extra organic ingredient in powder form which separates the individual Alginure granules and allows them to flow easily. It also provides additional amounts of certain nutrients and trace elements, including nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium,

magnesium and calcium.

"ALGINURE PLUS - for Turf" builds on the proven soil-conditioning properties of Alginure Soil Improver to supply some extra plant foods - plus a new, easy-to-handle smoothness and proceeds a safe, effective conditioner for all turf surfaces. It can be used as a straightforward dressing or incorporated into balanced top dressing composts.

Alginure believe that the new product, used in conjunction with their liquid - Alginure Turf Supplement - will provide a total turf care package based on sound, proven organic products. They emphasize that ALGINURE PLUS is for established turf only and that where new construction occurs standard Alginure Soil Improver should be used.

NOTEBOOK...

Wentworth Winner!

GOLF LANDSCAPES of Brentwood, have been awarded the contract, valued at nearly £1million, for the construction of the South Course at Wentworth.

The contract will be under the supervision of Martin Gillett, one of the company's specialist contract managers, with close liaison with the two directors Peter and Bob Dunning. Work is due to commence in mid-March with completion planned for October this year.

Kevin Munt, Wentworth's course manager, and a BIGGA Board of Management member is 100% behind the choice of sand-only construction for the greens and with the decision to turf them with "Inturf" rather than seed. Having had the third green on Wentworth's West Course rebuilt with this method of construction, Kevin is looking forward to having one crew working on 18 greens built of the same medium, which will require a totally different maintenance programme to the existing courses.

ED's note: A feature on the South Course at Wentworth will appear in next month's the Golf Course. Also there will be an article by Mike Canaway of the STRI on the R & A funded research programme for pure sand greens.



Supervisory roles for students

ELMWOOD College provides a complete range of courses for the greenkeeper - starting with the first year apprentices and going right through to those suitable for the head greenkeeper and course manager.

The students pictured above have just attended the 1988 one-week Supervisory Management course, which includes such topics as role of the supervisor, communications, labour profiles, accounts, stock control, conditions of employment and associated legislation, staff motivation, budgeting, new pesticide legislation, public speaking and interviews.

The course, now in its sixth year, brings in several external speakers, experts in their field.

Mike Taylor, head of the horticultural and greenkeeping department at Elmwood has

asked us to express his thanks to the following for their support: John Souther, managing director, Souters of Stirling; Jimmy Neilson, head greenkeeper, Murrayfield Golf Club; Walter Woods, links supervisor, St Andrews and chairman of the college's greenkeeping advisory committee; Jimmy Kidd, estates and golf course manager, Gleneagles; Joe McKean, member of the college greenkeeping advisory committee; and Cecil George, head greenkeeper Lenzie Golf Club and Scottish education committee representative for BIGGA.

On the Sunday prior to the commencement of the course, Walter Woods gave a conducted tour of the Old Course at St Andrews. It is hoped that for the 1989 course there will be a visit to Gleneagles golf course and estates.

THE British Turf Irrigation Association has just produced a second edition of *Your Guide to the BTIA*. The first edition was very well received after it appeared in July 1986.

Now, in the second edition, the Minimum Standards have been made more detailed and wider in scope. This will help everyone specifying or ordering an irrigation system.

As Dr. Peter Hayes, Director of the STRI, says in his Foreword, "Irrigation is a complex technical subject, and those who install new systems, or have existing ones upgraded,

do not know all the questions to ask or the points to check. In this booklet, the Association commits its members to making adequate provision for all essential features of a system, and provides for action by the Association if anything remains unsatisfactory afterwards."

The Standards now deal not only with golf greens, tees, but also with fairways, with bowling greens and other sports turf areas, and even with landscape irrigation. There are several sections of useful formulae and figures to make it easier to

follow the calculations and technicalities in specifications

All this is accompanied by information on the Association itself: the qualifications which its members have had to demonstrate, the conditions of work and code of ethics they follow, and the Association's guarantee to take action in case of any dissatisfaction with a member's work which remains unredressed after due complaint.

The guide, available at £2.50 post free, from the Secretary, BTIA, 3 Ferrands Park Way, Bingley, W. Yorks. BD16 1HZ

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ALLEN NATIONAL 68
BUNTON 22" GREENS MOWER
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HUXLEY COMPACT 3 HYDRAULIC GANG
HAYTER 21" PRO
HEWARD COMPACT ROTAVATOR
ISEKI SWEEPER
LAWNFLITE RIDE-ON MOWER
PATTISSON AERATOR
RANSOMES 180 (CHOICE OF 5)
RANSOMES SPORTSCUTTERS 3 & 5
RANSOMES HYDRAULIC 5-GANG MOWERS
RANSOMES 171 3 SETS OF HEADS
RANSOMES TM80 AERATOR
RANSOMES 213D (C REG)

RANSOMES MARQUIS
SISIS AUTO OUTFIELD SLITTER
SISIS AUTO - ROLL
SHANKS TRAILED 5 GANG MOWERS
TORO GM3 (CHOICE OF 3)
TORO 52 OUTFRONT
TORO 70
TORO 21"
VICTA 700 JLO
VOTEX 8' ROTARY MOWER

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NOTEBOOK...

New Ranger

JACOBSEN'S new 7-Gang Hydraulic Ranger gives a tournament-quality cut on up to 60 acres per day with its productive, 15-foot cutting swath. Powerful hydraulic reel mowers cut heavy or wet grass easily, with plenty of extra power for large-area vertical mowing.

Tractor-mounted operator controls allow cutting with three, five, six or all seven reels. The Ranger is less than eight feet reel controls for vertical mowing and backlapping.

Combined with Jacobsen's G-20D turf tractor, the 7-Gang Hydraulic Ranger gives high-production, quality mowing with low ground pressure, good manoeuvrability, and improved operator control.

The unit can be pulled by any 35 PTO hp or larger tractor. The Ranger's hydraulic pump attaches directly to the tractor PTO, allowing sharper turns than models with a drive shaft connected to the PTO. The 7-gang Ranger can turn 180° without leaving an uncut circle of grass.

The 7-Gang hydraulic Ranger can be equipped with either six or ten bladed reels for a wide range of high-quality mowing applications. Reels can be free-floating to closely follow ground contours at low cutting heights on fairways and other formal turf areas, or they can be locked in a fixed position for efficient cutting of roughs and informal turf at higher cutting heights.

Vertical reels are available to convert the Hydraulic Ranger into one of the most productive large-area verticutters available. Blade spacing of 1 3/4" and penetration of up to 7/8" gives thorough, one-pass coverage.

HIGHLAND LEASING LTD, the UK's leading agricultural finance house, has appointed a specialist local authority sales team to cope with increasing demand for leasing services from the public sector.

Specialist finance lease, contract hire and operating lease schemes will be offered

SIDEWINDER WINCH KIT

NOW available for Ninety and One Ten Land Rovers is a purpose designed kit for fitting a Sidewinder Winch. The winch is fitted under and behind the bumper bar in a concealed position, and it does not restrict airflow to the radiator. Operating from the vehicle's 12 volt battery, the Sidewinder which has a 9,000 lb pull rating, although in actual winch dynamometer tests, units have pulled upwards of 13,000lb. Kits are pre-drilled for immediate easy assemble, and as an option can have cable operated free wheel from inside the vehicle cab.

The fitting kits and Sidewinder winch for the Ninety and One Ten Land Rovers are available from the Sidewinder UK distributor,

Hancox announced as sole distributor for Beaver Blade

J.H. HANCOX Limited has been announced as the sole UK distributor for Beaver Blade, which brings a novel approach to an host of jobs which are currently affected by conventional circular saw and brush blades.

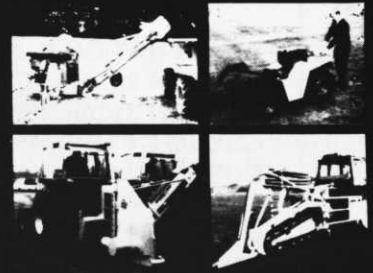
The Beaver Blade is a disc of stainless steel which supports a fixed saw chain around the circumference. It is designed to fit saws or brushcutters with a one inch or less arbor.

The blade is capable of cutting hard and soft woods, chip-board, plastic, laminates and PVC pipe. When used on a brushcutter it has a faculty for cutting grass, weeds, brush and small trees without suffering

NEW SPECIALISTS

by Highland to help the public sector update equipment currently in use. According to Highland, local authority interest has been such that the need to create a specialist sales team was both inevitable and

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Autosteer Controls Ltd,
Grangefield Industrial Estate,
Pudsey, Leeds and also I.C.M.
(4x4) Equipment, Shay Lane
Industrial Estate, Longridge,
Preston. In addition, both
companies offer a fitting
service should this be required.

the problems of grass wrapping and kick-back.

The cutters stay sharper longer than conventional blades. This results in less wear on equipment and operator fatigue. Even flex drive brushcutters are able to fell 5" to 6" diameter trees without damage.

To conclude, Beaver Blades are versatile, durable and productive because one blade does all jobs, equipment powering the blade suffers less wear and the self feeding action of the hollow ground teeth speeds cutting.

For more details, contact Bob Watson, J H Hancox Limited, Alcester Road, Portway, Birmingham. B48 7JA

necessary.

Highland Leasing have 21 years of experience in devising unique and competitively priced financial packages. The company is part of the Barclays Bank Group and has its headquarters in Borehamwood, Hertfordshire. For more details phone on 01-207 4488.

NOTEBOOK...

GOOD NEWS!

ELEVEN golf clubs have recently received the good news that one of their monthly medal competitions in 1988 will not now pose any drain whatsoever on their resources.

They are the winners of a recent competition in which clubs requesting a drainage survey from BTR Landscaper would be entered into a free draw. The prizes for the eleven winning clubs was sponsorship for one of their Medal competitions in the form of a perpetual BTR Landscaper Trophy, a replica trophy, plus attractive prizes for the first three placed competitors.

The competition was originally announced in a mailing that went out to golf clubs throughout the UK and Ireland, explaining about the many advantages of using the super slim Hitek Fin Drains which could be installed with the minimal disruption to play. Over 150 clubs responded to the invitation, and of these, several of the clubs having now seen the Fin Drains and their benefit to the club, have placed orders.

The draw was made by BTR Landscaper's managing director and arrangements are now being made with the winning clubs to hand over the sponsorship packages.

The model module from Conport

TO DATE, the module in all temporary building systems has been a box. Now, Conport offers the Flospan Freeline. Quite simply, a series of interlocking curves which give freedom to adapt the size of the building to requirements.

The price of a standard unit, including construction and delivery, is a fraction of the cost of a permanent building. Ideal for use as a storage shed for greenkeeping equipment - or an office - or whatever else is required of it.

For a free brochure write to Conport Structures Ltd, 11 Kings Road, Sloane Square, London SW3 4RP, or telephone 01-730-9105.



THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

UNIVERSAL Materials has evolved a new type of Tee Mat system which combines what managing director Geoff Russell calls "the best of both worlds". The stance area is a traditional rubber link mat of the type which Universal, under their trade name "Unimat", has been making for over 50 years.

Constructed from used truck tyre material Universal claim these mats are easily the most durable on the market.

The striking surface comes

from Japan where its manufacturer Soko of Tokyo, is the largest supplier of artificial turf to the country's 3,000 driving ranges.

The mat is available in both single and double-ended configurations and is mounted on a treated wooden platform. The artificial grass runs the full width of the stance mat thus giving the user a generous area on which to position the ball.

For further details contact Geoff Russell on 01-421-1236.

The very best for less in Golf Course Equipment



Traffic Control Stakes

A multi-purpose stake, complete with hook. When used with chain or rope makes instant fencing particularly suitable for directing players, trolleys etc. around G.U.R. or areas of turf where heavy traffic patterns have occurred.

Available in packs of 10.

10% discount for orders of 5 packs or more.

£2.99
each

Size 2' 6" high. Carriage extra.

Available ONLY from TACIT.

TACIT

Slimflex Swivel Flagpole

For the Golfer an instant indication of wind direction without tangling around the flagpole.

For the Greens Staff simplicity itself. No special tools, or especially adapted flags. Just pull the flag on and tie as normal. A boon if flags are changed frequently for Society or Championship events.

For the Greens Committee a swivel flagpole for less money than most other ordinary flagpoles **and a free flag with every pole.**



£6.99
each

Available in packs of 10. Size 7' 3" x 1/2" yellow. State colour of flag when ordering. Carriage extra.

Unit 3, 3 Millers Lane, Monks Kirby, Rugby CV23 0RJ. Tel: (0788) 832166

APPOINTMENTS

ST ANDREWS LINKS FOUR HEAD GREENKEEPERS

REQUIRED

The Management Committee have decided to revise the basis upon which all greenkeeping and links maintenance activities are organised at St. Andrews Links.

As a result of the new policy, applications are invited from suitable qualified and experienced greenkeepers in the preferred age range 30 - 50 for the posts of Head Greenkeeper on each of the Old, New, Eden and Jubilee Golf Courses.

Successful applicants will report to the Links Supervisor and will be expected to show clear evidence of their ability to maintain good quality golf courses to a very high standard within strict budgetary controls. An excellent knowledge of and experience in operating and maintaining modern greenkeeping equipment and irrigation systems will be required, together with knowledge of appropriate agrochemical and pesticides.

Hand written applications with supporting C.V. (preferably typed) should be addressed to:-

The Secretary,
St Andrews Links Management Committee,
St Andrews,
Fife,
KY16 9JA



WALTON HEATH GOLF CLUB Senior Assistant Greenkeeper

required for two 18-hole Championship Courses situated on Surrey Heathland under 20 miles from central London.

Applicants must be suitably experienced in Greenkeeping technique and the use of modern equipment.

An attractive remuneration package will include accommodation and benefits commensurate with this responsible position.

Application in writing, stating age, qualifications and experience to:-

The Secretary,
Walton Heath Golf Club,
Tadworth,
Surrey. KT20 7TP

HEAD GREENKEEPER BELHUS PARK GOLF COURSE Up to £11,130 inclusive p.a.

Thurrock is a rapidly developing Borough fronting the River Thames and enjoying excellent rail and road links with both London and the South East generally.

Applications are invited from persons of proven ability with suitable qualifications and experience in all aspects of Modern Greenkeeping. You should have a thorough knowledge of Golf Course design and the ability to direct, control and motivate staff. Applicants should also have knowledge of modern machinery, watering systems and machinery maintenance. A three bedroom house on site is provided at a nominal rent. The Council also offers a generous relocation package.

The Council is an equal opportunity employer. Application forms are available from the Personnel Department, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex. Telephone Grays Thurrock (0375) 390000

Ext. 2078 quoting Post No. 2/43.
Closing date: 28.3.88

THURROCK 
WORKING • LIVING • GROWING •

APPOINTMENTS

HESSLE GOLF CLUB

invite applications for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

situated in a pleasant rural area approximately 7 miles west of Hull. Large 18 hole parkland course opened 12 years ago has matured rapidly under the current retiring head greenkeeper to one of the finest in the area.

Applicants should be fully experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping including machinery maintenance and be capable of controlling and motivating staff.

Excellent modern equipment and facilities. Salary package negotiable. Apply in writing with full C.V. to:-

**The Secretary,
HESSLE GOLF CLUB,
Westfield Road,
Cottingham,
Hull.
HU16 5YL**

GLEN GORSE GOLF CLUB invite applications for the position of GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping and modern course management techniques. He will have a practical knowledge of modern machinery and the ability to lead and motivate staff. Salary is negotiable. Membership of the BIGGA and advantage. Applications with full C.V. to:-

**The Secretary,
Glen Gorse Golf Club, Glen Road, Oadby,
Leicester. LE2 4RF**

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER/FITTER

for

RICHMOND PARK GOLF CLUB

Experience of greenkeeping and machinery maintenance required.

BIGGA members with proven ability preferred.

**Apply with C.V. and references to:-
Golf Course Management,
(Richmond) Ltd.,**

**Richmond Park, Roehampton Gates,
Priory Lane, London. SW15 5JR**



National Turfgrass Council

IS YOUR CLUB BREAKING THE LAW?

When it comes to using chemicals on your golf course did you know that these operations now come under the new Pesticides Legislation. **DON'T BE CAUGHT OUT** - it is **your** responsibility to ensure that you comply with the law.

The NATIONAL TURFGRASS COUNCIL have produced a Code of Practice to enable you to understand the law and how it affects your use of pesticides. This code has been endorsed by the MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FISHERIES & FOOD, and is the authoritative document for AMENITY TURF.

**- THIS CODE IS ESSENTIAL -
EVERY CLUB SHOULD
HAVE ONE**

"Code of Practice for the use of approved pesticides in amenity areas"

J.P. Shildrick,
Secretary, NTC,
3 Ferrands Park Way,
Harden, Bingley,
W. Yorks.

Name: _____

Address: _____

CHEQUE ENCLOSED £7 inc. P&P

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.





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Applicants should be qualified in all aspects of modern greenkeeping methods, machinery and maintenance of the latest equipment.

Salary commensurate with experience. Please reply in writing including full c.v. to:

J. E. Linaker
Chief Executive
Castletown Golf Links Hotel
& Sports Complex
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Tel: 0624 822201



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HEAD GREENKEEPER

Wage: Approx £160 inclusive of bonus and in charge rate for a 38 hour, 5 day week.

Required at Perivale Golf Course, a busy 9 hole municipal course. You must have experience in all aspects of golf course maintenance and be able to advise on and carry out course development work. You should also have the ability to supervise and motivate up to six staff. Accommodation may be available. Closing date: 30.3.88 Ref: 361 CSD (M).

Application forms obtainable from the Borough Personnel Officer, Ealing Civic Centre, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, London W5 2HL. Tel: 01-840 1995. Please quote appropriate reference.

Ealing's new Council welcomes applications from all regardless of sex, race, ethnic origin, responsibility for dependants, from people with disabilities and from lesbians and gay men.



Ealing



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RESEARCH UPDATE...

Fusarium patch disease, caused by the fungus *Microdochium nivale* (previously *Fusarium nivale*) was first recorded on golf greens in 1931. Mr F T Bennett, recognised as a pioneer researcher on turf diseases, reported the disease as being the commonest, most disfiguring and damaging disease of turf known at that time. More than fifty years later, despite the development of effective fungicides, this statement is still true today. This article details the cultural and environmental conditions that favour fusarium patch and pink snow mould (also caused by *M.nivale*). For both diseases the most effective prevention and control methods available are described.

AS the cold, wet winter months are now with us, many greenkeepers, during the inspection of greens under their charge, will have seen the all-too-familiar symptoms of fusarium patch disease.

If effective control measures are not deployed, under favourable conditions fusarium patch will spread and may cause significant damage.

Indeed, fusarium patch may scar the surface to such an extent that an uneven putting surface is produced with deleterious effects on the visual attractiveness and playing quality of the green. Pink snow mould can be very destructive under prolonged snow cover, as experienced in more northerly regions.

The ability to recognise the early signs of fusarium patch and pink snow mould is essential, as is a knowledge of the environmental conditions that favour these diseases and measures that should be taken to control their growth.

Fusarium patch usually first appears as small (up to 5cm diameter) orange/brown water-soaked circular spots (Figure 1) which, under favourable conditions, may increase rapidly and coalesce together to form large circular patches. Correct diagnosis of these early signs is important as the best possible control will be achieved if the disease is treated at this early stage.

Under prolonged humid conditions sparse white or pink mycelium may be seen around the edges of each patch which tends to mat the green leaves together. A pale straw colour at this time indicates that the disease has become

less active, perhaps due to a drier climate.

Eventually scars are formed (Figure 2) which, particularly in the winter months, heal up slowly and are consequently prone to invasion by moss, undesirable grass species and weeds. If treatment is delayed

**by Nell Baldwin
plant pathologist at the
Sports Turf Research Institute**

until these later stages of disease development, only poor control will be achieved.

M.Nivale may also develop under snow, in which case the correct name is pink snow mould (Figure 4). After prolonged snow cover, large bleached patches of turf may appear, covered by white or pink mycelium, matting the leaves together.

If the disease cycle for fusarium patch is examined (Figure 3), useful information

on how it can be prevented or controlled can be gained.

The fungus responsible for fusarium patch, *M.nivale*, is a common soil fungus, universally present in golf greens, surviving unfavourable conditions in the thatch layer as pieces of dormant mycelium.

When conditions favouring disease outbreak prevail, then this mycelium can start to grow, produce spores, infect plants and spread to form the characteristic orange/brown patches typical of the disease. The active fungus can then spread by wind and/or water splash to areas of healthy turf in which new outbreaks of fusarium patch or pink snow mould can then take place.

If steps are taken to reduce or even eliminate the factors that favour disease development, then the cycle can be slowed down or even stopped. This can be achieved through an integrated disease control programme.



Figure 1: Early symptoms of fusarium patch disease



Figure 2: Typical fusarium patch scar

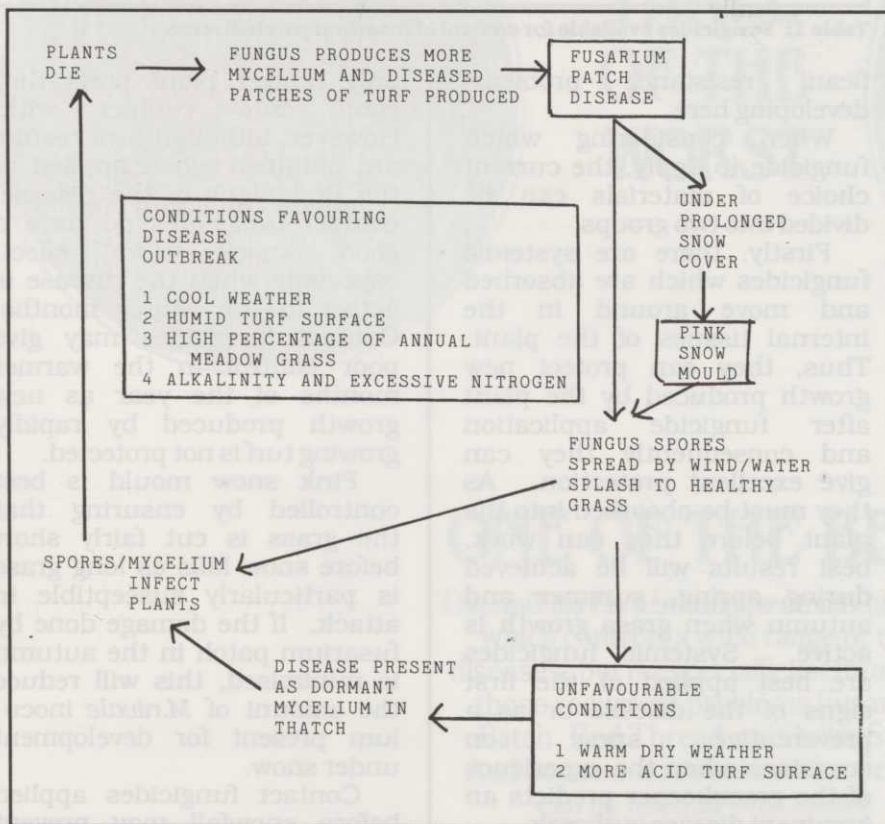


Figure 3: Disease cycle for fusarium patch and pink snow mould



Figure 4: Extensive damage caused by pink snow mould

Integrated disease control is the complementary use of biological, cultural and chemical control methods to achieve the most effective and economical disease control possible.

Fungicides are only part of an integrated disease control programme and their ready availability must not reduce the attention paid to those practices that reduce the risk of disease. Any management practice that helps to keep the turf surface dry, such as switching, spiking or slitting, will reduce the likelihood of fusarium patch occurring.

If necessary reduce the moisture-holding thatch layer e.g. by scarification, as this will again help to keep the turf surface dry. Surface drainage may also be improved by aeration and top dressing with a sandy compost.

It is also a good idea to promote air circulation over the greens by not siting trees, shrubs or tall buildings too close as this will inhibit the removal of surface moisture by the wind. Also, greens that are shaded from the sun will dry quite slowly.

Annual meadow-grass (*Poa annua*) is very susceptible to fusarium patch and consequently a sward containing a large percentage of this grass could suffer severe damage.

Good turf management, in its aim of promoting a healthy vigorous sward of fescue/bent, both of which are much more resistant to the disease than annual meadow-grass, will consequently discourage fusarium patch.

Great care must be taken when applying fertilisers as excessive nitrogen, especially the organic types such as dried blood, applied during cool wet weather, can lead to severe disease outbreaks. An alkaline turf surface also favours fusarium patch disease. The use of lime on golf greens is only recommended under exceptional circumstances and is best avoided for, as well as encouraging fusarium patch and other diseases, it leads to invasion of annual meadow-grass, weeds and worms.

Continued on page 52

In situations of prolonged cool wet weather, despite all cultural control measures being implemented, fusarium patch disease is still likely to attack on many courses. Fortunately if the need arises, the disease can be controlled with fungicides, providing they are used wisely and according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Fungicides should only be used carefully and judiciously, for several reasons.

Firstly, too many applications may inhibit other fungi in the turf that are antagonistic to fusarium patch and partially responsible for keeping the disease at a naturally low level. This could be the reason why disease sometimes appears more severe following a fungicide application than previously. Fungicides may also affect other fungi present in turf responsible for decomposing the thatch layer.

Secondly, the repeated use of fungicides with the same mode of action can lead to the development of strains of *M.nivale* resistant to the fungicide. For this reason, fungicides with different modes of action should be considered for successive applications. For example, alternate the use of a dicarboximide fungicide such as iprodione or vinclozolin with chlorothalonil; or any of the systemic fungicides (benzimidazoles) with any of the contact materials (see Table 1). Fungicide resistance is widespread in the USA (where more frequent indiscriminate fungicide applications are made) taking note of the above points will lessen the chance of signi-

FUNGICIDE GROUP AND ACTIVE INGREDIENT	SYSTEMIC (S) CONTACT (C)	PRODUCT	MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER
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THIABENDAZOLE	S	TECTO	SYNCHEMICALS
THIOPHANATE METHYL	S	MILDOTHANE	MAY AND BAKER
<u>DICARBOXIMIDES</u>			
IPIRODIONE	C	ROVRAL GREEN/ GRANULES	MAY AND BAKER
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<u>OTHER</u>			
CHLOROTHALONIL	C	DACONIL TURF	ICI PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

A range of new fungicides are currently under test at STRI for control of Fusarium patch disease.

Table 1: Fungicides available for control of fusarium patch disease

ficant resistance problems developing here.

When considering which fungicide to apply, the current choice of materials can be divided into two groups.

Firstly, there are systemic fungicides which are absorbed and move around in the internal tissues of the plant. Thus, they can protect new growth produced by the plant after fungicide application and consequently they can give excellent protection. As they must be absorbed into the plant before they can work, best results will be achieved during spring, summer and autumn when grass growth is active. Systemic fungicides are best applied at the first signs of the disease or as a preventative spray on occasions when the experience of the greenkeeper predicts an imminent disease outbreak.

Contact fungicides are not redistributed within and will

only protect plant parts they come into contact with. However, although best results are obtained when applied at the first signs of the disease, contact fungicides do have a good 'knock down' effect, especially when the disease is active in the winter months. Contact fungicides may give poor control in the warmer months of the year as new growth produced by rapidly growing turf is not protected.

Pink snow mould is best controlled by ensuring that the grass is cut fairly short before snow falls as long grass is particularly susceptible to attack. If the damage done by fusarium patch in the autumn is minimised, this will reduce the amount of *M.nivale* inoculum present for development under snow.

Contact fungicides applied before snowfall may prevent pink snow mould from developing. ■

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Salary negotiable. Please apply to:-

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require an
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GREENKEEPER**



Applicants should have some experience in
greenkeeping techniques and the use of modern
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Apply in writing stating age and experience to:-

**The Secretary,
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Experienced greenkeeper to
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**The Secretary,
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ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be experienced in greenkeeping,
with knowledge of modern course machinery,
its use and maintenance.

Apply in writing to:-

**The Secretary,
Farnham Golf Club,
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Farnham, Surrey.**

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require an

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

for a period of nine months from March 1988
to specifically look after greens and tees.
A knowledge of modern machinery including
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Assistance in finding accommodation will be
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will be offered.

Write in confidence with full C.V. to:-

**Box 1003,
the Golf Course,
121-123 High Street,
Dovercourt,
Harwich, Essex.**



RICHMOND GOLF CLUB

require an

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be experienced in all aspects
of greenkeeping and the use of modern
equipment. A mature person preferred with
initiative to undertake tasks once instructed.

No accommodation available. Applicants
should apply in writing, stating age,
experience and qualifications to:-

**Manager/Secretary,
Richmond Golf Club,
Sudbrook Park,
Petersham,
Richmond. Surrey.
TW10 7AS**

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OX7 1TQ
Tel: 0993 811976

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

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Peter Harradine,
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Arab Emirates
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Provisional

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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

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Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) Ltd.,
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Dorset BH21 6QY
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Tel: 0582 597262 Telex: 887916
Contact: Peter Dell

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270030 Telex: 98174

Cables: Ransome Ipswich
Contact: J.F.R. Wilson/R. Bishop

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Tel: Hereford (0432) 274361
Telex: 35302 W. Naylor or contact
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Warrington, Cheshire
Tel: 0925 54411

Contact: Roger Saunders
Portview Road, Avonmouth, Bristol
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Tel: 0272 823691
Contact: Michael Warne
Camp Road, Swinderby, 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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Contact: Nick Gray

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