

## REVIEW

### Woodbridge set a fine test for Ransomes Tournament

**R**ansomes held its 6th International Greenkeepers and Superintendents golf tournament at Woodbridge Golf Club, Suffolk in October. Twelve teams were entered, however Spain had to withdraw at the last minute due to the extensive flooding in the south of their country.

The BIGGA fielded three teams, all equally splendid in their Association colours. Neil Thomas was the team manager for Wales, Jack McMillan for England and Jimmy Neilson for Scotland. As usual the USA and Canada looked very strong in practice, with the West Germans looking like a good each way bet.

Play got under way bright and early on a gorgeous autumn day, with Austria out first, then Canada who made a solid start but by the turn it was England who had their noses in front thanks to some fine play by John Teixeira and Jan Farrall. After the morning round

England led with 46 pts the USA were alongside Scotland on 43 pts with Canada, Sweden and Wales all within striking distance on 41 pts.

England clearly lunched too well as they failed to improve. Canada and the USA played consistently well, as did Wales, but it was Scotland, who brought in Regional Administrator Chris Kennedy for the afternoon round who burnt the course up scoring 4pts a hole on four occasions and with a score of 49pts eventually won by 4pts from England who faded to 41pts in the afternoon with the USA coming third.

In the evening there was a splendid banquet at the Orwell Moat House Hotel attended by team members, managers and various guest of Ransomes. The whole event was most efficiently organised by John Wilson, ably assisted by the Ransomes sales team. During the evening the presentation of the prizes

was made by the Captain of Woodbridge, Brigadier Johnny King - Martin. He, together with John Wilson, made entertaining speeches in which they both paid tribute to the excellence of the Woodbridge course under the supervision of head greenkeeper Lyn Arbon. They can be fewer more taxing events to hold for any greenkeeper than a tournament for ones peers from all over the world.

The Scots were naturally delighted by their success and in his speech of thanks on behalf of all the competitors, Chris Kennedy paid tribute to Ransomes for bringing so many members of the golf course maintenance industry together in such friendly and enjoyable circumstances. He also reminded the audience that Scotland had won the last time the Ransomes International had been held at Woodbridge when the team included Jack McMillan and John Campbell - a happy hunting ground indeed.

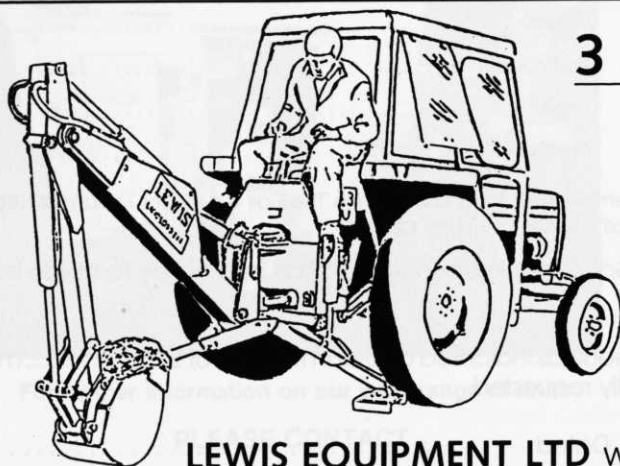
No doubt in three years time the tournament will attract an even larger entry and contribute to even greater friendships and contacts throughout the greenkeeping world.

#### Results of the 11 teams:

**Scotland** 43-49-92; **England** 46-41-87; **United States** 43-43-86; **Canada** 41-42-83; **Wales** 41-42-83; **Holland** 39-42-81; **West Germany** 40-41-81; **Republic of Ireland** 40-40-80; **Sweden** 41-39-80; **Northern Ireland** 40-39-79; **Austria** 31-29-60.



Seated on a bunker intimidatingly short of the 16th green at Woodbridge G.C. is Len Arbon's Greenkeeping Team which includes his son Kevin and brother-in-law Philip. Members of the team are (left to right), Allan Turner, Paul Jones, Philip Savage, Len Arbon, Maurice Bäckhouse and Kevin Arbon.



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