

CLIPPINGS

By The Mower

Ton-up at Tunbridge

Tunbridge Wells Golf Club will be celebrating their centenary with eleven days of club, invitation and an open event during June.

Little is known of the club's origins, but it would seem that an enthusiastic Scot, homesick for the game he had left north of the border, laid out a few holes in the grounds of the Spa Hotel, mainly for his own amusement and that of the hotel guests.

For almost 87 years the tree lined parkland course remained in the ownership of the Spa Hotel until bought by the club members in 1976. A bargain buy with hindsight, though no doubt the Committee had difficulty at the time persuading the members to part with their money.

Scottish stone for Japan

The golf mad Japanese have not only adopted much of Scotland's golf course designs, but are now building a prestige club house in Scottish sandstone.

But it will only be an appearance of the real thing as the stone blocks have been cut down to a mere 65mm, two thirds of the width of a putting cup, which proves the point that even Scottish beauty is only skin deep.

Because the club house is in the midst of an earthquake belt, the building has to be constructed in reinforced concrete and the stone will be used as facing.

Getting help from golfers

Last year's joint campaign by the American PGA and the Golf Course Superintendents to make golfers more aware of course etiquette through a poster campaign, was voted a great success.

Tom Watson was featured asking golfers to rake bunkers, repair divots and attend to pitch marks.

This year Nancy Lopez and Curtis Strange have agreed to be the featured professionals on a new theme entitled "Practice Your Follow Through". The message will be the same, getting golfers to be more aware of their responsibilities to keep the course in good condition.

European golf course exhibition

The growth of golf on the Continent has prompted yet another exhibition and conference aimed at the specialist golf course maintenance industry.

Golf Course Europe will take place between 4th-6th October in Wiesbaden, West Germany concentrating on golf course design, construction, maintenance and management.

Twenty-five speakers have been engaged and translations will be in French, German and English. It is estimated that in addition to the lectures between 100 and 150 companies will be exhibiting.

NTC conference in Arnheim

The NTC are also looking ahead to the single European Market in 1992 by taking their Biennial Conference to Arnheim in Holland.

Scheduled for the 17th to 19th October, EUROTURF '89 is seen as an opportunity to fly the Union Jack by NTC Chairman Howard Swan. He said "We have great expertise in the turfgrass industry which is eminently exportable".

As well as a series of papers by speakers from several countries, technical visits are being arranged. The cost of the two day event is likely to be around £190 including travel and hotel accommodation. Details from NTC, 3 Ferrands Park Way, Harden, West Yorks BD16 1HZ.

Kubota support Amateur Team Championships

Kubota (UK) Ltd have moved into the sponsorship of Amateur Golf in a big way. Following on from their sponsorship of the Golf Foundation where they offered a Kubota G1900S mower worth over £5000 as a prize in a golf club free draw for any club donating more