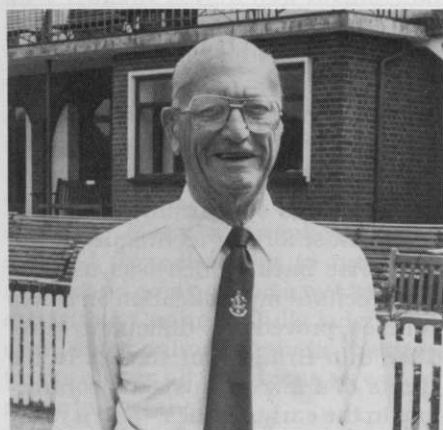


**OBITUARY**

**MR WILLIAM H, BOWLES, BEM, FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTE OF GROUNDSMANSHIP**



William 'Bill' Bowles, Founder and President of the Institute of Groundsmanship, died at Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, after a short illness, on Wednesday, 19th July 1989, at the age of 89.

Bill Bowles founded the National Association of Groundsmen in 1934 whilst working as Head Groundsman to Westminster Bank in Norbury. In 1916 Bill moved to Eton College on his appointment as Head Groundsman and retired in 1985, after having served 72 years as a turf care expert of great repute. In 1947 Bill was invited to serve on the National Playing Fields Association's prestigious Ground and Layout Committee. He has given talks and practical demonstrations at the request of the MCC, with the aim of improving the standard of wickets generally and in all his working life never declared a pitch out-of-play due to inclement weather. An acknowledged expert in turf culture, Bill's expertise is known throughout the world and is best summed up in an extract from an article in the Eton College Chronicle, printed when Bill retired in 1985 aged 85 *"Despite his eminence in the profession, he always put Eton first - no man in the history of Eton College can have given longer or more devoted service than Bill Bowles. We may be sure that if he ever dies... that W. G. Grace himself will at once appoint him Head Groundsman of the Elysian Fields."*

This sentiment is carried through in the work Bill has tirelessly carried out for the Institute of Groundsmanship. His aims to bring groundsmen together, give opportunities for training, hold examinations and courses, raise standards of sportsground

**FIRST GOLF COURSE FOR POLAND  
(A Golf Course - Exclusive)**

An 18 hole golf course with a driving range is to be built in the grounds of luxury hotel, converted from an Old Bishop's Castle at Pultask, a medieval town some 60km north east of Warsaw.

The project has reached the design stage to plans drawn up by the Swedish architect, Jan Sederholm who has been responsible for a number of golf courses in Scandanavia.

It is understood that the finance is to be provided by a group from Sweden with Polish connections backed by a Polish Government Agency, to cultivate links with those of Polish origins, but living abroad. The hotel with a recreational complex opened last month, the course will follow, constructed by a local civil engineering firm under the management of Richard Gacke, a Pole who has worked in Nigeria for 15 years, where he acquired his golfing interest as a member of the Ikoyi Club in Lagos.

Richard confesses to be a "lousy" golfer, but says that he is keen and does at least know something about the game!

Once the course is finished, there is an

option to build a further 9 holes.

It seems there is an immediate demand for at least 20 golf courses in Poland just to cater for the tourists who take their clubs to West Berlin and Vienna and then move on into Poland to continue their holiday. That takes no account of the local population, who are at present unable to take up the game.

Estimates point to over 40,000 people waiting to join a club in Stockholm, many quite prepared to join the new club at Pultusk and fly in to stay at the hotel.

In fact the Swedish partner has already reserved a number of membership cards and when ready, the course will also be available to hotel guests.

Once constructed, Richard Gacke will take over as Course Manager and will then be faced with the task of training a greenkeeping crew. Purchasing the right equipment for course maintenance is likely to be a major problem as there is nothing of suitable manufacture in Poland.

However as one of the current subscribers to 'the Golf Course', he is sure to pick up a great deal of the information he requires.

maintenance and to improve the status of groundsmen and the profession have all been achieved and the Institute will carry on his good work. The sell-out of this year's annual IOG Sports & Leisure World Trade Exhibition to be held at Windsor Racecourse in September with 450 exhibitors is fitting tribute to his memory.

Bill Bowles was an extremely popular, highly respected and much loved figure. His contribution at local, regional, national and international level, his vast experience and wonderful personality will be sadly missed by the entire turf care and leisure industry.

Deepest sympathy and condolences are conveyed to all of Bill's family.

**4 WHEEL DRIVE FOR JACOBSEN FAIRWAY MOWER**

The Jacobsen LF-100 5 gang fairway mower is now available with four wheel drive. This option allows the LF-100 to climb hills without damage to the turf caused by wheel spin and slippage.

At the touch of a knob, the operator can go from two wheel drive to four wheel drive and back, without stopping.

The 100-inch cut and mowing speeds of more than five mph mean high productivity. The up-front placement of the outside reels allows the operator to see the trimming edge without looking behind, for a cleaner mowing line.

The LF-100's five 22-inch reels deliver a tournament-quality cut. Pedal-operated reel lift helps the operator cross-cut fairways effectively. A tight turning radius and power steering provide extra manoeuvrability and comfort.

**ICI DONATION TO AQUATIC WEEDS RESEARCH UNIT**

HRH The Duke of Gloucester has received a cheque on behalf of the Aquatic Weeds Research Unit for (1318) from ICI Professional Products.

The cheque, presented by Patrick Goldsworthy was a donation based on the sales of the ICI publication 'Aquatic Plants - A Guide to Recognition' by David Spencer-Jones and Max Wade.

The book is still available at a cost of £7.50 inc p&p from Borcombe Printers Ltd., Publications Department, Unit 6, Budds Lane, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 OHA.