

CLIPPINGS

By The Mower

New turf on collection

ROLAWN'S turf depots are proving a great success with landscapers and turf-users up and down the country. There are now 19 selling outlets where freshly-harvested turf can be collected or deliveries arranged. Staffed and run entirely by Rolawn, they are situated on prime sites in or near major cities with easy access to main roads and motorways.

"With more Rolawn depots opening all the time, we intend to cover the country within the next two years," says Operations Director Guy Longbottom, who opened the first depot as a trial run in Glasgow three years ago.

"Air-shot" of the Month

THE final round of the Open Championship produced the most compelling TV viewing this year and all credit to the BBC who kept the action alive to a world-wide audience throughout the day.

But what prompted the controller to cut off the programme at the moment Mark Calcavecchia received the Claret Jug and held it aloft?

At least we did see amateur Russell Claydon receive his Gold Medal and hear the tribute to Norman Fergusson, but when everyone wanted to join Calcavecchia in his moment of glory, someone decided we had to view a repeat programme of bikini clad Brazilians on the beach of Copacabana!

Johnny Walker backs golf "down under"

RYDER Cup Sponsor, Johnny Walker, the world's number one Scotch Whisky distiller is to sponsor the Australian Golf Classic with a \$1m prize fund, making it the biggest deal in Australian Golf. Played at Royal Melbourne in November it is likely to be screened for British T.V. viewers.

Monro takeover

DAUNTON Hunt Ltd, acquired by George Palmer of Peterborough last year, have been taken over by Monro Horticulture, who have acquired the lease on The Heathfield premises Don and Elizabeth Hunt are joining the new company.

Battle at the Belfry

BEFORE a ball has been struck off the tee, the PGA and ticket agency Keith Prowse have been involved in a legal battle with Company Director Marcus Evans and his two companies, over falsely representing themselves as authorised and entitled to sell hospitality and tickets for the 1989 Ryder Cup.

The High Court have ordered Mr. Evans not to use the name Ryder Cup in any of his ventures or to offer tickets and hospitality facilities at the Belfry.

Executive Director, John Lindsay at the PGA said those companies who had already booked through Evans will be helped if at all possible.

SISIS invitation golf tournament

FOR many years SISIS EQUIPMENT (Macclesfield) LIMITED have sponsored an annual Golf Tournament for greenkeepers in the North West but have now decided to hold the competition as an Invitation Tournament to include their customers in all sportsground maintenance.

The first Invitation Golf Tournament was played at The Cavendish Golf Club near Buxton on 20th June and competitors came from as far afield as Prestatyn, Birmingham and Leyland. The weather was glorious and a good time was had by all.

The eventual winner was Terry Adamson of Wrexham Golf Club and he also received a set of cut crystal glasses and a replica of the trophy.

Practice for perfection

FOR those that revel in statistics a visit to the practice ground at Troon produced some sets of figures which were quite astounding.

The complete facility, provided by Golf Equip (GB) Ltd of Littlehampton, is responsible for setting up practice bays for all the Open Championship competitors, who are hitting balls from dawn to dusk in an effort to keep the groove in their swing.

Two Honda, four wheel bikes drive up and down the practice area all day pulling an automatic golf ball collector, covering an astonishing 600 miles, over the week of the championship.

The R & A provide 6,000 golf balls to be hit at a rate of 30,000 a day though the number falls towards the end of the week when the cut eliminates those who miss out on the final two days.

The balls are later donated to the Golf Foundation for the benefit of Junior Golf.

Royal Troon

THIS year's Open Championship not only provided one of the most exciting climaxes ever in the three way play off between Mark Calcavecchia, Wayne Grady and Greg Norman, but was a masterpiece of organisation.

The weather helped of course, though the staff in the Exhibition Tent sweltered in temperatures of over 100 degrees. Out on the links the unseen work took place when play finished and before dawn when Norman Fergusson's crew groomed tees and greens to produce the perfect surface, despite emerging dry patch, a course condition that most golf courses has suffered.

Talking to Sheffield professional Peter Cowan on the 18th after he had missed the cut, his first words were - "There is not a bad hole on the course - I just played badly". For someone that must have been choked with disappointment it was a generous tribute.