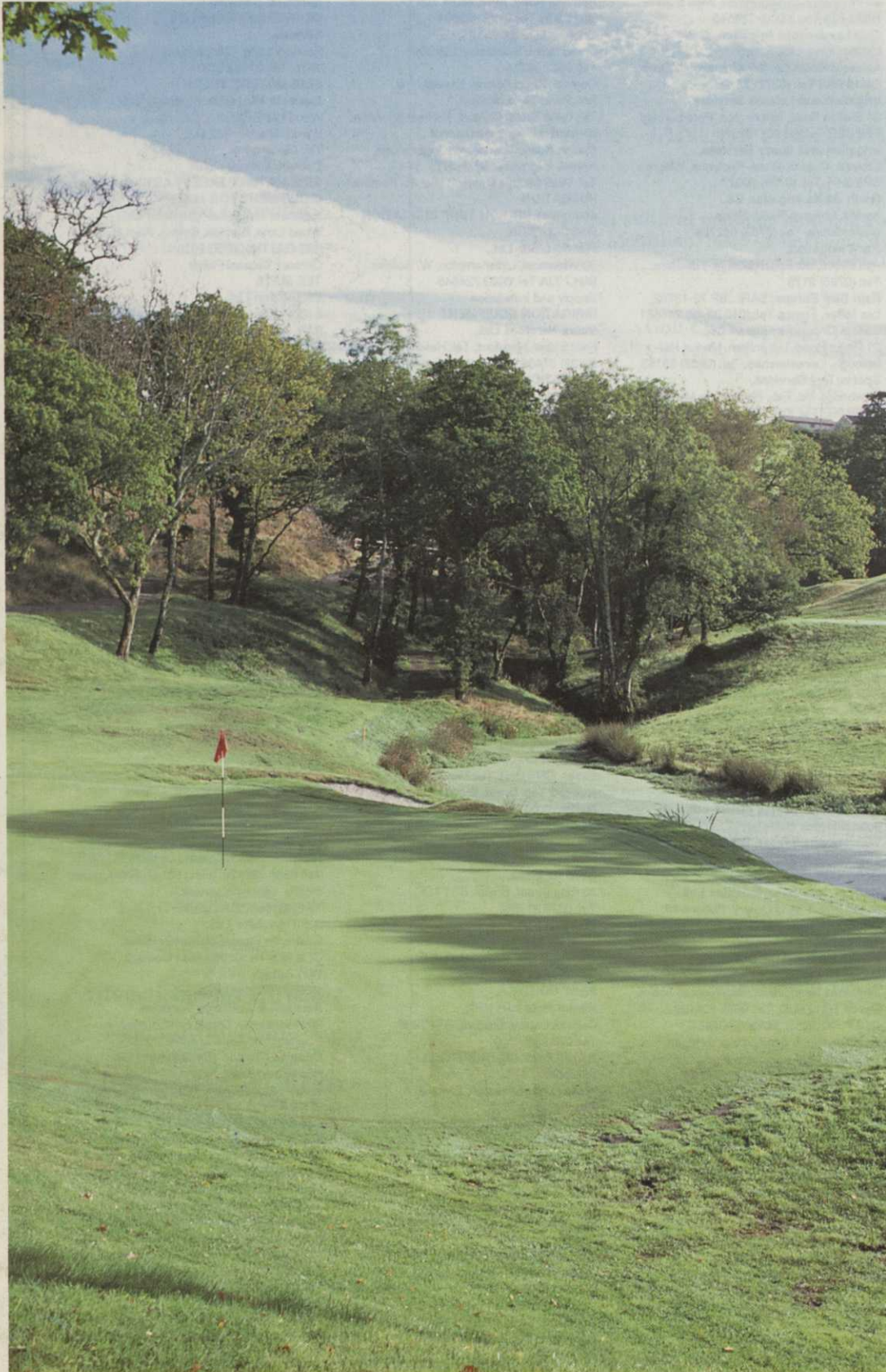


the Golf Course

Incorporating Golf Greenkeeping

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1989



On the Course

Cameron McMillan talks to John Campbell about Liphook Golf Course.

Education

How the Youth Training Scheme fits into the golf course training programme.

Management

Advice on choosing the correct bunker sand.

Opinion

Fred Hawtree looks at the rights and wrongs of putting green design.



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the Golf Course

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Jack McMillan

A new year ahead

The past year seems to have flown away, by the time you read this my year in office will be coming to an end and it will be time to hand over to the capable hands of Bill Lawson from Heswell Golf Club.

The Association continues to grow, new members join daily, and my personal hopes are that it is not too ambitious to aim at 4000 members by the end of this year.

Being your Chairman has been a privilege and an honour but I now feel it is time for some of the older statesmen to go and drift away quietly into the background, and leave the Association in the capable hands of the young people who are about today.

I would, however, like to take this opportunity to thank a number of people, who, on election to office beaver away on your behalf at the chores that make this Association function successfully. Educational seminars, trade shows, golf outings and social occasions do not organise themselves. It takes time and effort by many people, at section, regional and national level. I feel they all deserve a thank you for all they do. Many of them on election, sacrifice their annual holidays, and often travel long miles to attend meetings, their only motivation is the improvement of Greenkeepers and greenkeeping. I am sure you would like me to offer them your thanks.

The decision to appoint a professional person to take care of our affairs has proven to be a major success. At the time of writing, we now have a staff of three looking after your affairs, under the excellent direction of Neil Thomas, at National Headquarters. I am sure everyone who has been privileged to work with him knows that the future of our Association could not be in better hands. He is to be commended for all he has achieved in the short time he has been with us.

Also my sincere gratitude goes to our President, Viscount Whitelaw, who so kindly agreed to lend our association his name and support.

Everyone is aware that the way forward for us in the greenkeeping industry is through education. Your management board decided to appoint a development Officer fulltime to look after education and liaise with all the bodies concerned with greenkeeper education. I am delighted to say that the appointment was made from within our own ranks and David Golding now joins our staff in this role. I am sure everyone will wish David, Noreen and their family every good wish for a successful future. A success we will all share in.

My thanks also to the R & A, without whose support I very much doubt this would all have happened.



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CLIPPINGS

By The Mower

Three new members join Association of British Golf Architects

The first examination for Provisional Membership of BAGCA resulted in an invitation to join the Association to three architects working in France, Holland and Yugoslavia. Candidates were required to undertake two projects, the design for an 18 hole in Germany, plus a small research project on the USGA green specification, followed by a discussion in London.

The BAGCA have been investigating for some time the method of qualifying entry to the Association and they now expect future membership will be by examination only.

Those granted Provisional membership are Jeremy J. A. Pern, Gerard Jol and Tjasa Gregoric.

A Lotta Knowledge Can Take You A Long Way

Minchinhampton's Course Manager, Laurence Pithie is heading for the title of Britain's National Greenkeeper Quiz King. In 1984 he won a trip to Las Vegas in a nationwide competition sponsored by Jacobsen Textron, two years later was nominated runner up as Groundsman of the Year, won the title outright in 1987 with a prize trip to Houston and would you believe it - he has now won another trip to the USA, this time to Los Angeles.

In a contest sponsored by Daunton Hunt Ltd in conjunction with BASF, Laurence just pipped Adrian Archer from Salisbury to win the 33 question quiz and the flight to California.

The quiz organised by Don Hunt, Managing Director of the Newton Abbott based company and Tracy Park's Course Manager Adrian Stiff was open to all the greenkeepers in the South West. The questions covering the whole field of course maintenance had to be answered without reference to manuals and within a time limit.

Laurence, made top place with a 92 per cent correct score.

Bets Settled

Last month's front cover which happened to be of a Scottish Golf Course caused considerable discussion in club houses throughout the country.

We hear of several bets struck over the location, because no where in the magazine was the picture identified, due, we must confess, to a last minute decision to replace the planned frontispiece.

It was the 16th hole at the Kings Course, Gleneagles, taken by Publisher Stanley Ellison from the new elevated tee. Apologies to Jimmy Kidd, Gleneagles Course Manager. He at least did not require the caption.

Scoop for the Sheik

Followers of the PGA European Tour will have noticed two new venues to start the 1989 season, the opening tournament taking place in Teneriffe and then the Tour moves to the banks of the Red Sea on 1st march for the Dubai Open at the Emirates Golf Club.

This magnificent course owned by Sheik Mohammed Bin Rashid, cost well over £10 million to turn the desert sands into a green oasis.

It has been achieved by constructing two huge lakes filled with desalinated water from the Arabian Gulf and using the water to pour around 1.25 million gallons a day through 740 Toro sprinklers on to greens, tees and fairways.

Work on the course only started in 1986 and now, three years later it is regarded as equal in stature to the best of the desert courses in Arizona.

Tournament Director, Terry Duffy, home for a few days at Christmas told THE GOLF COURSE that ITV are to film a series of six half-hour teaching sessions at the Emirates Club with Tony Jacklin, to be screened later this year.

Among the personalities taking lessons are opera star Kiri Te Kanawa, new 007 actor Timothy Dalton and "Del Boy" David Jason, from Only Fools and Horses.

European Continent to wait for Ryder Cup

The decision to play the 1993 Ryder Cup match in Britain has blocked a continental takeover bid to move the contest to Brussels.

Europe's unification in 1992 as well as offering tremendous opportunities for business

also exposes the vulnerability of a number of sacrosanct British institutions, the home matches of the Ryder Cup being one.

Now the Ryder Cup is played between a European Team versus the USA it must be on the cards we cannot keep it here indefinitely.

Safety First - Before Teeing!

We are all in favour of safety on the golf course but the latest visit by a local authority Health and Safety Inspector has produced a barmy directive to my own club.

We have two up hill par threes of 164 and 140 yards, backing on to a village road, shielded by at least another 30 yards of rough and trees at the back of the shorter hole.

The Inspector insisted two notices with red letters be screwed to the tee boxes saying - **Golfers must not hit their balls on to the road.** He intimated that if the notices were not put up the holes could be closed down.

It is accepted it is possible to over club or thin a shot out of a greenside bunker, but we have't met a golfer yet who aims to put the ball on the road.

Hat trick for British Seed Houses

Three of the prestigious new golf courses either built or under contract have been seeded by British Seed Houses.

Greens and tees at St. Mellion were sown with Penncross Creeping Bent, Penncross has been used for greens and tees at the Northampton course of Collingtree Park and the fairways at Wentworth's new course were seeded in mid August using a mixture with a high proportion of Frida Chewings Fescue.

Chi Chi Rodriguez to receive Old Tom Morris Award

Puerto Rico golf seniors superstar, Chi Chi Rodriguez has been nominated to receive the Old Tom Morris Award at this year's GCSAA Banquet in Anaheim.

He is the seventh recipient of the honour given to those who the GCSAA believe have contributed greatly to the game of golf.

Chi Chi has almost the following of the first award winner, the legendary Arnold Palmer, but has also dedicated much of his life to work with underprivileged children at the Youth Foundation he runs in Florida, where getting one of his "kids" a degree is worth more than a tour victory.

Tunbridge Wells Golf Club Centenary

One of Kent's most picturesque golf clubs celebrates its Centenary Year in 1989. Designed and built by Mr W Bruce Dick, who was then the proprietor of the Spa Hotel, the Club has had a distinguished 100 years of golfing history.

The Club will be marking the event with a celebratory fortnight in June 1989, during which sponsored competitions and functions, including a Gala Dinner for members both past and present will take place.

Ganning's Icelandic Trip

The Belfry's Course Manager, Derek Ganning, was whisked north to the land of the midnight sun last August, on a ten day tour of Iceland's golf courses by invitation of the Iceland Golf Federation.

Derek reports that these proud people are "golf mad from 6 to seventy" and want to play the game throughout the daylight hours, which during the summer is not far short of twenty-four.

Golf courses are maintained by members on a part-time basis and few have any paid staff. Some of the equipment is rather less than suitable, but Derek has a great admiration for their achievement despite their lack of professional knowledge.

Bob wants time off from Midlands affairs

That stalwart member of the Mid Anglia Section, Bob Goodwin, Head Greenkeeper at Ashbridge has decided to take a less active part in the Association's affairs.

He was Secretary of the Midlands Section for ten years and was then instrumental in setting up the Mid Anglia Section in 1979, where he has held the office of Chairman, Secretary and Assistant Secretary at various times.

He has been succeeded as Mid Anglia Secretary by Paul Fitzjohn.

Paul is due for a busy year as he starts a new job as Course Manager at the Mill Hill Club at Barnet in January.

BIGGA education officer appointed

David Golding, the Northern Regional Administrator has been appointed to the newly created position of Education Officer for the Association.

David, 37, hopes to take up this challenging position before the beginning of March if release dates can be agreed with his present employers, Trafford Borough Council.

He has been the authority's Golf Courses Superintendent for the past five years as well as an active member and past Secretary of the North West Greenkeepers Section.

Married with a daughter and two keen golfing sons, David sees his new role developing in three particular areas.

Working closely with colleges on the expected updating of the City & Guild Syllabus, the growth of training for mature greenkeepers, denied formal greenkeeper education, through weekend courses and the promotion of better opportunities for school leavers, who see their future on golf courses.

He will also be heavily involved in the Association's Conference and Seminar Programmes, as well as the Employment Division of BIGGA.

David says he is particularly keen to offer a training scheme to a large number of members anxious to widen and improve their practical greenkeeping knowledge, but who may now feel reluctant to follow a formal examination syllabus leading to written examination.

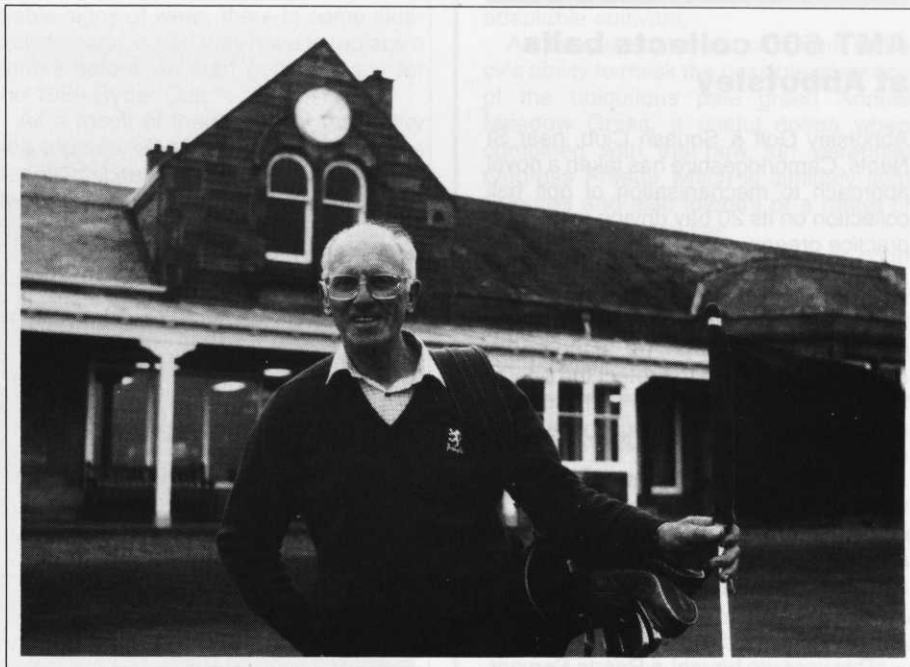
New Years Honour for Royal Troon greenkeeper

Royal Troon's Head Greenkeeper, 61 year old Norman Fergusson has been awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours List.

He has been in charge of this year's Open Championship course for 30 years and was born in the greenkeeper's house at Royal Troon, where his father was head greenkeeper for 40 years, before Norman took over the prestigious appointment.

Greenkeeping has been a family profession for three generations and his brother William is also at Royal Troon as first assistant.

A one time single figure golfer, Norman still enjoys a round with his son, an insurance broker, at Carnoustie, but a slipped disc put paid to his competitive play.



Norman Fergusson awarded the British Empire Medal.

The honour came to him as a complete surprise, but he does recall a visit to the club by the Lord Lieut. of the County some 18 months ago, when this dignitary spent a couple of hours with him, discussing the various items of golf course machinery.

He said he is looking forward to his fifth Open event in July and the eleven greenstaff are hard at work preparing the course.

So far they have refaced 50 bunkers and built a new tee at the 18th to extend the final hole by 30 yards, but apart from this change the course will remain as it was for the last Open Championship in 1982.

A major problem still to face will be the installing of a 60,000 gallon water tank to service the now essential tented village.

Injured greenkeeper saved by golfers

Cries for help from a trainee greenkeeper and the prompt response from golfers when he was caught in machinery while cutting fairways at a Welsh Golf Club saved him from further injury a court was told in December.

Unguarded machinery was blamed for the fracture of an employee's arm, Llangollen Magistrates heard at a court hearing on 5th December.

The 600 member Vale of Llangollen Golf Club were fined £500 after pleading

guilty to failing to ensure the safety of an employee, Mr Jeremy Hughes an 18 year old trainee greenkeeper who broke his arm when his sleeve got caught in moving machinery.

In a prosecution brought by the Health and Safety Executive, the court was told Mr Hughes had tried to remove a stick caught in the blades of a fairway gangmower when the incident occurred.

It was only the alertness of two golfers on the seventh fairway responding to his cries for help, who saved him from further injury.

Mr Tudor Williams prosecuting for the Health and Safety Executive said, "the machinery was unguarded and under Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act, the employer should ensure the safety of all employees".

He told the Magistrates Mr Hughes had stopped to see what was wrong and why the blades were not working correctly when his sleeve was caught in the machinery.

Mr Williams added that a Health and Safety Executive Inspector had visited the golf club in November 1985 and had remarked on the lack of guarding on some pieces of machinery, which had been purchased 4½ years ago.

Mr Anthony O'Toole defending Llangollen Golf Club, an 18 hole private club in Clwyd, said "If this man had used an iota of common sense and turned the machinery off this incident might not have occurred.

AMT 600 collects balls at Abbotsley

Abbotsley Golf & Squash Club, near St Neots, Cambridgeshire has taken a novel approach to mechanisation of golf ball collection on its 20 bay driving range and practice greens.

The linchpin of the new system is a specially modified John Deere AMT 600, a five wheeled load carrier fitted with low ground pressure tyres as standard. A cage has been fitted to protect the operator from airborne golf balls and two front mounted tow bars for coupling a front mounted Range Servant.

"In 1986 the whole job was manual and we employed an army of school boys to collect the balls and wash them each morning. This was very labour intensive and not very satisfactory," explained Jenny Wisson, General Manager, Abbotsley Golf & Squash Club.

"This year we bought a Range Servant and originally pushed it around with a tractor. During the winter months it cut up the range, balls were buried where it ran over them so we looked at alternative ways to collect the golf balls," she said, "Our main concern was to get the balls picked up with the minimum damage to the range."

Keith Tysoe, Woodlands Agricultural, came up with the AMT 600 as a solution. The modification of adding an operator's cage means balls can be collected any time in complete safety and the range does not have to be closed.



The operators cage means the driving range can be kept open.

"The AMT 600 has not damaged the range, can run over balls without burying them and is very easy to drive which is good news," said Jenny.

After collection, balls are tipped into a ball dispenser which also washes them. "It has made ball collection and cleaning a one man job," said Jenny.

Tom James, Course Manager is particularly pleased with the AMT 600's

performance. "We can even run it over the practice greens and collect the golf balls without any damage which we could not do with the tractor," he said.

When not in use on the driving range the AMT 600 also works on the main 18 hole course. "The ground staff find it is particularly useful for running around the course and the trailer on the back makes it particularly valuable," said Jenny.

THREE WISHES FOR GREENKEEPING IN 1989

BY JOHN CAMPBELL

1. To have every greenkeeper in the country become a member of the BIGGA



2. A new chemical for the control of poa annua.



3. A reduction in the number of superfluous bunkers. Most courses have too many which adds to the work of the greenkeeping staff.



Special turf tyres run over the Belfry

Maintaining two golf courses in 'tip top' condition, particularly when one of them is the venue for the Ryder Cup is no mean task, but Derek Canning, Golf Course Manager at the Belfry and his staff of 13 take it in their stride.

Derek's staff include a head greenkeeper, eight greenkeepers, three gardeners and a full time mechanic. They have a vast array of powered turf care equipment at their disposal, to keep the courses in first class condition including two agricultural tractors for the fairways and semi-rough and it was with these that a problem presented itself prior to the 1985 Ryder Cup.

The tractors, a MF265 and a MF590 are both fitted with Ransomes Hydraulic 5/7 Sportcuttes and with standard tyres, they were leaving substantial tyre track impressions on the fairways.

Because turf tyres were not available for most full sized tractors, specialist wheel and tyre manufacturers, Undergear Equipment (RPB) Ltd of West Bromwich were called upon for help.

Undergear Equipment experimented with various tread patterns and tyre pressures until a satisfactory pattern, was achieved. Tyres with this tread pattern were then specially produced and fitted to the MF tractors in time for the Ryder Cup preparations.

Since then both tractors have been used every day on their special turf tyres. "They are excellent tyres and don't mark the course at all" said Derek Canning "Undergear Equipment did a first class job and although the tread shows no appreciable signs of wear, there is some side-

well damage, so we may have to replace a couple before we start getting ready for the 1989 Ryder Cup."

As a result of their work for the Belfry golf courses, Undergear Equipment have supplied special turf tyres for agricultural tractors to a number of District and County Council, Leisure and Recreation Departments and also just exported 50 of these tyres to Sweden.

Epsom on STRI merit list for 1989

Already established on the French, Dutch and continental lists, Epsom, the new Chewings fescue from Johnsons Seeds, is featured in the STRI 1989 merit list for the first time.

Epsom is a fine-leaved cultivar which receives an 'A' rating for the important complementary characteristics of compactness, mowing tolerance - down to 5mm - summer greenness and disease resistance (notably Red Thread).

While its superior turfgrass qualities make it suitable for both ornamental and fine sports turf, Epsom has been selected for its ability to perform well under conditions of low fertility. Thus it has a wide application under low and minimal maintenance where tolerance to environmental stresses and low inputs of nitrogen are primary considerations.

Easy to establish, Epsom possesses a characteristic and attractive light green hue which is retained even under warm, dry conditions and importantly low fertility. It does not require the high inputs of nutrients necessary to sustain other less

adaptable cultivars.

Another useful benefit of Epsom is the cv's ability to mask the possible presence of the ubiquitous pale green Annual Meadow Grass, a useful option when combined with the new turf perennial ryegrass Prester which is similarly light coloured and also tolerant of a range of environmental stresses.

Bred by the leading Dutch seed company D.J. Van de Have, Epsom is available exclusively for Johnsons Seeds. Limited quantities are available for the 1989 season.

SISIS visit by greenkeepers

North West Greenkeepers were guests of SISIS, the Macclesfield machinery manufacturers, last month.

The morning was spent at the nearby Tytherington Club where a number of equipment items were put through their paces, including the Powaspread top dresser, the Varicore aerator and the pto driven Rotorake.

Following lunch the party toured the SISIS factory and saw how computerisation is used to assist in design techniques.

New Scottish Golf Course in Japanese Deal

Letham Grange, the recently completed 18 hole golf course north of Carnoustie modelled on the layout of Augusta National has missed by a whisker, being included among Britain's fifty best in a survey by Golf World.

No mean feat when compared to the opposition provided by the most mature golf courses on both sides of the Irish Sea.

Owner Ken Smith, who turned a neglected 350 acre estate near Abroath into a first class sporting complex complete with a luxurious 20 bedroomed hotel has now signed up a deal with Japanese business interests for further expansion.

Work has already started on a second 18 hole golf course, a conservatory club lounge and enlarged professionals shop.

New plans include 35 additional bedrooms to the hotel, conference facilities and 80 residential housing plots, destined to become time-share properties, together with a swimming pool, squash courts and an indoor golf academy.

Viewers of BBC TV's 'Play Better Golf' with Peter Alliss, scheduled to be shown in the Spring will have the opportunity to



Turf tyres fitted to one of the Belfry's MF tractors.

see the extent of the new golf course. The complete series of nine half hour programmes has been filmed at Letham Grange.

Ken Smith anticipates the staff, currently 40 will be doubled once the new projects are completed.

He said, "Letham Grange has been the realisation of a dream for me. This agreement will result in continued growth and expansion."

Stamping out 'hooligans' at tournaments

A growing fear of soccer type hooligan behaviour at professional golf tournaments has prompted Tony Jacklin, Europe's Ryder Cup Team Captain to name his 'troubleshooters' at the Belfry in September to be his star players.

He has suggested that if crowd behaviour develops into booing and hissing the opposition he will expect Ballesteros, Lyle, Faldo and Woosnam to silence anyone who says anything out of place.

Signs of an unruly element in the crowds were seen at St. Andrews during the Dunhill Cup in October when Nick Faldo was given some rough treatment by people, who one hopes were not Scottish golfers, but ignorant partisans, sheltering with anonymity among the true followers of high class golf.

At the Belfry in 1985, some of the American wives were hissed and the US team were considerably upset when applause broke out after Craig Stadler missed a vital three foot putt on the 18th green.

In September the Ryder Cup will be an all ticket affair and if these are sold through the established clubs it should ensure spectators are limited to those who know the game's etiquette.

Arrangements are already in hand for the BIGGA to be represented at the Belfry with their own hospitality stand and it is understood the organisers are planning something a little special.

Sod producers at York

A study tour around Britain by over 50 visitors from the American Sod Turf Producers Association, brought them to the historic city of York at the end of October as guests of Rolawn's Managing Director, Ken Dawson.

Ken, the founder of the Rolawn turf growing business based in the old world village of Elvington, a few miles from the

spires of York Minister, is the current Chairman of ASPA's International Committee.

To mark their visit, he organised a Saturday morning seminar at the York Novotel, brought in Neville Barker from British Seed Houses, Bill Hickey, Chief Executive of BALI, John Shildrick from the NTC and together with his own staff put his guests completely in the picture on turf culture in Britain.

On a fine autumn afternoon the party visited the offices and fields around Elvington to see how one of the leading firms of turf growers on this side of the Atlantic, produce amenity grass for a wide range of uses.

Rolawn are best known to greenkeepers as suppliers of fine turf to golf courses, but their range covers both the full sporting and domestic field.

At the seminar plans were announced to put Rolawn turf on sale through the Sainsbury owned Homebase DIY shops from the Spring of 1989.

The turf will be supplied through local agents on an order basis, but a cash and carry scheme for a few rolls of turf in the back of the car has not been ruled out. Ideal for the weekend gardener who wants to repair a few bare patches.

As a fitting climax to the weekend the visitors attended a Medieval Banquet in the thirteenth century Merchants Adventurers' Hall.

Sheer embarrassment forbids naming the two guests who mistakenly went to the equally famous Merchant Taylors' Hall and imbibed free gin and tonics before realising they were at the wrong party!

Northern groundsmen take top prizes

The two best groundsmen in Britain hail from the North West of England.

Geoffrey Brereton a 38 year old part-time turf culture lecturer at Reaseheath College and groundsman for Birtles Cricket Club at Macclesfield has won the coveted Groundsman of the Year Award, sponsored by ICI Professional Products.

Title of Young Groundsman of the Year has been awarded to 19 year old David Rhodes a groundsman at Bolton School and part time student at Myerscough.

Both will fly to Los Angeles in February to take part in the GCSAA Convention, which this year will be held at Anaheim, the home of Disney World.

Among other winners of IOG Education and Training Awards announced at the Reform Club was Christopher Nolan, the 38 year old Head Greenkeeper at Castle Golf Club, Dublin, a member of the Irish Greenkeepers' Association.

As runner-up to Geoff. Brereton, Chris will take part in an extended weekend visit to Germany.

Blue waters run deep at the Belfry

With millions of television viewers expected to tune into the 1989 Ryder Cup, The Belfry is taking no chances.

Its greens, fairways and, even its lakes,

BIGGA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held on Tuesday, 28th February, 1989
at 2.30 pm in
The Royal York Hotel, York
immediately adjacent to the Railway Station



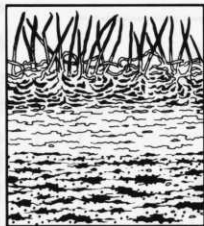
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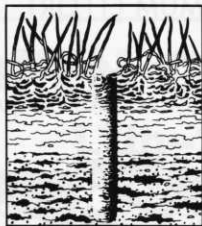
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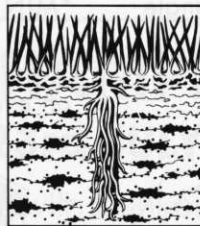
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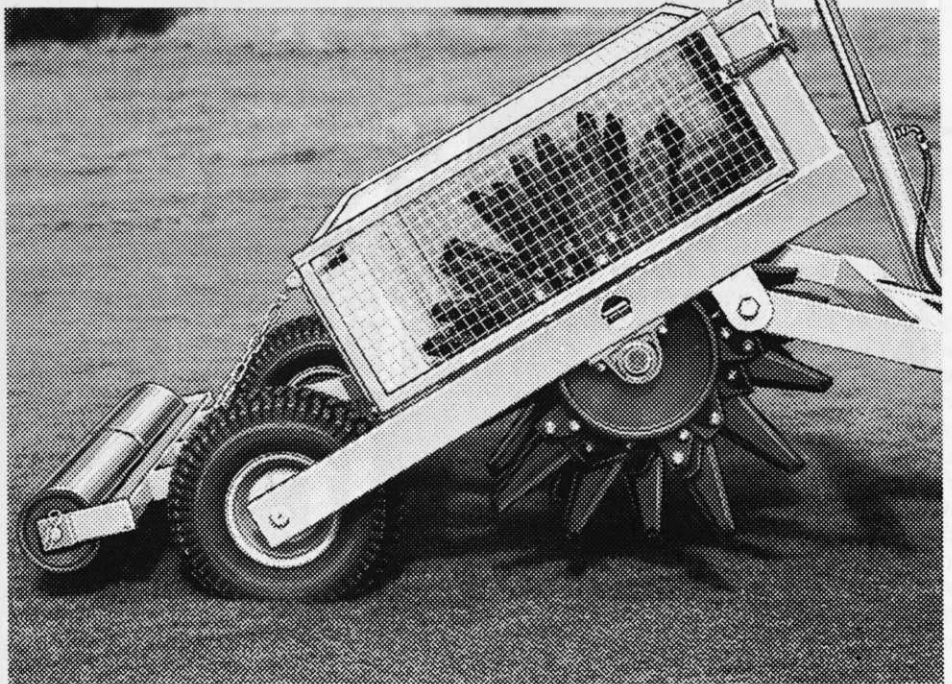
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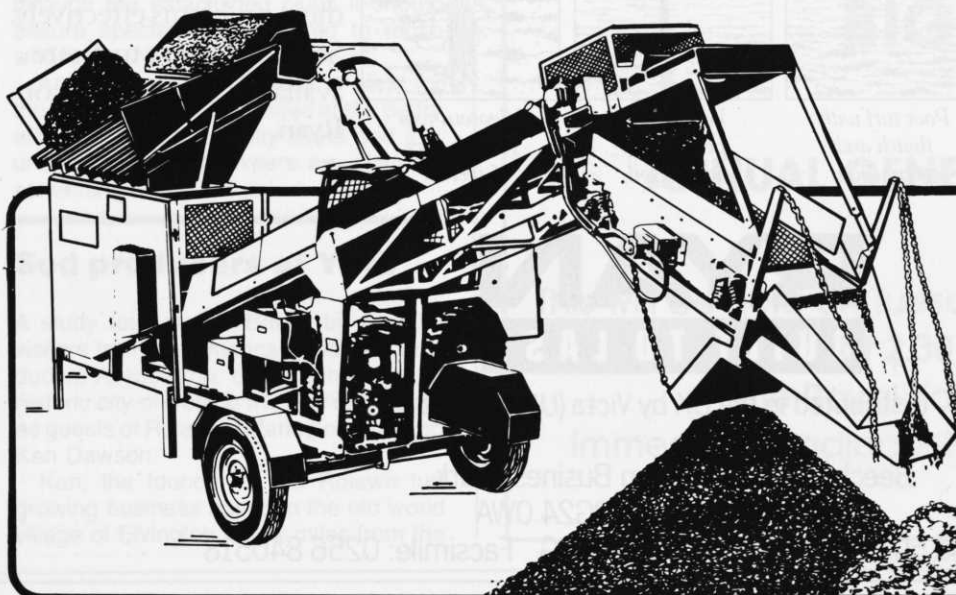
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must look at their very best for the event.

And that is why The Belfry sent out an urgent request to ALS (Amenity Land Services) of Telford to obtain 16 gallons of a very special dye - Aqua Shade.

"Aqua Shade is a non toxic, blue dye that will help ensure that The Belfry's ten acres of lakeland water will literally sparkle in front of the television cameras," explains Tony Howard of ALS.

"Aqua Shade is totally inert so it is environmentally safe. It works on the basic scientific principle of cutting off the sunlight to control the growth of algae and troublesome weeds. It has been extensively tested and meets all environmental regulations to safeguard fish, wildlife and people.

"However what Aqua Shade does do is turn the colour of the water a magnificent shade of blue."

This special dye is not generally available in the UK, but ALS has already been able to deliver the 16 gallons of Aqua Shade to The Belfry's Course Manager Derek Ganning.

Westurf to be held in May

Westurf 89, the Turf Care Trade Exhibition for the South West and South Wales Region of BIGGA, will be held on 24th May 1989 at Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol.

For further information please contact Gordon Child, Archway, Churston Road, Churston Ferrers, Nr Brixham, South Devon, TQ5 0HU. Telephone Churston 844056.

New Zealand browntop for British courses

The New Zealand based company Pyne Gould Guinness has appointed Booker Seeds as the Breeders Agent for Grasslands Sefton in the UK and Eire.

Booker Seeds say that this new variety of Browntop looks like being the answer to the greenkeeper's prayer. It is an extremely fine leaved and dense cultivar with superb year round colour and capable of producing a true, fast green.

Chris Peel, who recently joined Booker Seeds from the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley (where he was jointly responsible for the evaluation of new varieties) is confident that this New Zealand bred introduction is going to set new standards.

"Grasslands Sefton is the best variety of *Agrostis tenuis* in trial by far and I have no

doubt that it will be highly sought after by discerning greenkeepers."

Ian Misselbrook, Product Manager - Amenity Grasses, says that seed of this new variety should be available from July 1989 - but only in limited quantities. "We are confident that demand will exceed supply so forward thinking customers who are keen to make an early evaluation of Grasslands Sefton must order their requirements in the near future," he told THE GOLF COURSE.

Golf theme at Norwood Hall Symposium

This annual symposium, offered jointly by Norwood Hall Institute of Horticultural Education and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, will be held on Tuesday 28th February 1989 at the Jodrell Lecture Theatre, Kew Gardens.

Admission is by programme, which will be sent free of charge on request.

There will be five papers delivered during the day and these are: Modern Golf Course Design and Construction by Simon Gidman; Trees and Shrubs - their use in Sportsturf Design by Gerry Davis; Seed Mixtures for Play and Conservation by Geoff Taylor; Golf Course Management - a Green Committee View by John Harris; and Managing a Heathland Golf Course by Ian MacMillan.

For further information and a programme, contact: R B Dickinson, Principal, Norwood Hall Institute of Horticultural Education, Norwood Green Road, South-

all, Middlesex UB2 4LA. Tel: 01-574 2261.

OBITUARY

Lionel Croad died recently following a short illness, he was aged 80.

Lionel joined Enmore Park Golf Club Bridgewater, Somerset as a member in 1934 and was employed as a Steward/Greenkeeper in 1959 and continued as a greenkeeper until 1979, when he retired at the age of 70. He helped out on a part time basis even after that when his help was needed.

Lionel was a very keen low handicap golfer and a member of the BIGGA South West Section for many years.

It is with great sadness that the directors of Rigby Taylor Ltd. announce that, following a heart attack, their colleague Richard Elliott passed away on Monday, December 19, 1988 aged 56.

Richard - 'Dick' - was a very well known figure in the trade having first worked for Ransomes, followed by many years at T. Parker & Sons, firstly as area representative progressing to area manager.

In 1981 he joined his former colleague Jon Ryan in forming Rigby Taylor (South) where his drive and enthusiasm were greatly instrumental in establishing the company.

He had recently been appointed to the position of National Sales Director of Rigby Taylor Ltd.

Richard will be sadly missed by his many friends. Deepest sympathy goes out to his widow Joyce and family.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

17th-23rd JULY, 1989

If you wish to assist with bunker-raking and other duties at Troon, please forward your name and address to the Executive Director as soon as possible with an indication of the dates on which you are available. Please note that assistance is needed for the practice days as well as the four Championship days.

Preference will be given to those members who can make themselves available for the whole period.

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Correct cultural methods help to control fusarium at Liphook

John Campbell visits this charming Surrey course to talk to Cameron McMillan about his role as head greenkeeper.

Liphook Golf Club has a charming heathland course laid out over Wheatsheaf Common and is bisected by the A3 trunk road between Guildford and Petersfield. The attractive clubhouse building blends admirably with the wooded surroundings. Skilful use has been made of the gently undulating terrain and natural woodland features to create 18 holes measuring 6,250 yards.

Although a comparatively short course, Liphook has been cited by keen students of golf course architecture as a classic example of the kind of course capable of defeating for all time any improvements to ball or club by the difficulty of the approach to the green. Liphook has some splendid holes like the 5th, 14th and 13th aptly named 'The Two Counties' where you drive off in Sussex and putt out in Hampshire. The indigenous tightly knit fairway turf is ideal for golf,



Cameron McMillan

easy to walk on and tough enough to take the wear and tear of traffic and play.

Head greenkeeper, Cameron McMillan at the age of 23 is a knowledgeable and enthusiastic man

with impeccable credentials. Coming as he does from a unique greenkeeping family he is well qualified to tread the footsteps of his father, Jack McMillan, the course supervisor at Sunningdale Golf Club and his four older brothers who are also devotees of the noble profession of greenkeeping.

Cameron said pensively, "It was always on the cards that I should follow the family tradition although I never really gave it much thought until I was in the sixth form at school. One day my father said he had a staff vacancy at Sunningdale and offered me a job on the course which I accepted with alacrity and have never regretted the decision. I suppose it was second nature to take up greenkeeping for I was never off the course as a small boy always doing jobs at weekends and school holidays etc., it was in the blood and I was quite capable of tackling any kind of work on the course at a very



ON THE COURSE

early age under the eagle eye of my father."

"When I was at Sunningdale I generally used my imagination as I went around and decided what needed doing then I duly reported this when I got back to the sheds. My father always said 'try and think like a head greenkeeper for one day you will be in charge of your own course' and I have never really had any doubts about my greenkeeping ability. As long as one has the basic knowledge about what needs to be done and how to go about it is the most important factor."

"Obviously my father's knowledge and long experience in greenkeeping has been a valuable guiding influence in my career and much has rubbed off on me. Being an individualist I probably do things a little differently from him using my own ideas, thoughts and input to accomplish objectives. The course characteristics at Liphook are very similar to Sunningdale, its a heathland situation and the management programme is very much the same so I am quite familiar with the routine upkeep and the kind of problems one might encounter."

Cameron supervises four staff, one is a mechanic who also helps out on the course, although he usually spends most of his time in the workshop through the winter repairing and servicing the equipment. The other three men have their own sections to look after on the course, that is their main responsibility, all are reliable and industrious workers. In the past the club employed one or two students to help with the work during the summer when the permanent staff was only three but now it has been increased to four with the objective cutting down on casual labour which can be quite expensive.

The main items of machinery are three triplex mowers, consisting of two Ransomes 171s and a Jacobsen Greensking with Turf Groomers. There are three tractors two Massey Fergusons and a Ford, a set of five hydraulic gangmowers and four Ransomes Auto-Certes mowers, and there are several items of equipment for slitting plus a Cushman with slitters and a full range of attachments. The course has a lot of sharp undulations and a tractor mounted

rotary is used to keep down the rough but in some inaccessible places a pedestrian rotary completes the work.

From October through to March Cameron aims to slit tine the greens every week when weather and surface conditions permit. Part of this programme this winter also included spraying the heather with Dalapon. This kills Mollinia and Fescue grasses which are smothering the heather, but does not affect the heather leaving a clean sward. It will be done early in March, which he feels - is the the only time of the year it can be treated.

There is quite an amount of construction work now under way and several new tees have already been built this winter. 600 yards of pathways on the course has been tidied up and laid with a more permanent surface. The base of the paths were consolidated with four inches of roadway hoggin, then blinded with an ash layer and packed down with a vibrating roller. The track was finally completed with a finishing layer of cockle shells. The whole effect is an excellent firm pathway in keeping with the surroundings, pleasing to the eye and easy for golfers to walk on, says Cameron.

One problem seen on the course at the moment is Fusarium disease but Cameron admitted that Jim Arthur gave him a friendly warning about this before he went to Liphook. The plan is to control the outbreak by frequent aeration and regular applications of Roevral and Mascot contact fungicides. Basically he says, "we are trying to reduce the incidence of infection by correct cultural practices and I think the battle is gradually being won."

When asked about his approach to machinery selection Cameron McMillian said, "Before buying anything I would study the requirements of the course. Then invite suppliers to demonstrate the type of machinery within their range which seems right for the job before making a final decision. All the leading manufacturers like Ransomes, Toro and Jacobsen have an extensive range of equipment for all phases of our work. Obviously one might have preferences one way or the other but the important point is to

chose the machine that performs best under the conditions prevailing on your particular course."

Being a working head greenkeeper Cameron can only spend a limited amount of time supervising the staff. Generally this is done first thing in the morning when the work programme is discussed and specific tasks are individually assigned. Enough work is given to each man to keep him busy for the day, if the job finishes sooner than expected they are all quite conscientious and will look around for something else to do. He likes to encourage everybody to come up with their own suggestions and sometimes they put forward good ideas with regard to the work programme which are put into practice.

"I think the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association is moving in the right direction," Cameron continued, "the set-up is much better than it has ever been and it is up to the membership to provide the support and enthusiasm to keep the momentum going. It has to be a strong and effective organisation that will be respected and recognised as a formidable mouthpiece for greenkeepers in all parts of the country."

"The presence of our members playing an important role at the Open Championship is good for public relations and has given us international status of which we are proud. Yes, we have come a long way and have every reason to look forward to future of our profession for the years ahead."

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Golf Clubs, Greenkeeping and the YTS

Nick Bissett looks at some of the methods of employment and their costs

The Youth Training Scheme (YTS) has been in existence now for some five years and has developed from a 1-year scheme to a 2-year scheme. Although the more cynical might claim otherwise, the scheme is designed to ensure that all school leavers under the age of 18 undergo some formal basic training. There are incentives to the individual to ensure that he/she does not join the unemployment statistics.

The scheme was set up by the Manpower Services Commission (MSC) which is now the Training Commission (TC) and soon to be changed again to the Training Agency. It was organised on the ground by Managing Agents who had to prove to MSC that they were fit people to run schemes. Virtually anyone could call themselves a Managing Agency and run a scheme and this led to some strange schemes being developed in the early years of YTS.

However, more recently each Managing Agent has had to achieve the status of an Approved Training Organisation (ATO) and this has weeded out some of those more dubious organisations. To achieve ATO status the Agents had to satisfy the Commission that they were a suitable organisation to run a training programme.

The Commission pays the ATO the sum of about £2000 per trainee per year to cover the weekly allowance (£29.50 in first year - totalling £1534 and £35 in second year totalling £1820) with the balance for training. Any travelling or board and lodging necessarily incurred in doing the training can be reclaimed with a small daily deduction from trainees. This means that the ATO can make a profit by cutting the costs of training and indeed this is how some organisations have survived.

In the world of golf greenkeeping, uptake on YTS has been variable and despite some publicity there still seems to be confusion as to how the scheme operates. The Greenkeepers Training Committee have considered the implications of YTS and their training scheme and have come to the conclusion that it is a useful method providing the off-the-job training takes place at a college approved by the Committee to deliver correct training.

In order to clarify the position for golf clubs, use is made of case studies to cover the most likely situations and some costing is done to provide for comparison. The figures used are obviously rounded off to achieve that purpose and it is important to state that the figures for wages in no way are a suggested level for clubs to adopt.

In the case studies used in this article certain headings are used to provide an estimate of costs and the headings are explained as follows:
Wages - based on a starting wage of

£50 per week for the first year, rising to £60 in the second year and £70 in the third year.

National Insurance - payable only if employed. Unemployed trainees receive credit for the first two years.

Tuition Fees - not generally paid by employed trainees until aged 18 i.e. for third year only. Approx. £75 per year.

Board and Lodging - while attending college these costs are based on 6 weeks block per year at £35 per week. If done on a day release basis at an approved centre then this will not apply.

Travelling Expenses/subsistence - this would be payable by the club for employed people and in any case for the third year of training. As the sum is likely to vary for each club it is left out.

CASE A

A golf club wishing to employ an additional member of the green staff without involving YTS. The new employee is to be a school leaver aged 16.

In this situation there is no variation from standard employment procedures - the new employee works under the conditions laid down by the club who pays the going rate for the job and all costs associated with training.

The Greenkeepers Training Committee recommend that the training period should be over a 3-year

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT 1989

Members should note that this will be held at
The Lyme Regis Golf Club, Lyme Regis, Dorset
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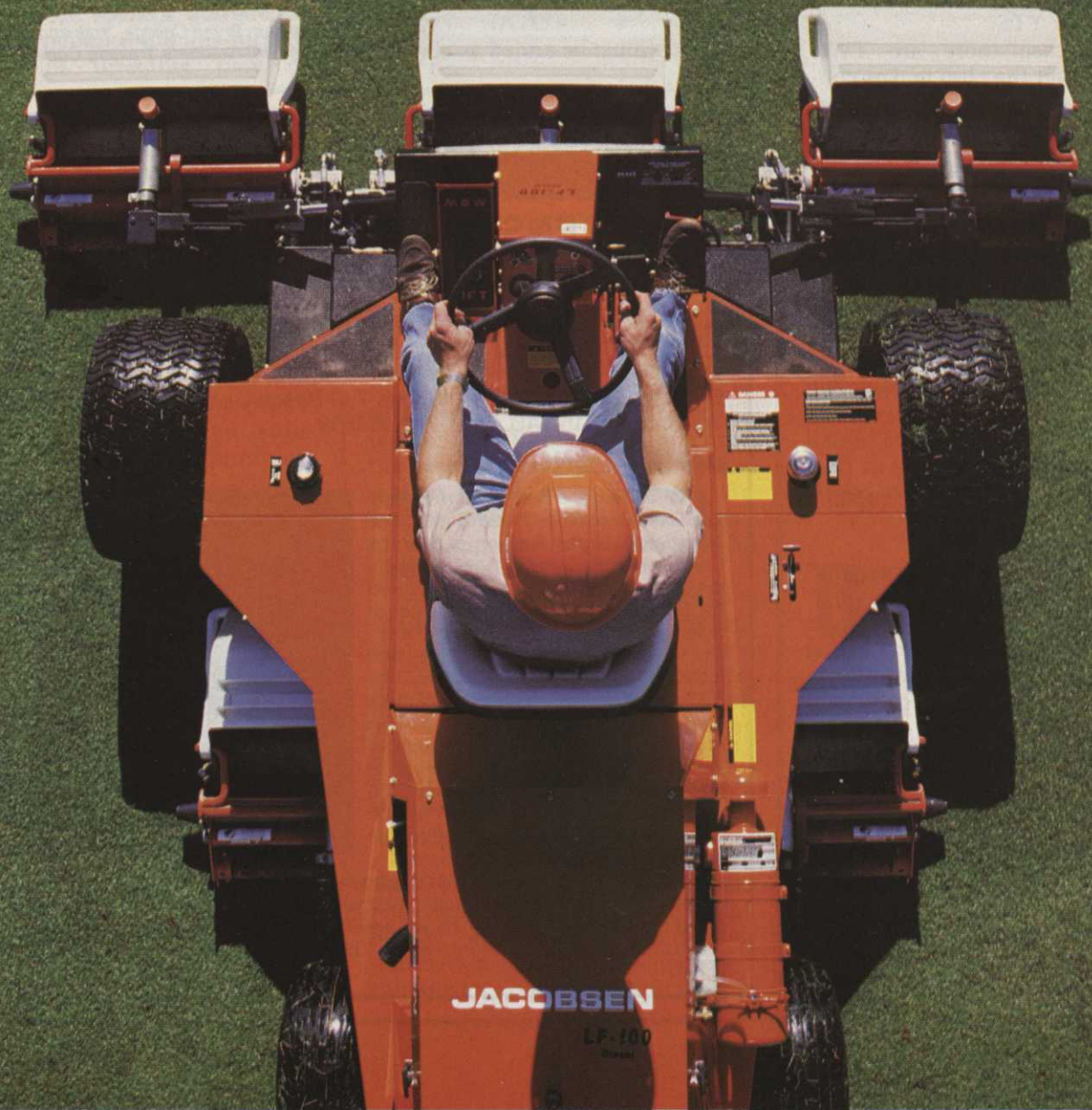
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EDUCATION

period leading to the award of a City and Guilds Certificate at Phase II and completion of the Log Book. The off-the-job element will amount to six weeks per year for all three years.

Approximate costs

Wages (Based on 3-year average of £60)	£9360
National Insurance etc	to pay
Training Tuition Free to under 18s 1 year	£75
Board and lodging 3 years @ 6 weeks @ £35 travelling expenses/subsistence to pay	£630
Examination Fees	£40
TOTAL	£10375

(to which must be added as above.)

CASE B

A golf club wishing to employ an additional 16-year-old member of the green staff having an individual in mind and wish to examine the possibility of YTS.

In this case there are TWO options. Either the club makes contact with a reputable ATO to inform them that the club would be willing to provide a work placement for the individual or the club directs the prospective trainee to the ATO.

In both options the person to be taken on will become an employed trainee. The club will make no contribution to YTS and will pay the going rate for the job as in Case A but will receive a rebate from the ATO in the sum of approx. £10 per week.

Approximate costs

Wages (£60 per week av. for 3 years less rebate from ATO (£10 per week for first two years))	£9360
Wages total	£1040
NI contributions	£8320
to pay	
Training Tuition, Board, exam fees for 1 year	£325
Travelling expenses 1 year only	to pay
TOTAL	£8645

(to which must be added as above.)

CASE C

A club wishing to engage a trainee from a reputable ATO and eventually employ the same person as a full staff member. In this case the

ATO becomes the employer and sets out conditions of work - this may restrict such things as weekend working - and there is a need for 12 weeks off-the-job training in the first year and eight weeks in the second year although this may vary slightly. The club will be asked to contribute £18.50 per week in the first year and £25 in the second but there is no stamp to pay

Approximate costs

Contribution to scheme	
first year	£962
second year	£1300
Third year wages outwith scheme £70	£3£40
National Insurance 1 year only	to pay
Training tuition, 3rd year only	£75
Board and exam fees 3rd year only 6 weeks	£250
Travelling expenses 1 year only	to pay
TOTAL	£6227

(to which must be added as above.)

CASE D

A club willing to provide a work placement for a YTS trainee with no obligation to offer full employment at the end of the two years.

Many clubs have taken this option possibly as a source of cheap labour and if this is the case then they are unlikely to be involved regularly with a trainee.

It can be seen from the figures given for each example above that the cost of training to the club can vary but generally is cheaper through the YTS and must be considered. However even if the club is responsible for the full cost of training the amount involved over the 3 year period represents only the equivalent to the cost of the overhaul of a set of gang mowers.

It would be wrong for clubs to think of YTS as 'cheap labour'.

Nick Bissett is a lecturer in horticulture at Askham Bryan College, York and a member of the Greenkeepers Training Committee.

BIGGA/SUPATURF 1989 EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE QUEENS' COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, 4th-6th April, 1989

In this second profile on speakers to be heard at the conference, THE GOLF COURSE this month features James T Snow of the United States Golf Association Green Section. For Conference details, please contact Neil Thomas, Executive Director, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute, BINGLEY, West Yorkshire, BD16 1AU. Tel: 0274-560556

JAMES T SNOW

Jim Snow is the Northeastern Region Director for the United States Golf Association Green Section and is the Co-Editor of its bi-monthly publication, the 'Green Section Record'. He received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Cornell University, specialising in horticulture and turfgrass science. Since joining the USGA staff in 1976, he has made more than 2,000 agronomic visits to USGA member clubs and courses throughout the Northeast. He has written more than 60 articles and given more than 150 presentations having to do with a wide array of turfgrass science and golf course management topics.



Jim and his wife Judy are avid gardeners, specialising in the growing of chrysanthemums and other perennials. Two year old son Kevin is destined to learn more about the art of weeding than he will ever care to know!

Jim's subject at the conference will be 'The Biggest Problem of Golf Course Turf in the U.S.A.'

Bunkers and Bunker Sand

Advice from Ian Greenfield on the type of sand to use

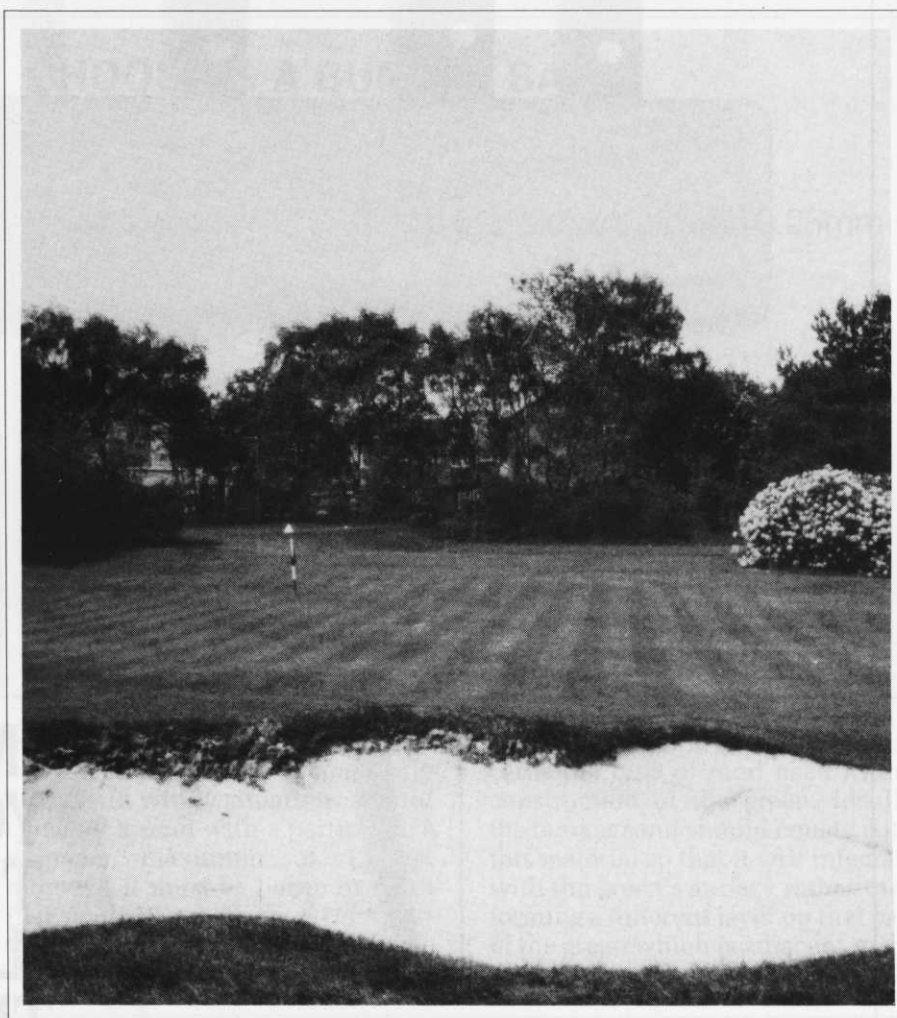
Bunkers are an essential feature of the golf course and originated as hollows formed by sheep, rabbits and wind on sandy dunes along the seashore in Scotland. They soon became integrated as hazards to be avoided when playing and thus by accident became an important part of the game of golf.

Today, as an integral part of course layout, they form strategically placed hazards designed to catch and penalise the mis-hit shot as well as directing play on fairways.

The course designer decides bunker position, size and shape according to the type of course he is designing in relation to the topography, shrubs, trees, and the general landscape as well as proposed or existing water features. The contrast between a preferred off-white bunker sand and the green of grass and trees creates a most attractive picture. Coloured sands are also used but off-white is much preferred avoiding the glare of pure white.

There is no limit to the minimum or maximum number of bunkers that may be built on the course. It may be as little as 20 or 30 on the one hand and sometimes as many as 80 to 100 on the other. The shape and depth of bunkers varies and these may be large and small or deep and shallow but they should be readily visible to the player so that he can fairly plan his shot according to the demands of the hole.

It is important when planning the hole in respect of these factors that bunker siting, construction and drainage to enable proper maintenance should also be considered. Efficient bunker drainage is essential and requires the installation of a herringbone or



grid arrangement in the base comparable to that provided for the greens. It is also important to prevent water running into the bunker by the construction of swales (during green and fairway formation) to direct water away. The face of the bunker must be clearly visible from the approach and basic bunker formation should be in the form of a shallow saucer with the face visible on the approach high enough to be readily visible.

Fairway bunkers are generally shallower with of course the exception of the Scottish pot bunkers, many of which are quite demoralising. Wind corrosion of bunker sand can be quite a problem and often as much as a tenth of the sand content will be lost annually due to wind as well as sand removal when playing out.

To prevent soil encroaching into the bunker sand, geo-textile materials can be used to line the bunker and prevent sand contamination by the indigenous soil causing an originally white sand to

turn rapidly into an orange one. These materials allow water through to the drainage system and prevent sand contamination by the soil. Well manicured bunkers are a delight, neglected ones are not. Control of weed growth and a well manicured sharp edge to the bunker as well as the removal of rubbish and stones are essential.

Bunker sands are usually washed to remove clay and silt as well as coarse sand and gravel and it should be stored on a hard surface prior to being introduced to the newly constructed bunkers.

The ideal bunker sand should consist of sharp or angular grains in order to provide a firmer and harder surface. Rounded grain sands produce a softer surface resulting in a deeper ball lie. Off-white silica sand as opposed to soft chalky yellow or silty sands are preferred and provide a smart appearance as a result of the white and green con-



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MANAGEMENT

trast. It is essential however that the sand is free from foreign material such as clay and silt, weed seeds, earth, rubbish and gravel although it must be said that most Clubs do tend to buy the cheapest sand available for their bunkers!

Feel sensation is important for bunker play whether making an explosion shot or chipping off the sand surface.

The particle size distribution of the sand is critical and top sands ranging from 1mm to 0.25mm and with at least 75 per cent of the sand within the 0.25mm to 0.5mm particle size diameter provide the optimum material.

It is important to provide good ball lie within the bunker and a degree of firmness enabling a better shot which means a lack of surface crusting and a good basic drainage within the bunker to avoid the plugging associated with wet sand and poor maintenance.

The use of rounded sand tends to produce a loose and fluffy surface and quite often the ball will sink level with the surface as opposed to penetrating about half this depth although ball lie, of course, apart from the type of sand does depend on the angle and velocity of the ball

CHOOSING A BUNKER SAND

Guidelines suggested by the USGA

1. Minimum of 65% sand particle size between 0.25mm and 1.0mm.
2. Ideally 100% between this range.
3. Sharp angular sand preferred to round particle shape.
4. Light coloured, not white sand.
5. Minimal amount of silt and clay, determined through soil testing laboratory analysis.
6. Silica sand rather than calcareous sand.

entering the bunker.

Golf clubs that are constantly faced with windy situations should consider a sand with a particle size diameter maximum of 1.5mm, although it must be borne in mind that sand with more than 1mm particle size diameter may well cause mower damage and blade blunting.

A further point to consider concerns the type of sand used in the construction of the green. Ideally the bunker sand should equate with this material so that it will integrate with the green's surface rather than forming a different layer on that part of the green which is adjacent to the bunker.

STUDENTS AWARDS AT PLUMPTON COLLEGE

Plumpton College recently held its annual prizegiving ceremony to award all its students with their certificates and trophies. Below, Michael Kirkham and Andrew Paynter are receiving their prizes from John Austen of the NFU and the Principal, John Wilson at the ceremony.

Michael was the best Phase III Enterprise Management student and was awarded the cup sponsored by the Sussex Golf Union. He attended the college on a block release course being released from his position as Head Greenkeeper at the West Surrey Golf Club.

Andrew Paynter was the best Phase II

Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management student and won the cup sponsored by the Southern Section of the British and International Golf Greenkeeping Association. He attended the college on a day release basis, the rest of his week being spent as Head Greenkeeper at East Brighton Golf Club.



John Wilson college principal presenting Michael Kirkham with his award.



Andrew Paynter receives his from John Wilson with John Austen of the NFU looking on.

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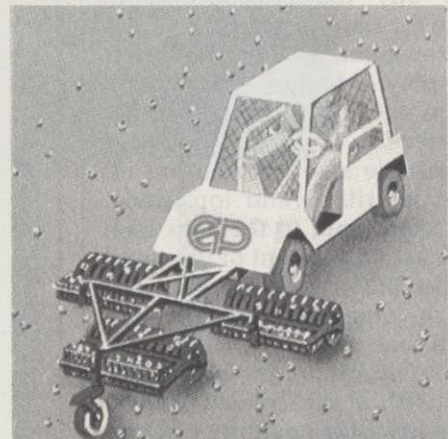
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Putting on the style ancient and modern

Fred Hawtree looks at the basic design of rights and wrongs

Last month we touched on the matter of a difference between British and American styles of golf course architecture. Then I read in Cornish and Whitten's book, 'The Golf Course', which we also touched on, 'American style became the dominant influence on course design after World War II.' Now Gilbert Hanse, who spent a working winter and Spring with us at Woodstock, has written from Cornell University to which he has returned to complete the final year of his course in golf course architecture. 'Is there a difference?', he asks.

Being assured of at least one reader, I can now set to and in one of those pithy maxims which stud the Hawtree prose like blue diamonds give you the answer. It is 'Yes and no'. Perhaps, before you return to grinding those cylinders (if you still do), I should explain.

The answer is No! if you mean the basic principles of design. It is Yes! if you mean the trappings, the landscaping and the hype.

Every golf course architect, whether over there or over here, gets something like the following into his quotables when quizzed by Press or Committee.

'My aim is to produce a golf course on which pars are difficult and bogies (if he is American) are easy. If he is British, you will hear something like 'I aim to design a golf course fair and enjoyable for all classes of player. While it will be testing to the scratch man, higher handicaps will always find a suitable option, though it may well cost them an extra stroke'.

Nothing controversial or contradictory in those two statements. I have used them myself since the year Dot and they always elicit a low rumble of approval ('Sound stuff that') and get you off the hook.

Other favourites common to both sides of the Atlantic include the popular 'The layout should call for every club in the bag' and the terms, 'strategic and penal' applied to bunkering and design generally. Although 'heroic' as a third classification gets more

currency on the west side because the terrain is often more dramatic and inspiring. Over the basic rights and wrongs of design there is, in fact, no schism amongst golf course architects like that which divides the senior profession although the junior one has also produced its quota of prima donnas of whom there are still a few around now.

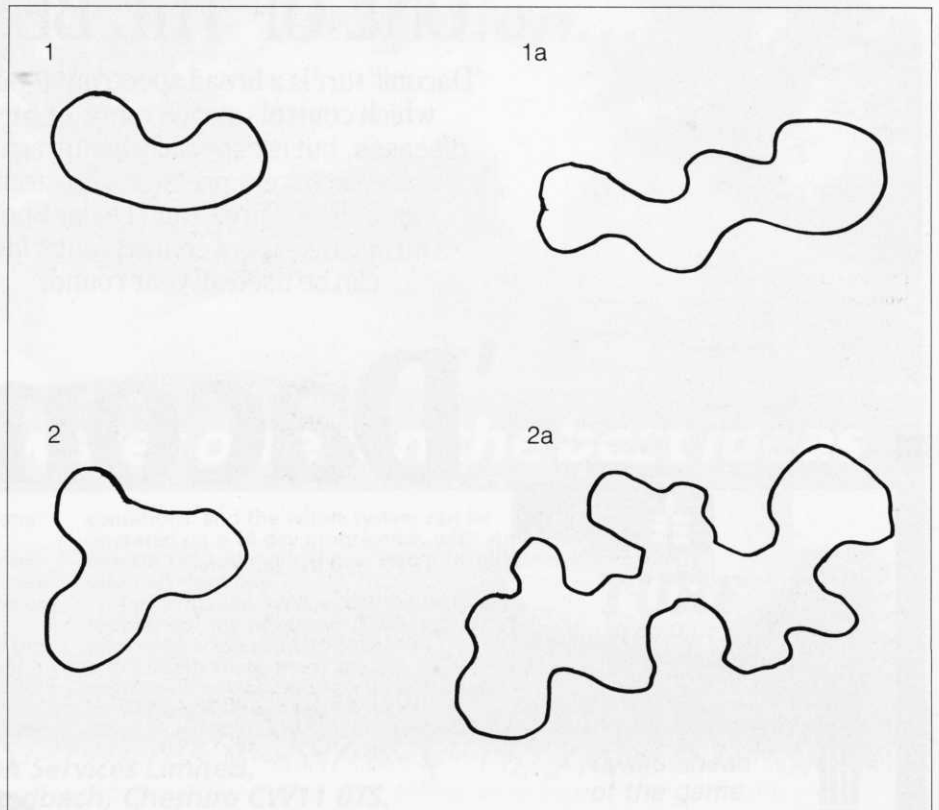
But when we come to the full frontal view, the façade or elevation, we can detect the divergence; nothing like the carbuncle on the National Gallery (though rocks in the bunkers take some digesting) nor like a glass stump next to St Pauls; but significant and general enough to constitute a declaration of 'style'. Here are some comparisons.

2a, of course, is a Romantic revival but because it looks well in colour pictures, British architects have taken it into their repertoire and gone very big too. Unfortunately, one or two have gone big but not beautiful and we are back where we started but buying ten times more sand.

Sturdy conservative green-keepers, pressed for time, will look in some dark corner for a spade and set about converting No 2a into No 3. But one can see No 3 on new courses in France. Their design tradition missed out on the Classic period and they are trying to make up for it. However, do not trust these stereotypes entirely. Augusta National bunkers are often closer to the old fashioned style. I will not try to describe to you what they are doing in Japan but if you think that 2a is going a bit far, you are in for a surprise next time the Annual Tournament goes to Nagasaki.

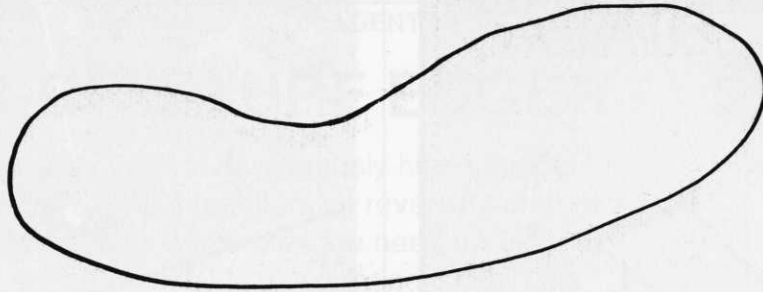
My own favourite rebound from the far west is the lengthwise fairway bunker.

A gradually rising floor shows up the sand, delivers surface water to one end whence it can be easily drained away on heavy soils and provides a variety of shots. The Ancient Britons could do

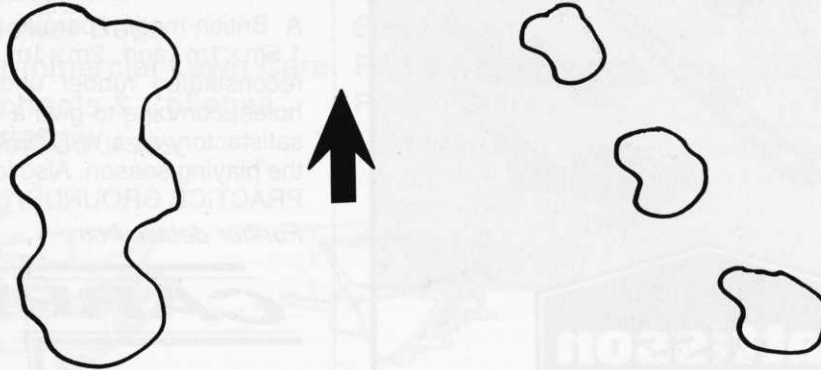


OPINION

3



4



nothing like this and had to content themselves with three small ones.

If you wish to observe the differences between UK and US styles, you had better be quick about it. Architects are not slow in meeting the challenge of contemporary environmental factors, which is their 'in' phrase for nicking other people's ideas.

I suppose, finally, that we can also generalise on differences in tee

and green design but these features reflect individual taste rather than national boundaries, being tailored to the needs of the particular landscape and budget. But it is interesting to see how at least one American installs moundwork on inland sites which is reminiscent of a style popular over here in the Twenties and earlier.

More of all this next month when, for the first time in any international publication, this magazine will

print a key to the styles of British Golf Courses. You will at last be able to identify the man to whom you have so often wished to speak in moments of desperation. You will not unfortunately be able to tackle him direct because he will have passed from amongst us to even higher things. I shall not be discussing the styles of my contemporaries as the agm of the British Association of Golf Course Architects is not so far off.

PENSION UPDATE

Time is running out to take advantage of the Government's special offer to people in work who opt for a personal pension.

All you have to do is sign a simple application to contract out of SERPS, the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme.

The Government is offering rebates of National Insurance contribution to employees currently covered by SERPS with the money being invested in a personal pension scheme.

To take maximum advantage of the Government's offer you must backdate the rebates to April 1987. The deadline for doing this is April 5th this year, but for pension providers to get an application through the official procedures it must reach them by mid March.

Leaving it any longer could mean an average earner missing out on two years rebates amounting to over £1,300.

The bonuses do not apply to members of employers schemes already contracted out of SERPS. They too can opt out if they wish, but in most cases it is not advisable. Male employees over the age of 45 and females over the age of 40 will probably be best to

remain members of SERPS and not seek to contract out.

The contracting out decision will not cost either employer or employee anything whatsoever but will provide an opportunity to secure a better pension at state retirement age.

Benefits can of course be enhanced by payment of additional premiums by just the employee or indeed by both employer and employee and generous income tax relief is available. The main attractions of a personal pension are as follows:

Income Tax Relief On Your Contributions which are payable net of basic rate tax (any higher rate tax is recovered separately). Employer contributions are eligible for tax relief also. You may contribute up to 17½% of earnings, if you are aged 50 or less, increasing to 20% between ages 51 and 55, 22½% between 56 and 60 and 27½% between 61 and 75.

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In choosing a personal pension you should examine the Insurance Company's investment performance, the scope of the benefits covered, the administrative charges and discontinuance penalties. A reputable Independent Financial Adviser will take all these factors into account when making a recommendation.

Further information can be obtained by contacting G N Kingdom, Fenchurch Financial Services Limited, Grosvenor House, Anlaby Road, Hull HU1 2NT (telephone 0482 25177).

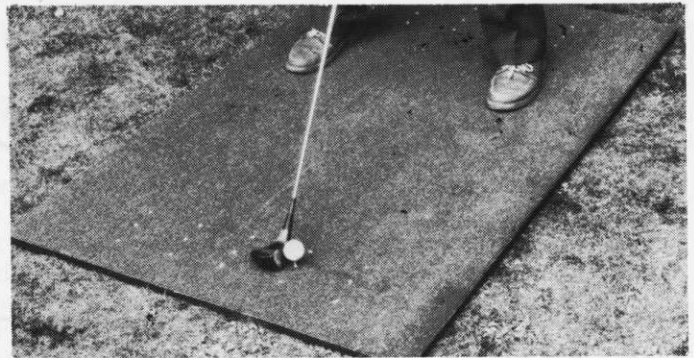
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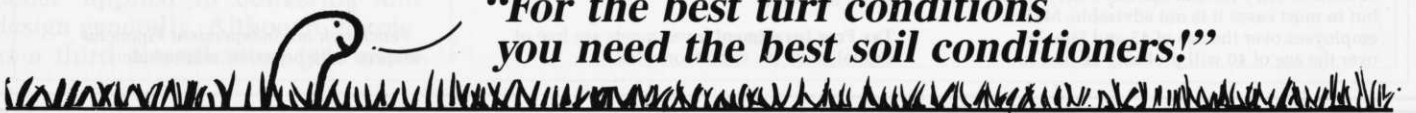
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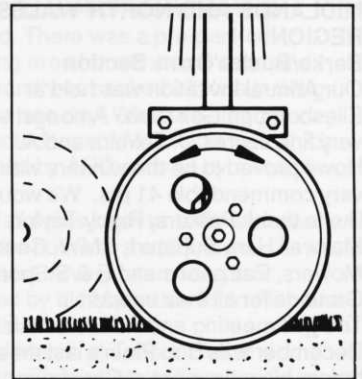
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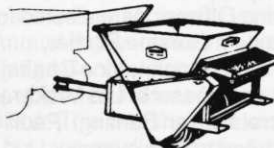
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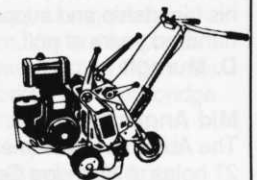
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AROUND THE GREEN



BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MIDLANDS AND NORTH WALES REGION

Berks/Bucks/Oxon Section

Our Annual Invitation was held at Ellesborough Golf Club. Amongst some very fine scores, J. Teixeira and A. Howe proved to be the winners with a very commendable 41 pts. We would like to thank Parkers, Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart, Supaturf, CMW, County Mowers, Patissons and E & S Sports Grounds for all their support. The golf meeting and AGM on 12th December was Bob Plain's last meeting before his retirement at Christmas. A presentation was made to Bob as a memento to show our appreciation of his friendship and support over the past hundred years of golf.

D. Muragh

Mid Anglia Section

The Autumn Tournament was held over 27 holes at Ashridge Golf Club, during a brief interval in the monsoon season on 10th October. With almost 2 inches of rain during the previous 48 hours the course resembled a swamp! A few dry spots were found to position the holes and with the rain abating for the day an enjoyable game was had by most competitors.

Phil Quamby had few complaints as he put together a fine score of 40 points and 20 (9 holes afternoon) for a total of 60 points, and won the President's Cup and Glass Tankard.

Second with a score of 59 points was C. Toms, while Chris Brook on 58 points filled third place.

We were delighted to have our President Greame Pitcher, present his Prize to the winner and the numerous prizes to more than half the 36 competitors.

Our thanks are due to the prize donors who included Messrs. Parkers (Worcester Park) Limited: Supaturf Products Limited: Rigby Taylor South Limited: Maxwell Hart Limited: Synchemicals Limited: Patissons Limited: CMW Limited: Roger Engineering Limited: Gerald Southgate (Ransomes Limited): and Ivor Ludford. We are grateful to the Members of Ashridge for their courtesies of the course to Mr. Len Walker and the House staff for an enjoyable lunch and ample liquid refreshments and the Greenstaff whose efforts made the course just about playable.

Retirements: Two well known and most respected stalwarts of our profession have retired at the end of 1988. Bob Palin and Dick Bowey contributed nearly 80 years

between them to greenkeeping.

It has been my extreme pleasure to have known Bob and Dick for many of those years and I am sure I will be joined by many other greenkeepers and trade representatives in wishing them both a long and happy retirement with their families. We also hope to see them swinging around our golf courses for many years to come where they will always find a warm welcome.

The Annual General Meeting was held at St. Neots Golf Club on Tuesday 22nd November at 2.15 pm. Thirty four members attended. The minutes of the 1st AGM together with the Secretary's Report and the Balance Sheet were unanimously approved.

The following Officers were elected for 1989. President Greame Pitcher, Chairman Paul Fitzjohn, Vice Chairman Gerald Bruco, Treasurer Les Wakerell, Match Secretary Ken Bunting. Paul Fitzjohn agreed to take over as Secretary as the retiring Secretary, R. Goodwin, would not be seeking re-election. Regional Representatives are Paul Fitzjohn and John Wells, and the above mentioned together with Neil Whittaker agreed to form a Committee.

Any Other Business: Members were pleased to hear that 'the Golf Course' magazine would be published 12 times next year. A general discussion developed over the BIGGA uniform after Gerald Bruce voiced his opinion that more members should make every effort to wear blazers and ties. Some of the younger members were hard pushed to find £69.00 for a blazer. Ken Bunting was afraid that the Prize Fund for Section Tournaments may shrink now that Trade firms were being asked to contribute to a Central Fund and asked if the Section Tournaments may shrink now that Trade firms were being asked to contribute to a Central Fund, and asked if the Section would receive money to buy prizes from this source. The meeting closed at 3.30 pm with a vote of thanks to St. Neots Golf Club for the facilities provided for this meeting.

Prior to the AGM a most interesting talk was given to a good turnout of greenkeepers by David Jenkins, Managing Director of Charterhouse Turf Machinery Limited on Soil Compaction and how best to relieve the situation with the Verti-drain. Considerable interest was also shown in the Charterhouse slitter which was shown on film during the commercial break.

The January Lecture on the 23rd of the month at Beadlow Manor Hotel, Golf and Country Club featured a look back over

40 years in the working life of Bob Plain and a short film of the first Ryder Cup presented by Mr. S. L. Ryder.

Welwyn Garden City Golf Club will be the venue for the February lecture on Monday 20th at 2. pm with a talk on Trees and Woodland Management on the course.

New Appointment

Paul Fitzjohn moves to Mill Hill Golf Club as Course Manager at the beginning of January. Our best wishes go with you Paul. This also coincides with Paul taking over as Section Secretary and members should note that all Section correspondence should go to:- Paul Fitzjohn, 272 Park Avenue, Bushey Herts. Tel: 991 228 703

R J Goodwin

Retiring Secretary

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION

South West Section

On November 29th, the Section met for the purposes of the Annual General Meeting for which we gratefully return to our Section Headquarters, namely Lansdown Golf Club, Bath.

Unfortunately, the dense morning fog did little to entice all competitors out onto the course but six of us, throwing caution to the winds, did venture out and found conditions challenging but enjoyable nonetheless.

More problems were encountered upon returning to the clubhouse a small fire during the night had put the recently refurbished kitchen out of action but the Stewardess rose magnificently to the occasion by spiriting up sandwiches (smoked ham of course) and gateaux, seemingly out of nowhere and saved the day.

After lunch, David Jenkins of Charterhouse Turf Machinery gave a very interesting and informative talk on Verti- Draining, which together with questions and answers proved to be extremely beneficial to all.

Prior to the AGM Bob Gates presented the prizes for the golf competition saying that the competition deserved a medal for going out.

1st P. Worster 33 pts. 2nd J. Wane 31 pts. 3rd J. Thomas 30 pts.

Bob Gates was re-elected Chairman. Nigel Pring as Vice-Chairman. Paul Worster as Secretary. Laurence Pithie and Jock Millar as Regional Board Members and Adrian Stiff as Match Captain and Prize Procurer.

The outgoing Match Captain, John Kane expressed his thanks to the members for their support. Following a resolution from Les Johnson it was decided to

AROUND THE GREEN

draft questionnaires to be sent out to members and non members alike in the South West in an attempt to encourage new members and boost attendance to the local meetings.

Paul Worster.

South Coast Section

The Section's Christmas Turkey Trot was again held at the Royal Winchester Golf Club. This has become an annual event sponsored by J. T. Lowe and Rigby Taylor. The competition took place on a dry and sunny December day with 30 members taking part. At the end of the day, the winners were: 1st Rigby Taylor Shield, Peter Marsh 39 pts. 2nd J. T. Lowe Cup, Kevin Unsworth 38 pts. 3rd Phil Ryder 38 pts. Nearest the Pin, Bob Walker, 17th hole 128 yds.

The main prizes were donated by our sponsors J. T. Lowe and Rigby Taylor. In addition, extra prizes were provided by Huxleys Grass Machinery and Parkers. Our thanks to all our friends in the Trade for their support.

Without the support of the Secretary and Officials of the Royal Winchester Golf Club the tournament would not be possible and I would like to thank Reg Varlow, Head Greenkeeper and his staff for the way in which the course was presented.

The competition was followed by a traditional Christmas Dinner at which Neil Thomas was able to join us and enjoy a superb meal. Our thanks to the club's catering staff and our President, Mr. Jim Fry, who very generously provided ample supplies of wine for each of the tables.

The Section's Annual General Meeting was then held at which reports on various matters for the previous year were given. After fourteen years in harness, both our Chairman Eric Hames and our Vice-Chairman Ian Greenfield had decided that "enough was enough". Our new Chairman is Ken Lodge and Vice-Chairman Paul Drodge, who both ably represent the Section at Regional Board Meetings.

A presentation of a silver tray was then made to Eric for all his efforts over many years in looking after the interests of greenkeepers. Well done Eric and Ian, who remain on the Section Committee as Committee members. Following the Annual General Meeting, the Section was pleased to have Neil Thomas as guest speaker who outlined the progress Association had made since 1987.

Neil was able to meet a number of our members and answer many questions on the affairs of the Association and I am very grateful to him for making the long journey south to our Section. He

tells me the weather is warmer down here! Thanks Neil and for your support for the ETME Exhibition and Cambridge Conference that you are busy organising on behalf of the members.

J. R. Dennis

Midland Section

This month we begin by reporting on a busy golf calendar of events.

Firstly, our competition at the Worcester Golf Club on the 22nd September saw P Woodward using his modest handicap to help him win the first prize with Rhys Thomas from Enville Golf Club coming a close second, and R Lowe, a new member from Drayton Park taking the gross prize. The course was in fine condition and a pleasure to play, even though there was a downpour in the afternoon.

On Friday 7th October, we did battle against the East Midlands Section in the Annual Rigby Taylor's Team Challenge Competition at Moor Hall Golf Club, which I heard was in beautiful condition. This was the third win in a row, but by a smaller margin 5 1/2 to 9 1/2. Many thanks to Dave Morgan and his supporting staff plus Dave's wife Jill who attended the evening meal. Special thanks to Steve Eilakeman for organising the day.

The following Tuesday 11th October, 8 players from the East Midlands and 8 players from our section played over 18 holes at Walmley Golf Club and Breakwell was the boss on this occasion with Keith Fitzhenry organising the day where N Woolfry took first place with P Woodward second.

If any members in our section would like to host any of our future golf competitions ('89, '90) please get in touch with me, we are always looking for different courses.

I forgot to say well done to Rhys Thomas for winning Division Two in the Iseki Tournament and congratulations also to Tony Kelsal this time winning the Senior Midlands Open at Church Brampton.

How about those giant killers Steve Wood and Tony Lesson getting pipped at the post in the final of the Rigby Taylor Greensomes Match at Hoylake Golf Club, beaten by one hole. Congratulations to Thomas and Trevor Morris. Who said they couldn't do it? On 11th October, 18 members were entertained by Alan Souttram. Dennis Catrill and their colleagues at ARC Quarries at Middleton Hall. We were taken in two groups around the plant, firstly to the digging head where a giant excavator loads the material onto a conveyor belt. It then travels 2 miles to the main sorting and sifting machinery

where after going through various stages, it is sorted into about 10 different grades of sand and stone. Also at the quarry was a concrete mixing plant which we were shown around. There was a pre-packed bagging area for stone and sand and one man there sacked 10 tons in 50kg bags in one day! We were also given a conducted tour of Middleton Hall which is owned by ARC and run by a social trust.

The Hall dates back to 1086 and was once the home of a well known Naturalist. A very interesting tour enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Alan and Dennis and ARC.

On 3rd March at Telford Golf and Country Club between 2pm and 5pm, we have a lecture on the latest Pesticide Law and how it affects you. Also, how to attend the various training modules and testing for them. We are fortunate that Mr Richard Maw, Testing Officer for the Region who works from Stourbridge College Horticultural Unit will be covering this most important subject. On 29th March, we have invited our Executive Director, Neil Thomas down to spend the day in the Midlands, visiting various golf clubs and meeting the membership. We are the first section to arrange something like this and hope the day will be beneficial to both Neil and ourselves.

The day will finish with Neil giving a talk at Moor Hall Golf Club at 7.00 pm. This will be your chance to come along and listen to him, put forward your points of view and have all your queries answered, so come along and help produce a good turnout.

Lastly, well done to Robin Bryson for promotion to Head Greenkeeper at Willesley Park Golf Club from his previous club.

I Toon

NORTHERN REGION Sheffield Section

The December meeting was held on the first of the month at Rotherham Golf Club with an excellent lecture from Professor Willis of Sheffield University on Plant Nutrients and their requirements in relation to turf.

The Annual General Meeting was also held on the first of December, at which Mr Gordon Brammah the Section Secretary resigned. I am sure members will join me in thanking Gordon for the hard work he has put in over the years on behalf of the Section, and we look forward to seeing him at future meetings. The following members were elected to the Committee.

A Renshaw - Secretary/Treasurer, B V Lax - Chairman, K B Heaney - Vice-

AROUND THE GREEN

Chairman/Competition Secretary, E Palmer, R Hayhurst, R Graham, P A Unwin and H Middlebrook were elected as Committee members.

Will members please note the following dates for their diaries:

February 2nd - Mr David W Jenkins of Charterhouse Turf Machinery Limited will talk on the use and benefits of Verti-drain on the golf course.

March 2nd - Mr Malcolm Petit of Alginure Products Limited and Mr Brian Robinson of Mommersteeg will talk on their relevant products and their place in a maintenance programme.

April 6th - Stewards of York will give a talk and practical demonstration on a range of machinery including the Verti-Drain.

A Renshaw

North West Section

1988 seems to have passed too quickly and yet as far as the North West Section is concerned, it has been a very eventful year with golf tournaments, the Mere Seminar and the "Open".

The Committee has worked hard at arranging half day lectures and educational evenings at both Cheshire and Lancashire. The first was an educational evening at Sandiway Golf Club with the Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs and second, a half day lecture at Reaseheath followed by the AGM. Both events turned out to be an embarrassment with no more than ten members turning up on each occasion and not even an apology from any member. A newsletter was printed and all 260 North West members had a copy posted to them, so there can be no excuses.

Please support your Committee with

future events and take advantage of all that your Association has to offer.

As I write these notes I would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody a happy and prosperous New Year and may all your problems play on other peoples' courses.

B Cross

Northern Section

Well are you properly certificated? Mr Henry Gillespie our November speaker, made the observation that any greenkeeper who has or does not use the H & S and FEPA regulations as the current time to his advantage wants his head seeing to! This sentiment is heartily endorsed and could easily be applied to all greenkeepers to whom BIGGA membership means nothing. Our winter series of evening get togethers struck off with a trip in words and colours to Whitwood Golf Club, Normanton. With Ian Thompson at the reins the story of development on his ex-coiiliery site unfolded.

Budgeting and the greenkeeper formed the theme of Henry Gillespie's evening. Henry outlines his modus operandi on the financial front together with several 'old fox' hints and tips on committee psychology. Thanks to the aforementioned gentlemen for their time and trouble.

A very pleasant afternoon's golf transpired at Ilkley Golf Club on the occasion of our 1988 Autumn Tournament. Thanks Adrian and your lads for the lovely course. Also we had the pleasure of Ilkley's Chairman of the Green, Tom Spratt's company who kindly officiated at the prize-giving. Plenty of good golf in store this year - details on the way later.

During February and March, we are

going mechanical:-

February 2nd - John Croft Machinery Limited, the outfit that brought Kubota to the UK will showing us the possible way forward in golf courses traction - slides, videos, the business.

March 2nd - we are Verti-Draining with Charterhouse Turf Machinery - all the visuals and a bit on the side! Moor Allerton Golf Club, 7.30 pm.

The Northern Annual General Meeting took place on December 8th with the following results:-

President - W Mountain. Chairman - Robert Lupton. Vice-Chairman - Colin Geddes. Secretary/Treasurer - David Hannam. Committee - David Anderson, Philip Sutton, Eric Paley, Mark Seymour, Edwin Walsh, Dennis Cockburn, Alan Gamble and Gary Thistlewhite.

Naturally, we look forward to your continued support throughout 1989. Let's hope it turns out a kinder year, with some good success. All the best see you around.

D Hannam

North East Section

On October 8th we held our Autumn 27 Holes Meeting at Prudhoe Golf Club. I would like to thank George Gainford and his staff for the excellent condition of his course considering the weather we have had. Also thanks to the Committee for giving us the courtesy and the catering staff for the meals. The leading scores were as follows:- Best Gross: B. Wilson, Stocksfield GC 121, Ransomes Cup and Watch Nett, G. Gainford, Prudhoe GC, 110, Greenlay Cup Handicap 0 - 11, A. Bowess, Parklands GC, 110, Fewsters Shield 12-28, J. Rippon, Whickham GC, 118. J. Cairns, Close House GC,

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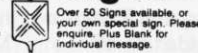
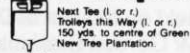
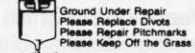


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AROUND THE GREEN

110 1/2, R. Black, Ponteland GC, 111 1/2, A. Hornsby, Vice President, 115, J. Richardson, Whickham GC, 117, S. Pope, Tyneside GC, 118.

In all 33 members were present.

The Section would like to thank the following companies for their donations: Ryton Gravel Co, Brand-Short, Ransomes, Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart, Stewarts, Supaturf and Sisis.

On October 18th, we held our annual match against the East Section at Stocksfield Golf Club. The weather was not too kind but we managed to play without getting too wet. Once again, thanks go to Stewarts of Edinburgh for providing both winners and losers prizes and for lunch. Thanks also to the Committee for giving us the courtesy of the course and use of the club.

The results were as follows

B. Wilson, J. Shariff (NE) bt J. Paton,

C. Hilcersley (East) 3/2. J.

Richardson, G. Garnford (NE) bt J.

Neilson, W. Blair (East) 8/6. M.

Simpkin, G. Atkinson (NE) bt S. Mellor,

R. Bullock (East) 3/2. A. Bewas, R.

Black (NE) bt J. Easton, K. Rutherford

(East) 1 up. C. Baxter, J. Cairns (NE)

bt S. Dixon, O. Yeaman (East) 1 up. S.

Pope, J. Redhead (NE) bt A. Nimmo, E.

Hood (East) 7/6.

Personal note

I would like to thank Graham Forbes of Stewarts of Edinburgh for presenting me with the lead crystal whisky decanter as an extra prize for my 'hole in one' at Belleisle Golf Club during the National Tournament.

J. Richardson

SOUTH EAST REGION

East Anglia Section.

Not before time I hear you cry! Two matches to report on. Firstly, a massive turnout at Cambridge Moat Hotel back in August. Seventy-odd turned up and we received a warm

welcome and first class hospitality from the Captain and members. The course was up to scratch thanks to Uncle Eddie and the boys.

The spoils went to the following:

Scratch 0 - 18 J. Coady 44 pts; I.

Dennis 42 pts; 18 + h'cap Uncle Eddie

Spittlehouse 38 pts: S. Painter 35 pts.

There was a competition within a

competition as the Square and

Compass challenged the six top

greenkeepers to a match which the

greenkeepers won. The Square and

Compass hope to have a return match

when they have practiced a bit more!

The second match was against the

Captains in September at Rushmere.

The Captains won 5-3 but we won't dwell

on that! The course was in good nick

and I understand Wally Mann, the Head

Greenkeeper is waiting to go into

hospital for treatment on an injured hip.

I am sure we all wish him well and a

speedy recovery. The prizes went to

the following:- Scratch - 18 P. Howard

37 pts / Steve Freestone 32 pts.

18+ R. Mitchell 31 pts / C. Huddleston

30 pts. Guest P. Whire 35 pts / T. D.

Drake 33 pts.

Our thanks to Rushmere for their

hospitality.

See you all soon.

M. Lathrope.

Kent Section

Over 160 people attended the first

BIGGA Regional Seminar at The

Woodlands, Swanley recently. The day

was a great success and many thanks

are due to the excellent speakers from

the STRI. And Neil Thomas for coming

down to talk to us on the progress of

our Association, and John Millen for

organising a great day and a superb

venue. Also thanks to the members of

the trade for their support and even

though the stands were in a separate

room, they were very popular with the

delegates.

On a personal note, I must say that it was the best seminar I have attended for years although the exhaust on my car was not quite up to the round trip.

On the golfing front, 30 members played in the Kent Section Autumn Tournament. The morning medal scores were :- 1st Andrew Lund of Leeds Castle with a net 73, 2nd Ian Rawlison of Mid-Kent with a net 75, 3rd Colin Lusher with a net 77.

The afternoon stableford was won by Willie McConville of Ashford with 37 pts.

George Brown of Edenbridge second on 36 pts and Andy Toomy of Bexleyheath third with 34 pts. The trade prizes went

to Kelvin Reay in the morning with a net

67 and David Hawkins in the afternoon

with 37 pts. Our two representatives at

Hunstanton in the Jacobsen

Tournament, Chris Mardon and Chris

Latham did not feature in the prizes, but

had a great day on a well-prepared

course. Chris Mardon did, however,

pick up a prize at the Regional Golf

Tournament at Ifield when four of our

members attended on 31st October.

Away from the golf course some of our

members find time to participate in

other activities. One man whose work

does not seem to tire him out is Sene

Valley's Steve Suttle. As some of you

may know, Steve is an accomplished

long-distance runner and just recently

has hit a great run of form. On

September 11th Steve ran the Humber

Bridge Marathon in 2hrs 47 mins 23

secs. beating his previous personal

best by four and a half minutes. After

this mere little stroll (!) he completed

the London to Brighton Road Race in

6hrs 12 mins 25 secs. non-stop. This

was good enough to earn 11th place in

the 53 mile race. Just when you

thought this might tire him out, I read in

the local paper that in a race at

Ringwood Road he polished off the 10



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AROUND THE GREEN

mile course in 58 minutes. The next stop for Steve and a team from Thanet (I can understand wanting to run away from there!) is Benidorm in the Spanish Marathon. I personally think this is only a training run to beat the German tourists to the sunbeds next year. Perhaps this proved that hand mowing does have other benefits and could help to keep more of us fit and healthy though we may have some trouble matching Steve Suttle. I hear he can hand mow a green quicker than I can with a GM3.

P. Copsey.

Surrey Section.

The Surrey Greenkeepers held their Autumn Tournament at Walton Heath Golf Club where a total of 48 compete in this popular fixture. For what looked to turn out a miserable day in the morning, the rain did keep away for us and eventually turned quite warm. On behalf of the section I would like to thank Walton Heath Golf Club, the bar and catering staff for the excellent cuisine and Clive Osgood and his team for presenting the course in superb condition. The day would not be complete without a real thank you to Bernie Tomlin and Rigby Taylor who have sponsored this tournament over the years and also to the companies who donated for the raffle.

Results: 1st - C Sopp, Leatherhead Golf Club 55pts. 2nd - M Wells, Walton Heath Golf Club, 54pts. 3rd - I McMillan, Hankley Golf Club, 51 pts back 9. AM - A Locke, Hindhead Golf Club, 21pts back 6. PM - D Johnson, New Zealand Golf Club 33pts. Best Scratch - W McMillan, Effingham Golf Club 120. During 1988 the section once again did well for itself, with a good turnout at all tournaments and functions. Since last January, the section has spent money on the following items:-

1. Subsidised half fare for the bus to the AGM in York. 2. Half price ties to members until September. 3. Free ties to members who have purchased blazers. 4. Bought a new computer word processor. 5. Bought a projector and screen. 6. Bought a flag. 7. In the process of buying educational videos to start a library, which will be available to members.

A total of 100 different members have taken part in all golf dates throughout 1988 which we hope to overtake this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all categories of staff at the following clubs for entertaining us throughout the year and hope we will be welcomed back in the years to come.

Hankley Common GC, New Zealand GC, RAC Club, Sunningdale GC, Addington Court GC, Walton Heath GC and Guildford GC.

Quiz Night

A Regional Quiz and Fun Night will be held in Surrey at the end of February beginning March in which teams will compete from London, Surrey, Sussex and Kent. A final venue and date will be given in the next issue.

Handicap changes:- from 27th October I McMillan 9, J Chambers 15, D Wall 9, M Wells 14, S McMillan 10, C Sopp 9, R Tydeman 13, J Summers 15, A Brown 20.

From the Committee, I would like to thank all members for making 1988 a great success in the Surrey Section.

J Russell

SCOTTISH REGION

Central Section

The Section's Autumn Tournament was held on Thursday 22nd September by courtesy of Alloa Golf Club, when 51 members and guests enjoyed a day's relaxation with the prize winners resulting as follows:- Nett Aggregate

(Spring & Autumn) - B Cruikshank. Best Nett - W Whitfield. Best Scratch - D Leith. 1st Class 1st Handicap - M Collins. 1st Class 2nd Handicap - T Ollchrist. 2nd Class 1st Handicap - A O'Hara. 2nd Class 2nd Handicap - S Massam. Stewart's Quaich - G Hampton, D Murdoch. Two Ball foursomes - A O'Hara, S Sime. Trade and Guests - W Chapman. Longest Drive - I Ritchie.

Our sincere thanks to the Council and Members of Alloa Golf Club for extending to us the courtesy of their course and clubhouse, to Jim Easton and his staff for the excellent condition of the course and also to the Clubmaster and his staff for the first class catering and service throughout the day. Thanks also to Ian Ritchie and Mark Collins for donating prizes to the raffle. Congratulations to Mr Gilchrist who holed his tee shot at the 18th.

Our Congratulations are due to the Scottish Team who were victorious in the Ransomes International Tournament at Ipswich, and in particular to Section Chairman, Ian Ritchie who was a member of the Scottish Team. Well done lads.

I have various items of the Association uniform in stock, anyone wishing to purchase any item should get in touch with me, or better still come along to some of the Section events at which they are always available.

So far, I have not received any article from members for inclusion in the magazine. Now that another season is nearly over surely someone will have time to put pen to paper and come up with something.

It is your Association, so help to make it better by contributing to it in some way, even criticism is welcome, so long as it is constructive.

J Crawford

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The Hon. Secretary,
Arkley Golf Club,
Rowley Green Road, Barnet,
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WESTON TURVILLE GOLF CLUB

requires

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Previous experience in a similar position preferred.

Please reply to:-

The Secretary,
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Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of modern course management and maintenance techniques.

The accepted applicant must have the skills to lead and motivate staff, and will be expected to demonstrate abilities to maintain a quality course to a high standard, exercising firm budgetting control.

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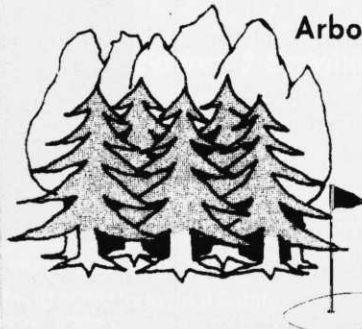
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EXHIBITION REPORT

ETME gets widespread support

Held for the first time last month the European Turf Management Exhibition attracted a high quality of support from across the whole greenkeepers industry.

The Rt. Hon Viscount Whitelaw opening the three day European Turf Management Exhibition and Conference at Harrogate, said he was delighted to have been invited to be the BIGGA President and felt he was asked at a time of great importance.

He said more people are playing golf and to meet this demand golf courses are being built around the world, not on the sandy sea links, but in difficult parts of the country, which will require much skilled management. Management which is crucially important.

"I believe we have very high standards of greenkeeping. We need to make them higher and that is the purpose of this exhibition. That is why you are all here this week. To learn to achieve better standards, better greens and better courses for golfers to play."

Turning to the subject of Education, Viscount Whitelaw said he was delighted to hear the Association had just appointed an Education Officer. He believed this was an enormous advance and that there was a great career for future young greenkeepers.

Referring to Jack McMillan, the BIGGA Chairman and Course Manager at Sunningdale, he said there are many whose skills are admired and are household names, for what you have done and others similarly, on courses in various parts of the country.

"We want young greenkeepers into the profession today, who will aspire to those standards in the future".

Viscount Whitelaw added that as a past Captain of the R & A, both he and the Royal and Ancient as the governing body in golf are very much behind the development of the Exhibition and Conference and wanted to see it succeed, as it did the Association.

He believed many more events would follow this first Exhibition and visitors would attend from all over the world.

In conclusion before declaring the 1989 Harrogate European Turf

Management Exhibition open he said, "Golf is a great game. Golfers will enjoy the game even more if played on well tended and well kept golf courses and that is what we all want to see".

The European Turf Management Exhibition held in the Spa town of Harrogate last month was a "success", say those exhibitors who took stands at the first sponsored show and conference of the BIGGA.

Next year's show is assured with a further expansion into three halls in the Harrogate Centre with the conference sessions probably taking place in the Royal Hall within the complex, rather than across the road in the Royal Baths.

Many of the exhibitors re-booked for 24th to 26th January 1990 before dismantling their stands and requested increased space. Some asked for more prominent positions, others were content to reclaim where they were.

As a first venture, the Exhibition organised by Geo. A. Wright suffered the inevitable minor teething problems, but will remain basically the same next year.

Suggested improvements will include a colour coding system for visitors, who all received name badges on registration. The colours will identify those from golf courses as opposed to local authority and

other amenity sports turf organisations to help both exhibitors and delegates recognise areas of interest immediately.

Opening times will also be adjusted to 9.00am-6.00pm on the first two days and 9.00am to 2.00pm on the last day.

Almost 2,200 visitors came to Harrogate over the three days, many stopping for the whole period combining the exhibition with attendance at the seminars.

The lectures were the success story of the week with rarely less than 100 delegates to each lecture, topping 175 for the presentations by Dennis Mortram and Bob Young on the second day, who took "The Broad Duties of the Course Manager" and "Presentation and Image at Work" as their respective themes. Thursday showed the best attendance with over a thousand registrations plus many of those who had booked in on the opening day.

The Association's prominent stand remained busy all week, selling blazers, sweaters, shirts, jackets, waterproofs and the newly designed BIGGA tie, which has been well received.

Wherever one called on the trade stands the reaction was the same. Quite satisfied with the attendance, but impressed by the quality of visitor, the depth of inquiry and genuine interest in the products on show.



Arthur Wyatt receiving his Kubota T1400 Ride-on Mower from Viscount Whitelaw at the European Turf Management Exhibition at Harrogate.

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Applicants must be technically qualified and demonstrate a first class knowledge of, and experience with, all aspects of modern greenkeeping practices.

Clear evidence of cost effective management is required and the ability to control and motivate staff is essential.

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The Secretary,
Knebworth Golf Club Ltd.,
Deards End Lane,
Knebworth,
Herts.
SG3 6NL

ST GEORGE'S HILL GOLF CLUB

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The Secretary/Manager,
Prestbury Golf Club Ltd.,
The Club House,
Macclesfield Road,
Prestbury,
Cheshire.
SK10 4BJ

APPOINTMENTS

GOLF CLUB OLCHING WEST GERMANY

require an
ASSISTANT HEAD GREENKEEPER
for this excellent 18 hole championship
golf course.

Applicants must be fully experienced in
all aspects of modern greenkeeping and
machinery maintenance and a knowledge
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available. Only members of the
BIGGA need apply.

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18 hole course and of leading and
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They must be experienced in all aspects
of greenkeeping and have a thorough
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No accommodation available.
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**The Secretary,
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require

FIRST ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

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qualifications and be fully experienced.

Accommodation is not available.

Please apply in writing with full C.V. to:-

**The Greens Secretary,
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Hob Hill, Saltburn,
Cleveland. TS12 1NJ**

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APPOINTMENTS



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Application form etc from:-

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Dorset. BH14 9JU
Tel: 0202 707138**

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requires

HEAD GREENKEEPER

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G78 4AD.**

HUNSTANTON GOLF CLUB require an ASSISTANT HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping, knowledgeable of course machinery and fully capable of deputising for the head greenkeeper. Salary negotiable, no accommodation. Applications with full C V to:-

**The Secretary,
Hunstanton Golf Club,
Golf Course Road,
Hunstanton.
PE36 6JQ**

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also an
ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER
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**Peter Shaw,
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