

the Golf Course

Incorporating Golf Greenkeeping

MARCH 1989



Development

A full report on Rolawn's latest turf for golf courses.

Management

A greenkeeper's rough guide to pests on the golf course.

Education

How a British greenkeeper is helping with a massive new golf project in Australia.

On the Course

Patrick Murphy talks to John Lelean about Shipley Beckfoot.



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL
GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

BIGGA



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the Golf Course

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attachment by Kubota

MARCH 1989

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EDUCATION '89 located in Cambridge, a city renowned for its academic excellence, has an action learning programme that would grace any college campus.

The Conference has the objective of imparting knowledge, creating awareness, stimulating thought and motivating discussion all for the benefit of today's and tomorrow's turf manager.

The BIGGA/SUPATURF EDUCATION '89 Conference is the place to be in April 1989. Book now to secure your attendance.

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Jack McMillan

A matter of importance

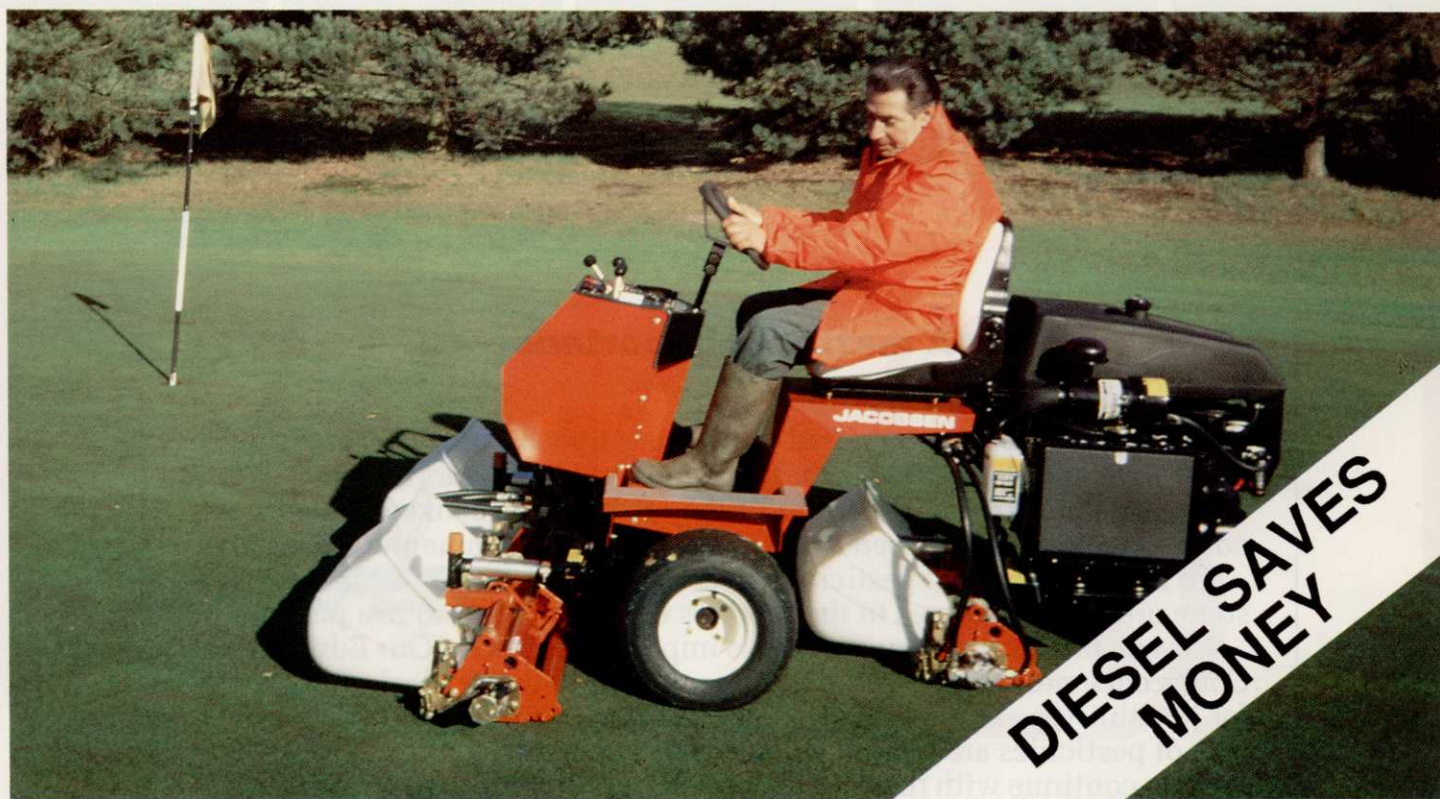
Pesticides and their related issues have now become part of the daily lives of all greenkeepers. Other professional users of these chemicals have taken the brunt of the criticism. Greenkeepers and golf courses have so far escaped attention from the environmental watchdogs.

To listen to critics of pesticides gives an indication of how misinformed some are when it comes to the theories about the need to use pesticides.

No-one has all the answers so it is important to listen. Our Educational Conference next month at Cambridge will provide an ideal opportunity for just this type of discussion. Remember those who favour the elimination of pesticides are convinced that they are just as correct as those who wish to continue with their use. With so much attention on the subject it is important that we all recognise that we have an obligation to use pesticides as directed by the manufacturer on the label of the product. There is also the obligation to our employers and those who use the golf course for their leisure and relaxation.

In the past products have been bought on their price advantage and now there should be just as much consideration given to safety. The operator of the equipment must be given every bit of help in his safety since they are the ones exposed to the greatest risk.

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**British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association
1989 Greenkeeper Membership Application Form**

(NB NOT to be completed by 1988 members)

To be returned to: The Executive Director, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, West Yorkshire BD16 1AU.
Tel: 0274-560556

Please complete fully in BLOCK CAPITAL letters:

Full name Name of employer
Home address Address
.....
County County
Post code Post code
Telephone Tel:
Date of birth Position held
..... Date of appointment
Professional qualifications
I wish to be affiliated to the *Section (see below)

I hereby apply for membership of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and agree to abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Association.

Signed Dated

Subscriptions are not to be sent with this form but will be invoiced separately

Fees payable will be: Full Greenkeeping Member **£28.00**; 18 years of age and under **£14.00**.

Sections

Scottish Region: Ayrshire, Central, East, North, West; **Northern England Region:** North East, North West, Northern, Cleveland, Sheffield; **Midlands and North Wales Region:** East Midland, Midland and North Wales, East of England, Mid Anglia, Berks/Bucks/Oxon; **South East Region:** East Anglia, Surrey, Kent, Sussex, London; **South West Region:** South West, South Coast, Devon and Cornwall, South Wales.

**British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association
1989 Associate and Trade Membership Application Form**

(NB NOT to be completed by 1988 members)

To be returned to: The Executive Director, The Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, West Yorkshire BD16 1AU.
Tel: 0274-560556

Please complete fully in BLOCK CAPITAL letters:

Full name Name of company (where applicable):
Home address
..... Preferred mailing address:
County
Post code
Telephone County
..... Post code
..... Telephone
..... Position

Categories of Membership: B.1. (Associate member) £25.00; C.1. (Trade member) £30.00.

I hereby apply for membership of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and agree to abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Association.

I wish to join as a member and enclose my cheque as indicated above in the sum of £..... made payable to BIGGA. A receipt will not be issued unless specifically requested.

Signed Dated

Please note that Trade/Associate membership is on an individual basis



Left to right. Lord Whitelaw, Jack McMillan, and executive director Neil Thomas of the BIGGA on the Ransomes stand with Keir Wyatt.

Ransomes support BIGGA Education Programme

Keir Wyatt, Ransomes sales and marketing director, announced that his company would be contributing £6,000 over the next three years to the BIGGA education fund.

Speaking at the European Turf Management Exhibition at Harrogate he said it has encouraged us greatly that BIGGA has become a strong and recognised Association and we are more than happy to contribute towards its education programme.

Amenity grass seed mixtures for all situations

A new, eight-strong range of amenity and DOE grass seed mixtures which cater for almost every possible requirement, has been introduced by Hunters of Chester.

For golf and bowling greens or any situation where a *crème de la crème* surface is required, Sports Supreme is made up to 40 per cent each of Agram and Lustre chewings fescue and 20 per cent Highland Browntop.

Sports Classic, for tennis courts, cricket squares and domestic lawns, contains 55 per cent Lustre chewings fescue, 35 per cent Boreal creeping red fescue and 10

per cent Highland Browntop.

For more general sports use - golf fairways, cricket outfield and similar - Sports Sovereign contains 15 per cent Lustre/Wintergreen chewings fescue, 60 per cent Boreal creeping red fescue, 15 per cent Baron smooth-stalked meadow grass, and 10 per cent Highland Browntop.

Designed to stand up to the hard wear and tear required by rugby, soccer and hockey clubs, Sports Hardy is a mixture of 50 per cent Troubadour Perennial Ryegrass, 40 per cent Boreal creeping red fescue, and 10 per cent Highland Browntop. Troubadour has been chosen for its exceptional wearing qualities, good winter colour and high resistance to disease.

For the same situations, but designed as a renovation mixture - although it can also be used for complete reseeds - Sports Renovation is made up of the perennial ryegrasses Sprinter (40 per cent), Arno (40 per cent) and Score (20 per cent).

Sports Recreation is a hardwearing mixture for use in parks, play areas and such. Composition is 60 per cent Score perennial ryegrass - a variety which heads the Dutch recommended list for parks and lawns - 20 per cent Boreal creeping red fescue, 10 per cent Lustre/Wintergreen chewings fescue, and 10 per cent Highland Browntop.

Designed specifically for Department of Environment use on roadside verges, DOE1 is a blend of 54 per cent late perennial ryegrass, 22 per cent creeping red fescue, 15 per cent smoothed stalk meadow grass and 9 per cent Huia white clover.

Completing the range is Economy Mix, a low-price, two-variety mixture containing 80 per cent Verna perennial ryegrass and 20 per cent Rubina creeping red fescue.

Prices range from £4.50/kg for Sports Supreme to £1.45/kg for Economy Mix.

Sweet 16 for C.W.C.

Complete Weed Control has expanded its operations in the South West which has now been divided into two parts.

Chris Hughes continues to operate in the extreme South West, covering Cornwall and Devon while the new office, run by Roger Pickford, covers Bath, Avon, Bristol, Somerset, Dorset and parts of south Gloucestershire.

Complete Weed Control are specialists in the application of weed control products to all types of industrial, amenity and

aquatic situations. This new appointment brings the total number of CWC offices to 16 and is a further step in their planned expansion programme to ensure adequate coverage of the whole of mainland Great Britain.

Atco expands marketing department

Atco has expanded its marketing department as part of the company's continuous drive to provide the best possible back up to its dealers.

Josephine Kramers has been appointed to the new position of assistant product manager and will be involved in organising promotions, advertising, exhibitions and new product development.



Josephine Kramers

New sales manager at BOIL

British Overhead Irrigation Ltd (BOIL) has appointed Gerry Wilkins as sales manager. BOIL is well known as a major supplier of equipment and turnkey systems for the irrigation of golf courses, sports grounds and amenity areas.

Gerry Wilkins has been associated with the irrigation industry for 25 years. He helped to introduce and establish in the UK the pop-up sprinkler concept of turf irrigation whilst employed by BOIL from 1964 to 1968. He subsequently widened his experience with several specialist UK companies, covering all aspects of turf and agricultural irrigation applications embracing a wide variety of sprinkler and drip equipment.

Since 1978 he has been marketing irri-

0.85 ml per sq. metre

300 worms per sq. metre



POPULATION CONTROL

Populations of casting worms will vary from site to site depending on soil texture, pH, temperature, moisture and food availability. But whatever their number all casts are a nuisance when they spoil the appearance and playability of the surface.

In many areas of sports and amenity turf, population control is a vital task and 'Tornado' gives quick results. It works by contact and ingestion to give economical and long-lasting control. And because of its special liquid formulation 'Tornado' is easy to mix and apply.

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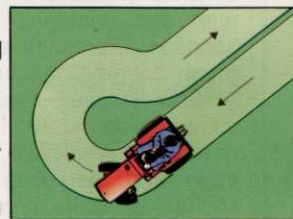


Kubota know how to ensure the right machines for the task in hand, providing the power and the versatility for all your grassland and turfcare needs.

And the proof is evident on the next generation B50 series — the 14hp B1550, the 17hp B1750 and the powerful 4 cylinder, 20hp B2150 compact tractors.

It was Kubota know-how that first introduced compact tractors with hydrostatic transmission which leaves the operator's hands free for steering and implement operation, whilst providing infinitely variable speeds and instant changes of direction forwards and backwards. HST is available throughout the B50 series range.

Now, Kubota know-how has developed the exclusive Bi-Speed Turn innovation for the B1550 and B1750 models: on tight turns, the front wheels rotate almost twice as fast as the rear wheels, allowing the tightest of turns with significantly reduced turf damage. Each has a mid-mounted mower, with which you can make a single turn round a tree!



With 'turf' pattern tyres and a cylinder block of tunnel construction to ensure that no oil is shed on precious turf, the Kubota know-how of the B50 series gives you more choice of more power for all your grassland needs.

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gation materials and systems throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East, where he was resident in the United Arab Emirates for three years.

Restructuring of Johnsons board

Following the retirement of Richard A. Johnson as chairman and director and Robert M. Johnson as a director, Johnsons Seeds of Boston has re-structured its main board.

Richard W. Johnson has been appointed chairman in addition to his role as managing director and four divisional directors have been appointed full directors.

Johnsons main Board of Directors now consists of Richard W. Johnson, chairman and managing director; Michael Johnson, director, research and development; James Johnson, export director; Andrew Trapnell, financial director and company secretary; Derek Whelbourn, director - wholesale; Richard Bence, sales and marketing director - retail; Michael Goodliffe, production director.

The last four directors were previously divisional directors.

Laporte to launch new Fullasorb products in spring

In April Laporte is to improve and extend

its range of Fullasorb Turfcare products principally used for amenity turf applications.

Fullasorb standard's granule size will be reduced to a closely screened 0.6-4mm, making it easier to work the product into the turf surface.

Laporte will add to its range a 'coarse' 4-8mm product, to enhance soil and compost drainage. The existing Fullasorb fine, a small 0.25-1.0mm granule will continue to be available, for use in, surface dressing, seed sowing and as a constituent in sand green manufacture.

Laporte says that the products have been introduced as a direct result of research into customer requirements.

Fast-establishing Prester has high tolerance levels

An ideal perennial ryegrass where speed of establishment, tolerance to environmental stress and recovery from damage are important, Prester appears on the STRI merit list for 1989 for the first time, having already been included in the French and Dutch lists.

It is introduced by Johnson Seeds, sole UK agents for Dutch plant breeders D.J. Van der Have.

It is a late heading cultivar which is given 'A' ratings for three important characteristics: 'Compactness' for its finer leaved dense and uniform sward; 'cleanliness of cut' - absence of unsightly shred-

ded leaf ends especially after rotary mowing; and 'winter greenness' - ability to maintain a good colour through the cold, wet, short days of winter and early spring.

Prester is currently rated 'B' for wear tolerance, a good score but an under-estimate which is expected to improve the life of the trial. In Johnsons' own comprehensive wear trials and those of the breeder, Prester has rivalled Arno and leading cultivars from other companies (see table below).

The finer leaves of Prester together with the other turf qualities make it suitable for ornamental, sports and general areas especially when speed of establishment and recovery from damage are important. However, the trials programme picked out Prester along with the new Chewings fescue, Epsom, for the ability to tolerate environmental stresses.

This extra dimension is in part due to the presence of a beneficial fungus known as an 'endophyte' which invests the cultivar with a high level of tolerance to drought and heat. The result is that Prester is able to perform well under conditions which would otherwise cause the sward to appear unattractive.

Prester is said to be quick to establish and produce a compact sward of good

JOHNSONS WEAR TRIALS 1987

Cultivar	Per cent ground cover			Mean	STRI RATINGS	
	Plot 1	Plot 2	Plot 3		LN	HN
Elka	85	80	85	83.3	A	A
Lisabelle	90	80	90	86.7	(B)	(B)
Master	75	60	65	66.7	A	A
Prester	87	75	75	79.0	B	B
Ranger	80	75	80	78.3	B	A
Troubadour	87	80	85	84.0	A	A

The columns headed STRI RATINGS HN & LN refer to the categories given to cultivars in the 1988 Merit List produced by the STRI where A is the highest rating for wear resistance and D the lowest rating under both nitrogen regimes - low (LN) up to 75kg N/ha annum and high nitrogen (HN) 250kg N/ha annum. Only six of the cultivars in the trial are tabulated simply for reasons of space. Information on the full list of available and includes Arno, Barclay, Boomer, Loretta, Lorina, Rival, Surprise, Trimmer, Slender Creeping Red Fescues - Dawson and Jupiter. Contact Geoff Taylor, Technical Manager, Johnsons Seeds.

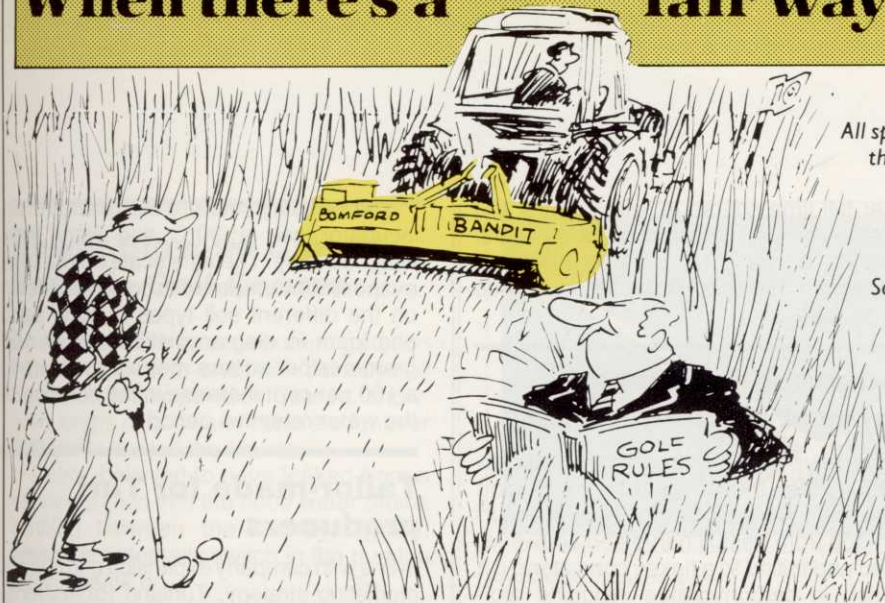
appearance characterised by a light green colour which is maintained under dry and nutrient-poor conditions. This feature makes the cultivar extremely suitable for situations where inputs of nitrogen are low says Johnsons.

The distinctive light green hue of Prester is similar to Epsom Chewings fescue. The two can form a potent combination, producing an acceptable sward which



Harry Herrington Course Manager and a previous Chairman of the British Greenkeepers Association, has just taken delivery of a new Toro 450D. Harry said, "The decision to purchase the 450D with cab, as opposed to any other manufacturer's product, was in the end, a simple one to make. Once I had seen a demonstration here at the club, no other machine could compare with the cut or the manoeuvrability which is demanded here at John O'Gaunt".

When there's a fair way to go - Bomford it!



Short grass, long grass, fields, parks and pitches. All spring and summer, as long as the grass keeps growing, the Bandit will stay the course - and has been doing for over twenty successful seasons. It fits any tractor - and with horizontal shafting and full guarding, maximum safety is combined with optimum efficiency. So, for the short cut to professional grass management, get a Bandit in your team and - BOMFORD IT!
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Developed for parks and golf courses the SC3000 is one of the most versatile system controllers, giving finite control of up to 400 sprinklers in 4 zones. Each zone can be separately programmed to suit local ground

conditions, and the whole system can be operated on a 14 day programme, with auto rain cut off and manual over ride providing essential flexibility.

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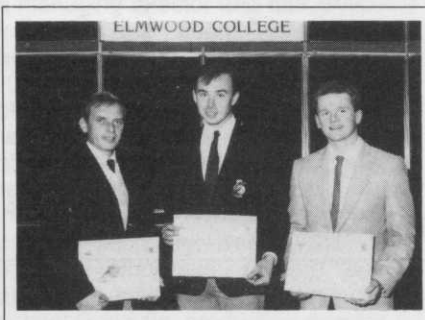
OUT AND ABOUT

effectively disguises the presence of the pale-coloured, ubiquitous annual meadow grass.

Limited quantities of seed are available for the 1989 season.

Elmwood College awards

The award winners for Elmwood's 87/88 Supervisory Management Course for head greenkeepers come from near and far with Trevor Dennis (Centre) from King's Lynn (first) and David Wilson (left) from St Andrews and Graeme Munsie (right) from Huntly equal second.



The coveted Gleneagles Challenge Trophy was awarded to George Paterson of Fortrose and Rosemarkie Golf Club for his outstanding greenkeeping project work by R. Rippin, managing director, Rippin Structures plc.

As an extension to the wide range of courses offered to the greenkeeping and groundsman industry the college has advised us that they will be offering a one-

year full time course in Turf Culture and related topics as from August 1989. Details can be obtained from Elmwood College, Carslogie Road, Cupar, Fife KY15 4JB.

Independent tests support Kelpturf claims

Tests have recently been completed to demonstrate the effect Kelpturf has on water retention in different soils. Kelpturf is made from freshly harvested seaweed, dried and milled to a flakey consistency. It is rich in carbohydrates including alginates, iron, zinc, manganese and other nutrients plus vitamins and amino acids. Having a very low water content it is easily spread or mixed with top dressings, compost or bark.

Tests were carried out by Dr. N. W. Lepp of HCH Consultants Ltd to assess the additional advantages the product could offer to reduce the cost of watering and to assist establishment of grass and plants particularly in sandy soils or in dry conditions.

Three soil types were used having the characteristics of sand, loam and clay. Bulk samples of each type were air dried, ground or crumbled before being passed through a 2mm mesh stainless steel sieve. That fraction of each soil passing through the sieve was used in the subsequent experiments.

A known weight of soil was mixed with Kelpturf at rates equivalent to 50, 100 and 150 grammes per square metre then watered to capacity and weighed.

The sample pots were then placed in an incubator set at 30°C and were then weighed daily. The time scale before total evaporation compared to control is shown on the different soil types of clay, sand and loam in diagrammatic form. At 150 grammes per square metre there is up to a 100 per cent increase in the duration of the water retentive period.

Tailor-made for Turf producers

In line with company expansion and current marketing strategy, Turfland Professional Equipment Ltd and Brouwer have put together a complete package tailor-made for turf producers.

Leading the drive towards providing a better all round deal for the turf man will be Turfland sales director, Janet Watmore. The unique package was first developed by Brouwer in North America and consists of equipment and machinery specific to the turf industry. Thus, the package comprises of seeders, verti-cutters, mowers, vacs, harvesters and the Hitch-Hiker 3600 forklift - everything, indeed, that the serious turf man needs to produce good quality turf in a cost-effective and efficient way.

Janet Watmore comments, "The beauty of the Brouwer package lies within the machines themselves. Many parts are interchangeable, which reduces the need to carry large stocks of indispensable spare parts. The equipment is also extremely reliable, inexpensive to buy and economic to run and maintain. The package offers a very attractive proposition to the turf producer."

Hole Cups

The Rider Hole Cup R. & A. Approved Size. The best hole cup on the market today" (Derrick Ganning - The Belfry) **£4.99** each available in cartons of 10.

Teeing Ground Area Markers

High visibility, 6" dia. 3" high. Half Golf Ball design, cast in heavy aluminium, ribbed for added strength. Designed for maximum abuse. **£8.95** each

Traffic Control Stakes

Aluminium shaft 1/4" dia., 2' 6" high, black or white top complete with hook. A multi-purpose stake when used with chain or rope make instant fencing. As no ground sockets are required they are easily removed and replaced to other areas of G.U.R. etc. **£3.99** each available in packs of 10. 10% discount on 5 packs or more. 60 yards of bulk reel chain £85.00

Information & Etiquette Signs

Ground Under Repair Please Replace Divots Please Repair Pitchmarks Please Keep Off the Grass **£9.50** each. Next Tee (l. or r.) Trolleys this Way (l. or r.) 150 yds. to centre of Green New Tree Plantation. Over 50 Signs available, or your own special sign. Please enquire. Plus Blank for individual message. Exclusive design in heavy duty cast aluminium.

Swivel Flagpoles

Slimflex 6' fibreglass **£6.99** each* **Links** 6'6" fibreglass **£7.99** each* **Tournament** 7'3" fibreglass **£8.99** each* All poles can be supplied in two colours i.e. Black/White, Red/White or Yellow/Black. Add £1.00 extra per flagpole. All poles complete with bung and Tacit's unique swivel action at no extra cost. Will accept any type of tie-on flag. Quality nylon flags £1.50 each. P & P carriage at cost. * Available in packs of 10.

Special Event Pack

Longest drive/nearest the pin sets, plus customised flags and teemarkers (send for details).

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For Less

Sewer Blow-up Closes Seaside Golf Course

An explosion in a seaside pumping station between the 14th and 15th fairways at Southport Municipal Golf Course, showered lumps of brick and concrete for over 300 yards across the course.

Petrol, believed to have leaked from a service station into the flood water drains running between the fairways ignited when the automatic switch in the pumping station came on.

Head Greenkeeper John Wright, well known in the North West Section for his marathon running, told The Golf Course it was very fortunate no one was injured as the explosion happened alongside the temporary green at a peak playing time on Saturday afternoon.

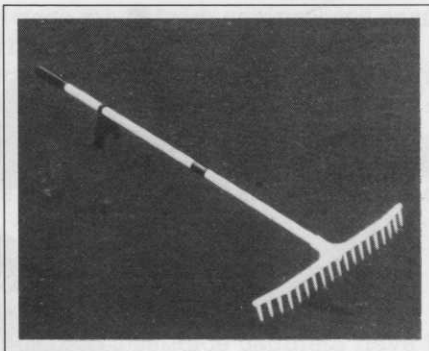
He said the pumping station is checked every day, but on Saturdays the maintenance crew have stopped visiting. Golfers playing the course during the morning reported a strong smell of petrol when they played their round.

The course is now closed for repairs to the sewer and pumping station.

From John's point of view that is no bad thing as the mild winter has produced so many golfers the course has been overplayed and it will give him a chance to improve the drainage and attend to essential maintenance.

Standeasy bunker rake

Tacit has once again added something unique to its range of golf course equip-



Standeasy bunker rake

ment. The latest being the players 'Standeasy' bunker rake. Its unique feature from the players point of view being a small bracket which is attached to the rake handle, keeping the handle above the wet grass or sand, thereby allowing players to keep their gloves and hands clean and dry.

Light enough to use with one hand, the rot proof handle will take the maximum amount of abuse.

Mini Excavators for Golf Courses

CompAir Holman has launched a range of mini excavators in the UK that are proving ideal for the requirements of golf course and sports ground management.

The company sees the latest addition to its product range as being particularly suitable for golf courses.

The rubber tyred excavators cause minimal damage to turf and because of

their size, can progress along footpaths and tracks. Yet the tiny, lightweight machines have the power and scope to carry out most excavation requirements.

There are four models in the range: The RD 2000, a 1.3 tonne machine that digs to a depth of 2m and has a maximum dump height of 2.2m; The RD 2100, a 1.5 tonne machine that digs to a depth of 2.3m with



The RD 2000 at work

a maximum dump height of 2.1m; The RD 2500, a 1.6 tonne machine that digs to a depth of 2.5m and has a dump height of 2.7m. The RD 2700, a 2 tonne machine that digs to a depth of 2.5m and has a maximum dump height of 2.7m.

All the machines have a fully automatic hydraulic oil temperature control system, and a simple joystick control system. They are powered by a choice of water or air cooled engines.

The RD 2700 has a unique levelling system which ensures that the operator is kept level even when the machine is on a slope. This model also has adjustable track width.

FROM THE FAIRWAY

Praise from a 'Yank'

I continue to enjoy your publication.

I've just returned from my annual pilgrimage to your island and discovered some remarkable playing conditions that should not go unnoticed.

Many of the courses were as I expected them to be; very playable. Dornoch, Ashdown Forest, Walton Heath, Muirfield, Berwick, and Panmure would neatly fit here.

Obviously work is still being done at Carnoustie but it continues to be bad. I'm surprised it is not closed for six to

eight weeks for a concentrated uninterrupted effort.

But four of this year's courses were superb by anyones definition: Gullane #1 (the best greens of all), St. Andrews (Walter had the course perfect the week prior to the Dunhill), Sunningdale (the week after the European), and Nairn was wonderful.

I had occasion to converse with Mr. Carson, the greenkeeper at Nairn, after the round. His philosophy of unseen maintenance should entitle him to be the head platform speaker

at our Superintendent's Annual meeting; and with a crew of six! His daily care of hand mowing each green, weekly topdressing, and all prior to member play, should be the standard not the exception.

Please relay my good wishes to your readers. Hopefully you greenkeepers will realize that some of the visiting "Yanks" note more than "single malts."

Joe Luigs
USGA

1988 Green Section Committee

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CLIPPINGS

By The Mower

Bio-degradable Tee Pegs

An enquiry has been received from Detroit, in America asking for information about the manufacture of tee pegs made from compressed corn stalks or any other material which will break down when it is wet.

Plastic pegs, so common on our courses, cause immense damage to the cutting blades of cylinder mowers so it would be useful if our readers can throw any light on the manufacture of tee pegs in a less harmful material.

In the US wood pegs are used universally, but as these cost a minimum of 2p per peg in Britain, golfers are content to harvest a collection of discarded plastic from around the teeing ground.

Pesticide Storage - Are You Legal?

Manufacturers of security pesticide cabinets have had a busy three months supplying those golf clubs who have planned to beat the Control of Pesticide Regulations which come fully into effect this month.

No longer will it be legal to store amenity turf chemicals in the greenkeeper's sheds or in the staff canteen (as was seen on one course which shall be nameless), but they must be kept under lock and key.

In addition protective clothing must be worn when spraying, adequate washing facilities provided and training given to operators.

From 1st January next year, employers, and that includes golf club committees, must not allow any work to take place which is liable to expose anyone to a substance hazardous to health without first evaluating the risks and then conforming to the requirements of all the COSHH Regulations.

Alliance Victory for Beverley Greenkeeper

Yorkshire greenkeeper David Norton from the hundred year old Beverley and East Riding Club took a very profitable day off, when he went to neighbouring Flamborough Head to play in the East Yorkshire Winter Alliance.

David who plays to a six handicap partnered fellow member Neil Burnley off three, to win the event over the inward half after a three way tie, ten under par.

Norton said the Flamborough course, high on the cliffs overlooking the North Sea was in wonderful condition, "The best seen this year in Winter Alliances, the greens were smooth and true and the fairways well defined".

Yorkshire Course Developments

The championship course at Moortown, Leeds, scene of this Ryder Cup victory in 1929, will open two new holes this season, as a result of threatened injunctions by local residents, who complained that mis-hit shots at the 12th and 17th holes were endangering their safety.

Residential housing built when the old Moor Allerton course was sold off now surrounds Moortown and although the magnificent course is not affected, the new neighbours have forced the club into making alterations.

There is however a bonus as the two new holes carved out of scrub and woodland will extend the course to 6,835 yards and increase the SSS to 74.

The official opening will be made by the R & A Captain Sandy Sinclair during the British Seniors Championship in August.

At Bedale, one of Yorkshire's oldest clubs, they are building six new holes on an adjoining 30 acres with the intention of producing a 6,500 yard championship standard course, though it will be two years before they are brought into use.

New Chairman at BITA

Robin Hume, the Managing Director of Turf Irrigation Services based at Sandbach, Cheshire has succeeded Peter Roberts, General Manager of Toro as Chairman of the British Turf Irrigation Association.

BTIA, formed in 1978 has laid minimum standards for contractors installing irrigation systems and members now totalling 21 have to conform to a code of ethics.

Robin Hume's objectives for the year ahead include encouraging similar standards throughout the twelve countries in the EEC, and the launch of a two year four-unit course leading to a Diploma in Turf Irrigation in conjunction with the Lancashire College at Myerscough.

Half Million Golfers Without a Club

Newly elected President of the English Golf Union, Mr Peter Dutton has called for a rapid increase in new courses to meet a growing demand from golfers.

He said, "There are at present 1,347 clubs in England with a membership of 480,000, but there are another half million golfers without a club".

He is also concerned that emerging talent among juniors will be lost to other sports because membership vacancies are restricted and many clubs operate a policy of only accepting juniors if their parents are members.

Mr Dutton, a member of the R & A, Royal Liverpool and a past Captain of Prenton Golf Club, near Birkenhead wants to see much greater publicity for the Amateur game. He points out that major events and county games, the first step for emerging talent can be watched free all over the country during the Summer months.

Exhibition Gossip

Exhibitions are ideal places to pick up the latest news around Europe's golf course scene.

Bearded Eddie Sims, partner in Par 4, the Ripon based Toro irrigation specialists, who confesses to have passed the half century, has become the proud father of Emma Lucy, born to his wife and business partner Linda on Friday 13th January.

Eddie, a playing member of Ripon Golf Club is thrilled with his new addition to the family.

Peter Shaw, who left the Course Manager's job at Preston Golf Club to take up a similar position near Munich in 1987 is on the move again. He is joining a German based company involved in golf course construction and although much of the work will be in Germany, Peter expects to be travelling around Spain and Portugal on other projects.

Hard on the heels of Dave Golding's departure from Trafford Park, one of his Head Greenkeepers, Howard McAddey has said he will be taking over at Worsley Park when Robert Janoskis takes his well earned retirement.

The North West Spring Tournament takes place at Worsley Park G.C. and it is hoped it will be well supported to give Robert a real Lancastrian send-off.

Sun-tanned Ian Tomlinson, just back from two weeks in Tenerife, can't wait to get back to his golf course at Lausanne. The course is still closed and will stay that way until mid-March, but it is the skiing that he is anxious to get into.

The unseasonal warm spell that Britain has enjoyed has also affected the Continent, but Ian is hoping for a cold snap and a thick covering of snow.

Seen at Harrogate with his hand firmly on his wallett was last year's National Chairman of the British Landscape Industries Association, Derek Overton.

Last year at the GCSAA Convention in Houston, Texas, Derek was robbed of all his cash and credit cards within a few hours of arriving at his hotel.

However, Harrogate will not be remembered with much affection by Ann Grain the newly appointed editor of our sister publication, Turf Management.

Her brand new XR2 with less than 800 miles on the clock was stolen from outside the hotel the night she arrived and was found 100 miles north, near Gateshead - a completely burnt out shell.



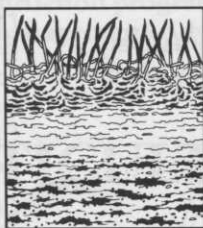
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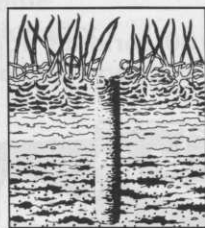
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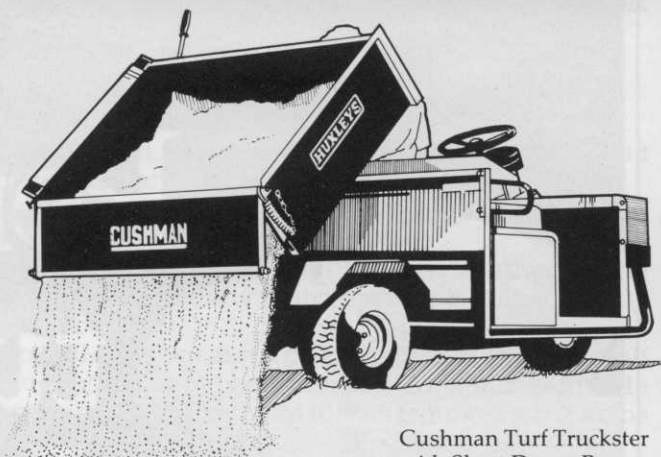
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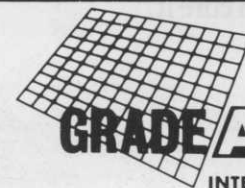
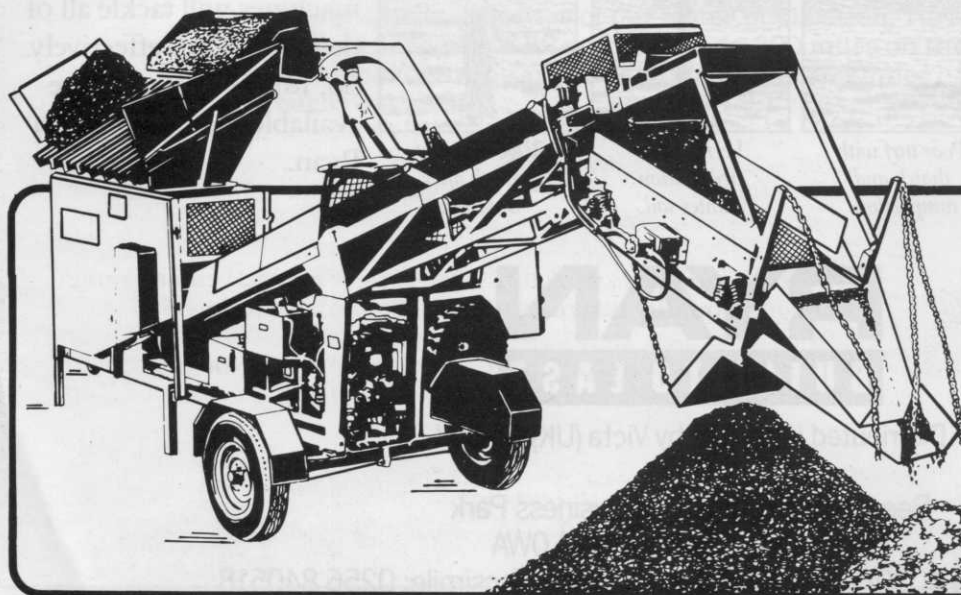
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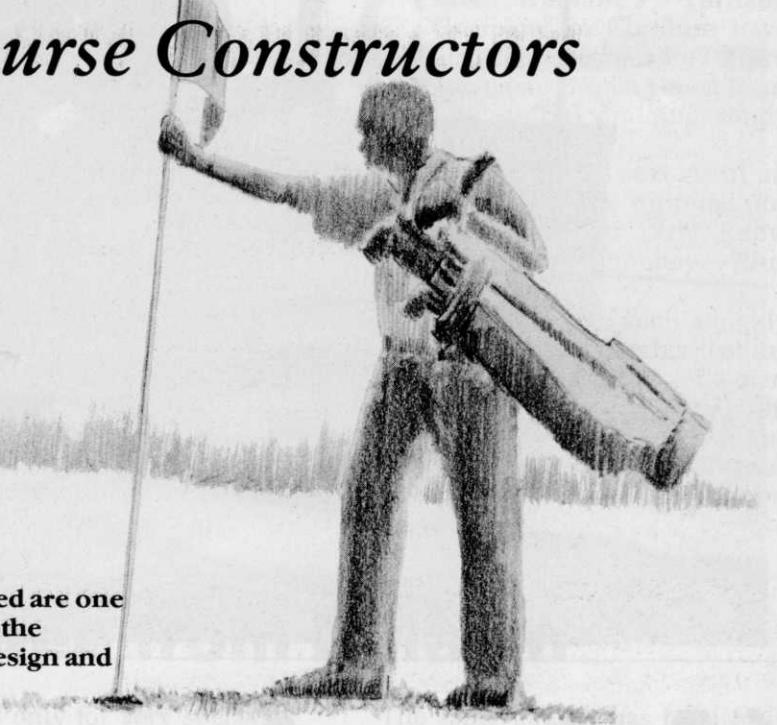
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'Advantage' over its rivals

A guaranteed annual meadow grass free turf named Advantage was launched in January at Harrogate by the York turf growers, Rolawn.

Resulting from a long term research programme funded by British Seed House Ltd, Queens University Belfast, have bred two varieties of bent and fescue grasses which after chemical treatment will produce fine turf, free of poa annua and weed.

Under an exclusive contract, BSH Ltd have agreed that only Rolawn will be supplied with the treated seed, Countess Chewings Fescue and Duchess Agrostis Tenuis, but the deal has raised quite a storm of protest among some other turf growers.

A claim that turf can be guaranteed to have no annual meadow grass is like finding gold at the bottom of Finnean's Rainbow, opening Pandora's box or capturing the Abominable Snowman. All knew it was possible but highly improbable.

In the circumstances the name Rolawn have given it - Advantage - could not have been more apt.

In simple terms the seed mixture has been bred to be immune to the affects of amino triazole an agricultural chemical which is used as a complete wipe-out for all weeds and grasses.

It is not available to those maintaining amenity turf, but Rolawn have obtained special authority to treat the grass growing in their nurseries.

According to Robert Laycock, Rolawn's Technical Director, the turf is grown from an 80% fescue 20% bent mix and will be available in the spring at around £2.25 per square yard. When delivered there will be no poa or weeds in the grass.

He agreed that it was possible for incursion to take place from surrounding areas, but said that if the greenkeeper kept a close eye on the

sward, repaired bare patches and immediately removed offending species, then the turf would remain poa free.

What is unlikely under the tightening pesticide regulations is the freedom to use amino triazole when the turf is in situ on the course. To do so illegally could put staff and golfers at risk and is likely to bring prosecution and heavy fines.

Dr. Peter Hayes, Director of the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley says there is no reason why the turf should not remain Poa Annua free if maintained correctly.

He also said amino triazole is a chemical used extensively in horticulture.

Duchess Browntop Bent is a cultivar with a high rating in the recommended list published in the STRI 1988 edition of turfgrass seed, though at the time it was said to be still under review.

Countess was not mentioned, but is expected to be included in the 1989 edition.

Inturf Ltd along with other turf growers have also been working on producing poa annua free turf. Inturf in fact do not actually claim to have poa annua free turf but offer a turf treated against annual meadow grass. Inturf at present has 1600 acres under cultivation at four farms around the country. About 85 per cent is selected for use on golf courses and sports grounds.

Turf grower Tim Fell from H.R. Fell & Sons, who sell turf from the South Humberside nurseries under the name of Lindum Seeded Turf is sceptical not so much about the final results, but of the mystic that has been built up in its production.

He said the mixture used to produce the turf free of annual meadow grass has been achieved because of its inherent tolerance to amino triazole, through breeding, rather than prior treatment. Turf treated with the chemical has an initial scorched look but these particular bents and fescues recover fairly quickly.

Lindum Seeded Turf also produce their own poa free, fescue/bent turf, launched at Windsor last year, but Tim Fell was reluctant at present to give details of how this was achieved.

Current stocks have sold out, but he hopes ample supplies will be available from April.

Chris Watmore's Turfland Company in Cheshire have also claimed a poa free sward under the name Crown Green Plus, grown on a free draining sandy loam.

He says that from next April all their varieties will be supplied poa free as well as the Lady Ruby, Sportsman and Bonney Blue varieties.

It is certain that in such a highly competitive industry, other leading suppliers will be fighting for a market share and if producing turf without the dreaded weed grass is the way forward then we can all look forward to better greens and fewer putts in 1989.

A realistic guarantee from Rolawn

The following questions were put to Robert Laycock, technical director of Rolawn on behalf of greenkeepers.

Q. Is the soil type on which turf for greens is grown very important?

A. Yes, particularly for golf greens turf, but all Rolawn turf is grown on soils, which can be classed as sandy loams or loamy sands. They are among the most free-draining natural soils in the country. Only pure sand drains faster and no large scale producer in the UK grows turf on sand. It would be impractical to produce large areas of turf on pure sand for an economic price.

Q. In 1988 you introduced the idea of 'washed Rolawn' for use on all-sand constructions. Is this still available?

A. Yes, any of our grades of turf can be supplied washed, which enables a playing surface to be created in the shortest possible time using soil-free mature turf.

But it is only for very specialist use.

Q. Your new greens turf, Rolawn Advantage, is claimed to be free of annual meadow grass. How does this improve on your past greens turf?

A. Rolawn have always pioneered new techniques. In the early 1980s we grew turf on sterilised soil to produce turf virtually free of annual meadow grass. However, this was a costly, difficult and time consuming exercise and as time went on and the quality of our conventional turf improved, we took the decision to stop sterilising the soil. Rolawn's greens turf has been virtually free of annual meadow grass for some time. In fact, out of the acres of greens turf supplied in 1987 we had only two complaints of excessive annual meadow grass, and two to date in 1988. This compares with our records for 1985 which showed thirteen complaints of annual meadow grass in our greens turf.

The same pattern has been followed with all our turf grades.

Unlike some other growers, Rolawn never make claims that are unrealistic, yet we are prepared to guarantee that Rolawn Advantage will be sold free of annual meadow grass.

Q. How do you eliminate annual meadow grass?

A. The Advantage turf is grown from a mixture of Chewings fescue and Browntop Bent which have been specially bred at Queens University Belfast in a research programme sponsored by British Seed Houses to be herbicide tolerant. This means that we can spray the turf fields during the production cycle to eliminate weed grasses. The seed mixture is exclusive to Rolawn so no other grower can use it for some years to come. In the unlikely event of a weed grass being found in our turf we will happily replace the affected roll at our expense.

Q. Can the greenkeeper continue to

Headquarters move from Bingley to Aldwark

The BIGGA are to move their headquarters from the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley to Aldwark Manor, a golf and country club hotel on the outskirts of York.

The impending move was announced during the ETM Exhibition at Harrogate, subject to successful negotiations with the owners, but since then Aldwark Manor and the nine hole golf course has been sold to a York based property company Chessingham Estates, though this is unlikely to have any affect on the move planned for the first week in May.

Aldwark Manor on the banks of the River Ure was built in 1865 as a wedding present for the daughter of Lord Walsingham. It has changed hands several times since and during the war years became the headquarters of the Canadian Airforce who flew from the nearby airfield at Linton on Ouse. Later a special school was opened under the control of the County Council.

The nine hole golf course was laid out in 37 acres of the tree lined grounds of the estate some ten years ago and the club currently has a membership of around 200. Guests staying at the 20 bedroomed hotel can also use the course.

In the short term the BIGGA Executive Director, Neil Thomas and his staff will use an adjacent building as the Association's headquarters offices. Later there are plans for a purpose built building nearer a new clubhouse for golf club members.

Mr Jeremy Benson, General Manager at the Aldwark Manor Hotel said the new owners are fully supporting the move by the Association to Aldwark in May, though they were not able to make an official announcement until the purchase contracts are signed at the end of February.

The golf course managed by Head Greenkeeper, Richard Gamble is also in line for redevelopment. Negotiations were already taking

place for the acquisition of additional land to extend the course to 18 holes and it is understood they will continue under the new ownership.

If the company are able to extend the golf course to 18 holes it will offer an excellent opportunity to use the construction period as a training operation for other greenkeeper members. Accommodation can be provided in the hotel, at a discounted rate, there are Seminar Rooms for lectures and opportunities for practical exercises out on the course.

It is anticipated the golf course will be extensively used by equipment manufacturers for 'Open Days' and demonstrations. The hotel complex is ideal for distributors conferences.

From the A1, Aldwark Manor is approached over a narrow toll bridge, one of the few left in the country, but at 8p a car this is far cheaper than a detour through York.

spray the turf once established to keep out Poa Annuua?

A. Unfortunately it is not legally permissible for them to use the chemical but Advantage will give the best possible start to any green.

Q. Will the Advantage turf be mown at the same cutting height as the rest of your turf, which takes a greenkeeper quite a while to bring into play?

A. For some time we have felt that our greens turf could be enabled to be brought into play earlier if it were mown shorter than our normal $\frac{3}{4}$ in to 1in cutting height. Accordingly we have purchased a range of equipment more likely to be found on a golf course than on a turf farm. A member of Rolawn staff is now permanently assigned to caring for and maintaining the Advantage turf. In this way our product will be much closer to what the greenkeeper actually wants and will speed up the creation of a putting surface considerably.

Q. The early maintenance of the newly turfed green is crucial to getting a good result. What do you advise?

A. We can supply a first class turf only to see it ruined by poor

management within a matter of months. This may allow the ingress of annual meadow grass or delay the start of play. We give advice in the early management of the turf, but in the long run the standard of the end results are up to the greenkeeping staff. Much of good greenkeeping is attention to detail - removing a weed by hand when you see it for the first time rather than leaving it to produce seed, for example.

Q. Once the turf is laid, how long will it be before it is ready for play?

A. That depends on when the turf is laid. If it is laid in the Spring, it should, with proper care, be ready for play in three to four months, if laid in the autumn it will be ready by the following Spring. The Sports Turf Research Institute say that turf needs fifteen growing weeks before it's ready for play, so if it is a mild winter, it will be ready even earlier. This is something we will be taking a keen interest in and will give a prize to the greenkeeper who gets his Advantage turf into play in the shortest time.

Q. How much of this new turf is available.

A. This is a key question particularly as we are all used to turf growers making claims for new kinds of turf which are only available in limited amounts or are still at the planning stages and there's never enough for a golf club needing turf for 18 new greens for example. We should have sufficient to meet the demand this year, a demand we expect to be heavy as we intend promoting Rolawn Advantage extensively.

Q. Where can Advantage be seen? Has it been used and tested by greenkeepers?

A. Any greenkeeper is welcome to visit out Turf Production Nurseries in Yorkshire and Bedfordshire to see the growing turf. In addition a number of leading golf courses have taken the advance sowings, including St Pierre Golf Course, Chepstow, Fulford Golf Course, York and the Gleneagles Hotel Golf Courses for the Championship King's Course. The greenkeepers have expressed a willingness to vouch for their satisfaction of Advantage - whatever we might say about the turf, it's their opinion that matters in the long run!



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EDUCATION

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

BIGGA considers it particularly appropriate that the first National Educational Conference of the new Association is being held at Cambridge - a centre of learning and academic excellence.

The Association considers the education and training of greenkeepers to be of paramount importance and it is to be hoped that the Conference and its setting will prove the inspiration for many delegates to pursue higher standards of education and learning in the future.

Accommodation will be provided in Queens' College which incorporates the old with the new and was founded in 1446. Delegates will be housed in the student accommodation and the Conference Banquet will be held in The New Hall which was opened in 1979. The Old Hall, built in 1449, with an interior richly decorated in the eighteenth and nineteenth century, will be used for a reception by SUPATURF, the Conference's sponsors, whose support and co-operation has been much appreciated by the Association.

The Conference will be held in The Peterhouse Theatre adjacent to Queens' College, a modern purpose-built facility providing all necessary services and a high degree of comfort for delegates. For two of the buffet lunches, we will be using The Garden House Hotel in an attractive setting overlooking the river.

Cambridge itself will appeal to delegates with its unique atmosphere; its narrow, bicycle-filled streets; the variety of languages to be heard; shops displaying British craftsmanship at its best, and always a sense of history and tradition.

BIGGA welcomes you to Cambridge and to a Conference which we feel sure will prove instructive and rewarding.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 4th April

9.30 am onwards Registration - Queens' College
11.45 am Buffet Lunch in The Garden House Hotel
1.20 pm until 5.50 pm Conference - First Session
7.00 pm - 7.30 pm Dinner in Queens' College

Wednesday, 5th April

7.45 am until 9.00 am Breakfast
9.00 am until 12.30 pm Conference - Second Session
12.30 pm Buffet Lunch in Queens' College
1.50 pm until 5.50 pm Conference - Second Session continued
7.00 pm Reception in The Old Hall, Queens' College given by **Supaturf Products Limited**
8.00 pm Conference Banquet in The New Hall, Queens' College
Speaker:
David Purdie, Medical School, Leeds University

Thursday, 6th April

7.45 am until 9.00 am Breakfast
9.00 am until 1.30 pm Conference - Third Session
1.30 pm Buffet Lunch in The Garden House Hotel

CONFERENCE DAILY PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 4th April

9.30 am Registration in Queens' College
11.45 am Buffer Lunch - The River Suite, The Garden House Hotel

Conference Commences

Session Chairman, Ivor Scoones, Vice-Chairman, BIGGA Educational Sub-Committee

1.20 pm	Introduction	Jack McMillan, Chairman, BIGGA
1.30 pm	'Converting from Poa Annua to Agrostis at Bayview'	James Wyllie, President James A. Wyllie & Associates Limited, Canada
2.10 pm	'Golf Course Management in the Cotswolds'	Lawrence Pitthie, Course Manager Minchinhampton Golf Club
3.30 pm	Coffee	
4.00 pm	'Current Trends in the Maintenance and Science of Golf Course Turfs in the United States'	J.B. Beard, Professor of Turfgrass Physiology and Ecology, Dept. of Soil and Crop Sciences, Texas A & M University
4.40 pm	'Research and the R & A'	Michael Canaway, Assistant Director (Research), The Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley
5.20 am	Panel Questions	
5.50 pm	Close	

CONFERENCE DAILY PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 5th April

Session Chairman, Paddy McCarron, Chairman, BIGGA Education Sub-Committee

9.00 am	'Similarities and Differences in Golf Course Maintenance Between Great Britain and the United States'	Dr. William Dest, Associate Extension Professor, Department of Plant Science, University of Connecticut
9.40 am	'Constructing a Golf Course on Sussex Flint'	Raymond Hunt, Course Manager, Goodwood Park Hotel Golf Course
10.20 am	Coffee	
10.40 am	'Greenkeeper or Superintendent?'	Dennis Mortram, Reaseheath College, Cheshire
11.20 am	'Golf Development and Course Management in Sweden'	Rolf Lowgren, Chief Consultant, Swedish Golf Federation
12.00 pm	Panel Questions	
12.30 pm	Buffet Lunch - Queens' College	
1.50 pm	'Education and Training for Professional Bodies involved in Golf'	Malcolm Hulley, Association Secretary, The Professional Golfers Association
2.30 pm	Tournament Preparation	Kevin Munt, Course Manager, West Germany
3.10 pm	'Raising Distributor Standards Through Education'	Richard Fry, Director, Supaturf Products Limited
3.40 pm	Coffee	
4.00 pm	'Fertiliser Use, Theory and Practice'	Dr. William Adams, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth
4.40 pm	'The Biggest Problem of Golf Course Turf in the USA'	Jim Snow, Director, North Eastern Region, Green Section, United States Golf Association
5.20 pm	Panel Questions	
5.50 pm	Close	

CONFERENCE DAILY PROGRAMME

Thursday, 6th April

Session Chairman, Bill Lawson, Vice-Chairman, BIGGA

9.00 am	'The Role of the Golf Unions in the 90's'	Keith Wright, Secretary, English Golf Union
9.40 am	'The Role of Phosphorus and Potassium in Maintaining Bentgrass Putting Greens'	Dr. William Dest, Associate Extension Professor, Department of Plant Science, University of Connecticut
10.20 am	Coffee	
10.50 am	'The Educational Minefield'	Tony Gentil, Reaseheath College, Cheshire
11.30 am	'My Experience of Green-keeping in Portugal'	Peter Wisbey, Course Manager, Sas Lourence/Penina, Portugal
12.10 pm	'Modern Nutritional Strategies for Golf Course Turfs'	J.B. Beard, Professor of Turfgrass Physiology and Ecology, Dept. of Soil and Crop Sciences, Texas A & M University
12.50 pm	Panel Questions	
1.20 pm	Summing up	Jack McMillan, Chairman, BIGGA
1.30 pm	Buffet Lunch - The River Suite, The Garden House Hotel	

APPLICATION FORM

PRIORITY BOOKINGS

Due to the limitation on the number of places available, preference to applicants will be given as follows:

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| 3. | Associate/Trade Members | |
| 4. | Non-Members | |

CHARGES (inclusive of VAT)

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(i)	Greenkeeper Members and Spouses attending the Conference	£139
(ii)	Spouses not attending the Conference	£119
(iii)	Associate/Trade Members	£171
(iv)	Non-Members	£185
B	NON-RESIDENTIAL	
	Including buffet lunch for the three days	£83
C	EXTRA NIGHT	
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	Bed/Breakfast/Evening Meal	£36

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NAME

Will spouse be attending the Conference? YES/NO*

If you require a NON-RESIDENTIAL place — please tick box

If you require an EXTRA NIGHT(S) please indicate requirement with dates

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Lambswool Crew-neck sweater <i>Sizes:</i> 36"-46" only	Navy, White, Tartan Red, Sorbet Yellow	£19.49
Lambswool V-neck slipover <i>Sizes:</i> 38"-46" 34"-36" and 48"-54" also available in many of the colours	Navy, Light Blue, Bluebird Blue, Tartan Red, Bordeaux (Burgandy), Black, White, Mid-Grey, Blond, Sorbet Yellow, Light Pink, Frost Grey and Light Peach	£18.75 48"-54" £2.00 extra
Pure new botany wool roll-neck sweater <i>Sizes:</i> small/38"; medium/40"; large/43"; X-large/46" X-small/36"	Navy, Light Blue, Red, Wine, White, black, Grey, Beige, Tartan Green, Loden Green, Yellow Navy, Light Blue, White only	£19.49
Pure new wool V-neck sweater <i>Sizes:</i> 34"-46" 48" on popular dark colours only	Navy, Light Grey, Burgandy, Bottle Green, Black, Brown, Natural, Red, Pale Blue, Lemon, Royal, White, Pink, Jade, Peach	£16.04
Pure new wool crew-neck sweater <i>Sizes:</i> 34"-46"	Navy only	£16.04
Pure new wool slipover <i>Sizes:</i> 34"-46"	Navy, Light Blue, Red, Black, Light Grey, Burgandy	£14.89
Jersey knit sportshirt (65% polyester/35" modal) with covered collar <i>Sizes:</i> Small, medium, large, X-large	Navy, Light Blue, Royal Blue, White, Red, Black, Wine, Mint Green, Emerald Green, Light Pink, Beige, Mocha Brown, Silver Grey, Lilac and Rose	£12.59
Jersey knit sportshire with ribbed knitted collar of a more casual type shirt <i>Sizes:</i> Small, medium, large, X-large	White, Lemon, Navy, Black, Red, Royal Blue, Grey	£11.50
Official tie	Navy Blue, Grey and Burgandy	£3.75
Official blazer including badge <i>Size:</i> 36"-50" specify short, regular or long	Navy Blue	£69.00 46"-50" £75.00
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Course construction in Australia

Chris Nicholson is an Ex-Head Greenkeeper at Mid-Herts Golf Club and reports on the project he is involved with in Western Australia



I am at present here in Perth, Western Australia engaged in the construction of a 27-hole championship golf course, 40 kilometres north of Perth at Ellenbrook, in the wine-growing district of Western Australia. This is the largest golf course under construction in Australia at the moment. The company I am employed by is Sanwa Vines, a Japanese consortium and the course is the brainchild and designed by Graham Marsh.

There are 27 normal greens, plus 3 gambling holes, 4 practice greens and 4 championship tennis courts, 2 bowling greens and an archery range. A huge Clubhouse and hotel complex are also under construction on site. The fairways are skirted by 400, one acre blocks where luxury houses will be sited. A vineyard is being planted to supply the club with its own wine brand.

The huge machinery shed has just been completed to house the vast amount of new machines that are arriving almost daily. The local Toro dealer must have thought it was Christmas when we ordered four GM3's, four bunker rakes and four 420d's to name but a few. The

sheds cover the area of a soccer pitch with machine workshop, with full-time mechanic, fertiliser and chemical stores, with wash-down areas, suction fans, staff rest-rooms, showers, lockers. Every modern convenience has been supplied for the 22 staff we have at the moment, a world apart from what most Clubs expect their greens staff to contend with.

The greens are built to USPGA Standards, sand on a blanket of 18in aggregate or 'Blue Metal' as the locals refer to it. Some greens have agraflex drains beneath but we have found not all need it. The greens are then fed after final shaping with a pre-plant nutrient, consisting of chicken pellets and a cocktail of muriate of potash, nitrogen (Agran) super copper, zinc and Epsom salts. This is then raked into the surface and the green is then sprayed with Pencross Bent in an emulsion, to help the seed hold on the surface. The results we have had so far are good and a nice even cover has been achieved. This grass grows well over here, although I am not so sure how it would go in the UK climate.

The tees are, after final shaping, laser-levelled with a special machine I have never seen in the

UK. It comprises of a small tractor with a laser controlled scraper-come-hopper at the rear. A laser on the hopper works in conjunction with a laser to the rear of the tee to give a perfectly level tee. A drop of 2 per cent from front to rear of the tee is allowed for run-off. The tees are then stolonised with Greenless Park grass, disked into the surface and rolled. Most holes have at least five tees and each are stepped out in front of the other and most have buggy paths alongside.

The fairways meander through virgin bush, every care has been taken to maintain the natural habitat of the many kangaroos and other wild animals and plants that live around the course. The fairways have been panned with clay to prevent leaching of chemicals into the nearby Ellen brook. This clay, a few inches under a British fairway, would be deemed as a disaster. But when you consider the evaporation which takes place on an Australian fairway, you can see that no problems occur.

A great deal of revegetation has been done on each side of every fairway to tighten them up as it were. We have purchased a tree spade at the cost of A\$70,000 to transplant larger trees and palms. This has proved most successful and in time the natural bush will skirt each fairway, thus making a stray shot almost unplayable. As with the tees, the fairways are stolonised after pre-plant nutrients are added, this is done in the larger areas with a muck spreader, then they are disced in and repeatedly rolled.

The watering system or reticulation as is the word here, is complicated to say the least and is vast. The bore holes have been sunk to feed water to the lakes which, in turn, are pumped into the pump house area which is situated under ground. Massive pumps then push the water to each part of the course controlled by a main computer in our shed. Each fairway has its own satellite computer which can be operated manually if needed. We are using Toro 620 heads, 2,500 of them in all, working on 80/90psi.

We have at the moment three full-time staff learning the programmes and trouble-shooting the whole system in conjunction with the installers, Challenge Irrigation Ltd. I won't say there haven't been prob-

EDUCATION

lems, but most have been ironed out by now. The cost of the system will be about A\$3½ million.

One or two observations about greenkeeping in Australia, at least in W.A. could also prove interesting to my friends back in Britain. They seem to have to use a great deal more chemicals and fertilisers because of the leaching out of the sandy soil. This adds to the thatch problems of course, so maintenance is far more intensive than in the UK. It is not uncommon for whole fairways to be sprayed out and restolonised with couch grass. This gives a good cover but after a while thatches up again if not maintained properly. Courses out here are run more on American lines, the superintendents have a good association and are very professional in their approach to the job. They are mostly well paid and a car is normally part of their wage package. A four wheel drive vehicle is essential on a course of this size, as are the many trial bikes used to get around the course. Most staff carry a radio to contact each other



and it is surprising how much time this saves.

Naturally I have gained a great

deal of experience since working here and am learning new things daily.

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THE MASTERS OF FINE TURF PRODUCTION

Improving on perfection at Shipley

John Lelean visits the Yorkshire Course where the staff rebuilt a green in thirty days

Only a few miles from the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley in the lovely Harden Valley, there is a golf course where the greenkeeping staff have accomplished a minor miracle. Under the direction of the head greenkeeper, they stripped, excavated and re-built their fifth green and had it ready for play in just a month!

Yes, you are reading it right, by careful pre-planning, the total commitment of the staff and the unreserved backing from club officials, the par five, re-shaped fifth green was ready for play and putting perfectly in 30 days.

It would have been less, but September if you remember was a wet month in Yorkshire.

The architect, organiser, motivator and principal workhorse for this project was Patrick Murphy, Head Greenkeeper at Shipley Beckfoot Golf Club, a parkland course with a touch of moorland on the residential outskirts of Bradford.

Shipley Beckfoot is one of two courses in the area, the other known as Shipley Northcliffe, is a little nearer Bradford and more exposed, giving extensive views towards the Yorkshire Moors.

Beckfoot has a pedigree, which in racing terms would put it into the thoroughbred class.

Because of increasing demand for membership from the affluent owners and managers of the thriving woollen industry, after the first world war, the club acquired 123 acres in the picturesque Harden Valley to build a new course and moved lock, stock and barrel from their 18 holes at nearby Moorhead in 1921, where the land proved difficult to maintain.

The controlling body at that time certainly knew what they were doing. Not only did they acquire a



Excavation starts on the fifth green. Lifted turf laid out on polythene sheeting on edge of the fairway.

superb tract of land, but capitalised on their good fortune by engaging Messrs Colt, Alison and Mackenzie with James Braid to design a course to be proud of.

Harry Colt was the master, Charles Alison and Alister Mackenzie his associates, though Alison went on to design courses in Spain and Japan, Mackenzie who has many Yorkshire courses to his credit found fame and fortune in the USA.

Colt's designs are legendary, Stoke Poges, St. George's Hill, the two courses at Wentworth and the New Course at Sunningdale as well

as the revision of both courses at Royal Portrush on the Antrim Coast.

My friend and mentor Fred Hawtree II, has said British golfers do not care who designed their course. If only those who sport designer golf wear with such pride would campaign for similar tributes for golf course architects, there would be at least a brass plaque at Shipley Beckfoot if not bronze statues at the entrance.

But to return to the subject of the exploits of Patrick Murphy, the Scotsman with the Irish name, here is a working head greenkeeper, who manages to perfection the balance

Figure 1 Calculation table used at Shipley

Area	6.35mm	12.7mm	25.4mm	50.8mm	76.2mm	101.6mm	152.4mm
sq.metres	.25ins	.5ins	1 inch	2 ins	3 ins	4 ins	6 ins
	cubic metres	cubic metres	cubic metres	cubic metres	cubic metres	cubic metres	cubic metres
100	0.7	1.4	2.5	5.0	7.8	10.1	15.1
200	1.4	2.5	5.0	10.1	15.1	20.1	30.6
300	2.1	3.9	7.8	15.1	22.9	30.6	45.7
500	3.2	6.4	12.8	25.6	38.4	50.8	76.4
1000	6.4	12.8	25.6	50.7	76.4	101.5	152.5
4047	25.6	51.2	102.8	205.7	308.5	411.4	617.0

The above figures give the amounts of soil compost etc required to cover given areas to various depths (unconsolidated)

UP DATE

Spring 1989

ON THE GREEN

Ransomes GT. State-of-the-art greens mowing

This low profile Greens Triple allows you to achieve as near perfect greens mowing as possible. The GT incorporates a host of unique features giving you precise control over all mowing operations.

At its heart is an electronic control box which allows the operator to pre-determine the precise working speed and cutting ratio in order to achieve the finish required. This setting can then be maintained for every green or be re-set to suit changing conditions.

Cuts per metre are displayed on a digital read-out and engine hours and cutting hours are recorded.

The GT is all hydraulic. Hydraulic drive provides instant forward and reverse, the hydraulically driven, 9 knife floating head cutting units give 1.68 metre working width and can be



quickly interchanged without tools.

Any combination of units can be locked out of work by simple toggle

switches and power-steering gives effortless control and exceptional manoeuvrability.

Classic greens mowing from Ransomes Super Certes

The pedestrian controlled Super Certes is designed and built specifically for the professional user who demands only the best mowing machine for his greens.

The smooth running petrol engine has 'easy pull' starting and separate clutches operate the landroll and cutting cylinder.

The high quality, 10 knife cutting

cylinder ensures the finest possible finish giving 138 cuts per metre. Height of cut can be micro adjusted from 3 to 13 mm.

There are two models to choose from giving 51 or 61cm cutting width and optional extras include power driven wheels for easy transport between greens.



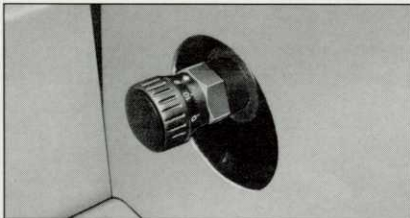
The precision-engineered Super Certes.

It's quieter, it's smoother - the Motor 350D

The Motor 350D incorporates two new features for the coming season. First, a new, higher capacity Kubota water-cooled diesel engine which still produces 38 hp but at a lower speed of 2350 rpm for considerably lower noise levels.

Second, a variable speed control that lets you vary cylinder speed independently of forward and engine speed, ideal for coping with long, lush grass.

The Motor 350D is tailor made for cost-effective fairway mowing giving fast mowing and simplicity of operation plus real savings in running costs.



The variable speed control is located within easy reach of the operator.



The Motor 350D with new 38hp diesel engine.

Mowing efficiency comes from the five Sportcutter floating head cutting units giving a cutting width of 3.5 metres.

All hydraulic drive and lift, instant

forward and reverse and power steering provide outstanding manoeuvrability and ease of handling, making the Motor 350D a leader in cost-effective fairway maintenance.

Versatile Gangs

Ransomes trailer hydraulic gang mowers – 5-unit Hydraulic 340TG and 7-unit Hydraulic 465TG – give you more flexibility in the choice of towing vehicle and all the benefits of hydraulic power gang mowing on the fairway.

These mowers are self-contained and designed for a quick hitch-up to various types of towing vehicle of suitable horse power provided it has a standard PTO shaft and towing point.



Hydraulic 340TG



Mounted Hydraulic 5

Overcome undulations

The Mounted Hydraulic 5 is designed for fairways and semi-rough where undulations can make mowing difficult.

The five floating head cutting units give a crisp cut and excellent ground following. With hydraulic lift and lower in seconds, the Mounted Hydraulic 5 will crosscut fairways and it also folds for easy transport.

Thatch control

The Verticut 214 controls the lateral surface growth of turf on fairways by verticutting, thereby preventing the build-up of thatch.

The floating head action of the verticut units follows undulations preventing damage to the turf.

Verticutting encourages new growth and ensures that surfaces are maintained in peak condition.

Verticut units are available as extras for the Mounted Hydraulic 5 and Motor 350D.



Verticut 214

TEES & SURROUNDS

New diesel power unit for the Motor 180D

A new 10.5 hp twin cylinder diesel engine with electric starting now makes the Motor 180D more efficient, more economical.

This most versatile ride-on triple with its 7-knife fully floating head cutting units ensures the best finish for your tees, approaches and surrounds.

Instant forward and reverse drive lets you trim close to obstructions, and the single rear wheel steering makes it easy to manoeuvre around them. All 3 cutting units are lifted and lowered hydraulically.



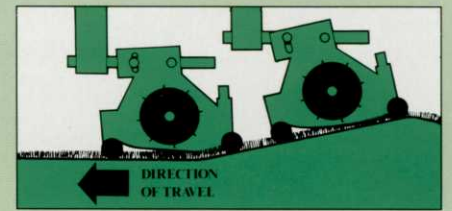
The Motor 180D has 1.8m cutting width.

All round the new Motor 180D represents the best in compact ride on mowers for performance and efficiency.

'Sportcutter' Floating Head Cutting Units

One of the principal reasons for Ransomes premier reputation at golf courses throughout the nation is the quality of the hydraulic 'Sportcutter' fully floating head cutting units.

These units pivot fore and aft as well as laterally, producing an even height-of-cut on fine, undulating turf and helping to prevent 'scalping'. The floating head units include a front roll to ensure an immaculate finish to turf all around the course.



BUNKERS

Super Rake gets super new engine

The Super Rake has a new 12 hp water cooled diesel engine with electric starting, all-hydraulic drive and single pedal operation. Transport speeds up to 9 mph. Mid-mounted weeder attachment with adjustable hydraulic depth control is standard equipment.

The alternative Motor Rake has an 8 hp petrol engine and mechanical drive.

Super Rake takes the hard work out of bunker maintenance.



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New Top Dresser for TMV

The incredible versatility of the TMV turf maintenance vehicle, is further

extended by the introduction of a new top dresser.

The Ransomes Turfco top dresser drives new soils down to the base of turf, evenly and accurately. Regular top dressing levels the turf and promotes decomposition of thatch. Special top dressing mixtures will also improve drainage and stimulate turf growth.

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A high-speed rotating brush drives top dressing down into the turf.

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NEW

RANSOMES TURFTRAK SYSTEM

A versatile new concept in grounds maintenance for all seasons. From the height of summer to the depths of winter the Turftrak will be kept busy on a host of work from mowing grass to clearing debris from the course.

There is a choice of three power units. The Turftrak 2, two-wheel drive with 16hp watercooled diesel engine. Turftrak 4, four wheel drive, 16 hp or the more powerful 21 hp model.

Each model provides economical

operation through the diesel power and hydrostatic drive plus positive traction and outstanding manoeuvrability. The four-wheel drive units are quite at home on rough, wet and inclined terrain.



Turftrak 2 with Triplex Reel Mower



Turftrak 4 with three blade rotary mower

Grasscutting versatility with all the trimmings

For mowing there's the **Triplex Reel Mower**, its hydraulically driven cutting units giving a cutting width of 1.88 metres, and a perfect finish for approaches, green surrounds and backs of bunkers.

The **Rotary Mower** offers a new level of mowing performance on regularly maintained grass areas.

The choice of three cutting widths – 1.21, 1.52 or 1.82 metres – means there's a mower to suit a wide range of applications.

There's a host of further attachments

available including two sizes of **Dozer Blades**, 1.21 and 1.52 metres, ideal for moving sand, earth, aggregates, etc.

The **Slip Scoop** has a big capacity scoop bucket and a 7-position manual trip for easy dumping.

The labour-saving **Sand Trap Blade** with hydraulic 'front and rear' tilt angle is ideal for bunker maintenance.

Leaves and the most stubborn debris are quickly cleared with the **Power Blower**, it will even clear away water laying on the course without fear of damage to the turf.

TURFTRAK QUICK CHANGE SYSTEM

All attachments are changed in minutes without the need for tools.

Simply drive forward until the hydraulically activated hitch arms engage the attachment arm pins and locking clamps.

Then install the drive belt. Simple.



Dozer Blade

Slip Scoop

Sand Trap Blade

Power Blower



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ON THE COURSE

between the administration, budgeted finance, management of staff and still performs a skilled working day out on the course.

His daily log lists all the activities performed by the greenstaff, notes the weather conditions, highlights any problems encountered and records means to overcome them.

The fifth green as can be seen by referring to the log had been causing problems for some time. Thatch was building up despite regular spiking, slitting, hollow tining, verti-draining and even mole ploughing. The basic problem was bad drainage and compaction, so the decision was made to dig it up.

Patrick went to the club committee with his proposals, well armed with a plan of campaign, backed by figures of the quantity of materials required, man hours to complete the job by direct labour, together with an estimate of the total cost.

Now this was not as difficult to produce as it may seem at first sight, once Patrick revealed his secret formula for the benefit of greenkeeper colleagues.

His table of quantities closely guarded over many years first appeared in a Sutton Seed Catalogue now yellowed with age but carefully preserved and this has proved invaluable. (See Fig 1.)

Together with the experience of rebuilding four other greens at Beckfoot, in previous years, each time learning pitfalls to avoid and methods to improve, he set out in the first week of September last year completely confident of completing the task on schedule.

The major problem that had to be overcome was where to store the massive piles of material needed to re-build the 486 square yards of green and the green surround. The only place without turning the course into a motorway construction site was the club car park and here, the Green Chairman Mr Fred Wilkinson, Patrick's greatest ally, paved the way to obtain Committee support.

With such a tight schedule to complete in a month all the material had to be deposited on site, despite turning the club environs into a builders yard. To fill the base he ordered 101.5 cubic metres of single



Hard limestone used in the re-construction of the fifth green at Shipley.

size large hard limestone about an inch and a half across. A type obtainable locally that has proved not to break up, which was laid to a depth of about 4 inches.

On top, small stone half inch size was laid to a depth of two inches and this required 50.7 cubic metres.

A similar quantity of sharp sand was ordered for the next layer also to a depth of two inches.

Finally a three to one sand/soil mix was needed for the growing medium laid at a depth of

ON THE COURSE

nine inches. For the green construction, surrounds and other projects Patrick ordered 254 cubic metres.

To the calculated costs had to be added the cost of labour, 700 hours in all including overtime, plus the use of existing club equipment and fuel.

Polythene sheeting used to lay out the turf on banking above the green site was donated by one of the members, as were the stakes used for marking out.

The overall size of the existing green was 510 square yards, but it was decided to reduce this to 486 square yards (27 × 18), by taking seven yards from the front and adding four yards at the back.

A bunker on the right of the green was removed completely as it had proved difficult to maintain, the one on the left had the position changed and graded.

It was decided the new green would be built into the existing contours of the land, level from side with a 35 inch fall from the back to the front, carefully measured so the fall was five inches every 12 feet.

To overcome the previous water-logging a grid drainage system was introduced not only on the green area but extending into the green surround and then linked up to the existing fairway drains which ran on into a beck.

The bunker was also drained and drainage pipes extended well into the green approach area.

The method of operation was first to cut a temporary green in front of the work area so play could continue throughout September. Then all the turf was lifted and laid out on



Drains and stone carpet completed. Sharp sand laid to a depth of two inches, ready for the nine inches of top mix. Note the marker posts at 12 foot centres with coloured bands showing the level to be achieved. The flag post for the temporary green can be seen in front of the workings to allow play to continue throughout the month.

the polythene sheeting, grass side up on the bank overlooking the working area.

The plastic sheeting prevented roots growing down, but kept the turf moist and had it required watering it was easy to hose over.

Once the site was excavated the drains were installed covered by around half an inch of stone above and below. Marking stakes were put in exactly 12 feet apart to 12 foot centres, so working from back to front each stake was precisely 12 feet apart.

Here Patrick used another neat trick. Using coloured tape he marked each post to the depth each layer of material would be laid. The bottom mark was at 4 inches for

large stone, the second up 2 inches for small stone, the third up a further 2 inches for the sand layer and the fourth at 9 inches for the sand/soil growing medium. (Fig 2).

Each level allowing for the 5 inch fall every 12 feet, keeping the side to side measurements level. To achieve accuracy he placed the first stakes in the centre of the construction.

Once the two lateral drains were dug and laid, the method of operation was to divide the working area into four sections taking a line from the back of the green to the front. Starting at section one, the levels were built up from the drain to stone carpet, small stone, sand and then sand/soil mix. (Fig 3).

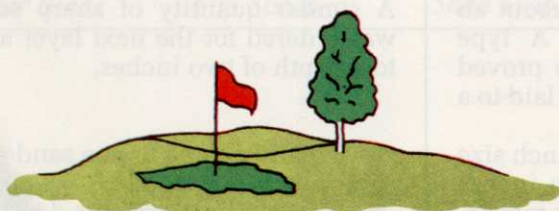
The nine inch layer of three parts sand and one part soil was mixed by

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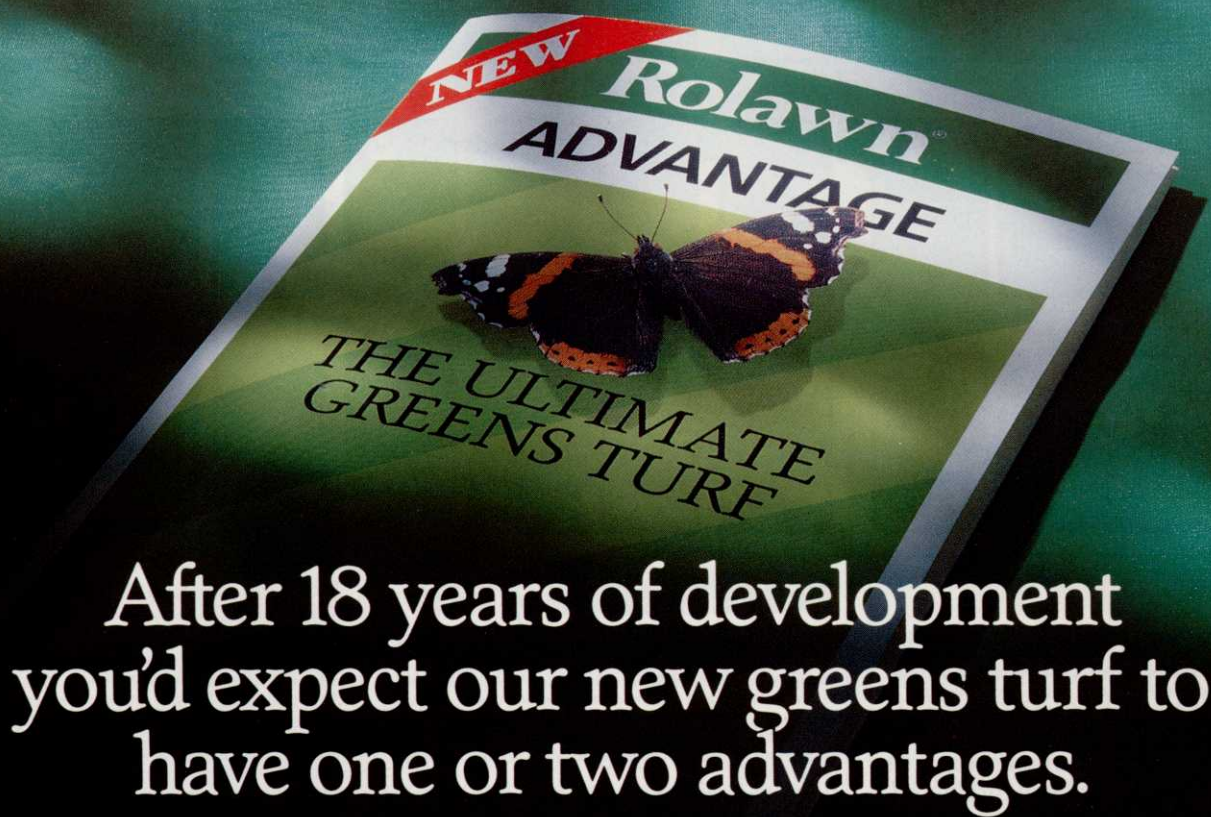
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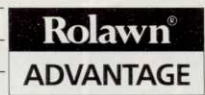
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ON THE COURSE

Pat Murphy using the bucket on the back of the McConnell digger. He built the mix up in layers, dropping three buckets of sand to one of soil and then turning them over until the consistency was right.

The reason behind this method of operation was to avoid machinery churning up the various levels whilst working on the next. It also avoided potential damage to the drains.

Finally the top layer was raked level, the marker posts removed and the turf relaid together with the additional turf bought to replace damaged or worn pieces.

The benefits have been considerable according to Green Chairman, Mr Fred Wilkin-son. He said the members now have a green playable throughout the year where in the past this original 1921 construction was wet through most of the winter and often unplayable after a heavy downpour during the Summer months.

Patrick is the first to pay tribute to his staff who were totally involved in the operation from the start. They each had a job to do in addition to maintaining the course during a busy period of play and were prepared to work through all the daylight hours, to finish the job on time.

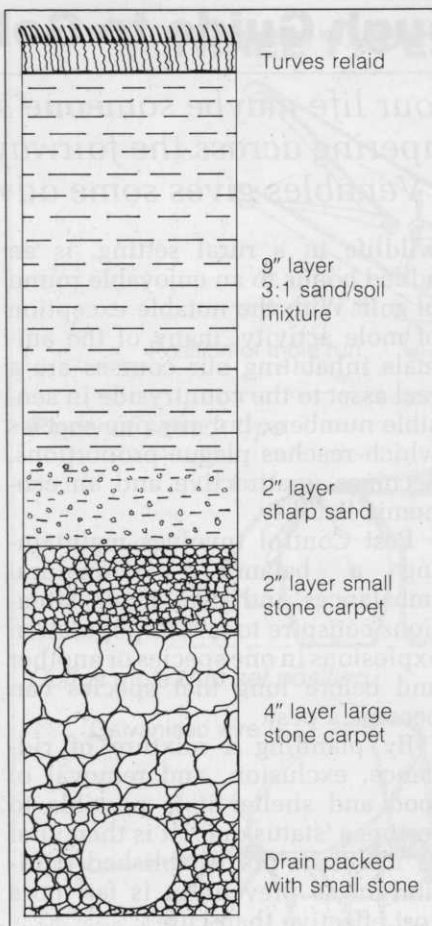


Fig. 2

When completed the second section was treated in similar fashion and so on until all four areas were built up in similar fashion.

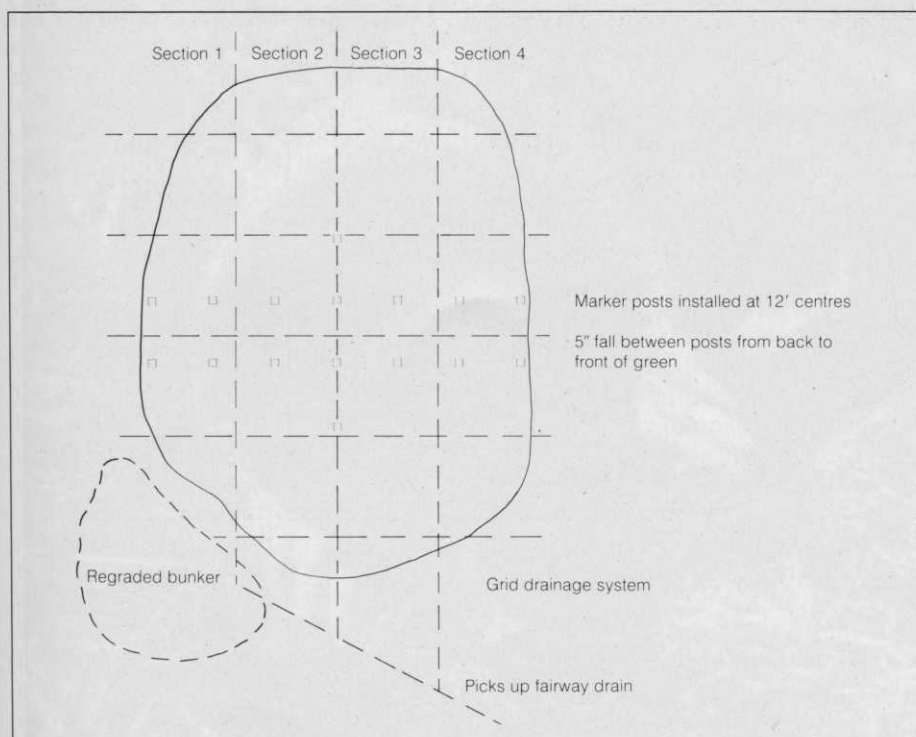


Fig. 3

One of his five greensmen is fully qualified with a City and Guilds Certificate, another has completed phase 2, two are on the first year course and in addition he has another assistant greenkeeper.

Facilities for the staff have been regarded as a priority at Shipley Beckfoot and when alterations to the club house were completed last year a new greenstaff complex was incorporated into the building.

Patrick has a small but adequate office, leading into a superb security chemical store. A tiled shower, with lockers for overalls and boots complete the section which has received high praise from the local environmental health inspectors.

Figure 4 Costs for rebuilding

Sand	£2,033.00
Large stone	£639.00
Small stone	£319.00
Top soil	£350.00
Additional turf	£385.00
Drainage pipe	£150.00
Wooden sleepers	£320.00
(Required for supporting machinery on course)	
Hire of turf lifter	£100.00
Hire of JCB	£150.00

Total £4,446.00

The greenstaff have their own rest room at the end of the block with a microwave oven, refrigerator, radio, TV, dining table and chairs, a shower with hot and cold water, wash basins and toilet.

Down one side of the room there are built-in padded benches used by all of the staff who sleep on the premises on Friday nights so they are able to start work at crack of dawn on Saturday morning, cutting greens, raking bunkers putting out the tee markers and generally ensuring the course is in perfect condition for the weekend competitions.

The early start suits everyone. The course is ready for play when the first golfer arrives at 7.30am and the staff have finished their morning's work well before breakfast.

Patrick Murphy has been the Head Greenkeeper at Shipley Beckfoot Golf Club for 19 years. He moved down from Scotland to take the job in February 1970, relinquishing a similar position at West Linton Golf Club in Peebleshire.

MANAGEMENT

A Greenkeeper's Rough Guide to Golf Course Pests

What is a pest? The bane of your life maybe someone's affectionate pet or the delightful fluffy bunnies scampering across the fairways or playfully digging holes in the bunkers. Andrew Venables gives some advice on pest control.

The dictionary definition of a pest is 'a troublesome or destructive person or creature'. Some greenkeepers have been heard to include golfers under this first category, but the law of the land forbids the ultimate solution, so this leaves us to consider the second category of creatures.

The average golfer seeks an interesting test of his ability in attractive surroundings where both the fairways and greens comprise top quality turf.

For the purpose of this article I will confine most of my observations to the damage caused by two pest creatures, rabbits and moles, ignoring the sometimes greater pest, Mr Average Golfer, who can cause havoc on fine turf through his uncontrolled wielding of a lump of metal at the end of a long handle.

For many the opportunity to see

wildlife in a rural setting, is an added bonus to an enjoyable round of golf. With the notable exception of mole activity, many of the animals inhabiting our courses are a real asset to the countryside in sensible numbers, but any one species which reaches plague proportions, becomes unattractive and an economic liability.

Pest Control involves maintaining a balance - unnatural imbalances and man made situations conspire to favour population explosions in one species or another and before long that species can become a pest.

By planning a mixture of riddance, exclusion, and removal of food and shelter it is possible to restore a 'status quo'. It is then vital to maintain the established equilibrium as prevention is far more cost effective than cure.

So much of the work of pest control is 'fire fighting' and very much more expensive than anticipating the problem with a 'fire prevention' programme.

The scope of the whole subject of pest control is infinite due to the variation in sites, circumstances, conditions and personal opinion of the degree of damage one is prepared to accept, but I will expand on the control of some of our native mammals and insects which commonly cause grassland problems and suggest some suitable remedies.

The mole was mentioned earlier and is an ideal subject to begin.

Native to England and Scotland and Wales, there are no moles in Ireland other than the 'informing variety'. Their main runs follow the



MANAGEMENT

line of hedges, streams and ditches, fanning out into a maze of feeding tunnels like the veins of a leaf.

Their shovel shaped front feet dig quickly into fresh ground where they seek out a staple diet of earthworms and grubs. Soft moist soil in large quantities is then thrown up, completely disproportionate to the number and size operating in a given area.

Moles are solitary creatures meeting only to breed in the Spring. The observant mole watcher can spot the signs when the long straight surface runs become visible sometime between February and June.

Just one litter a year is normal, raised in a nest of grass or dry leaves in an enlarged part of a deep tunnel. Gestation lasts about four weeks and the litter of between two and seven off-spring are ready to leave the nest at five weeks old.

Appalling mole problems when the hills appear thick and fast overnight, seldom yield more than five or six to the acre.

The village trapper, his methods wrapped in mystic and family folklore can keep the population in check, but little more.

To eradicate mole damage entirely there are just two commercially effective methods and maybe a couple of 'also rans'.

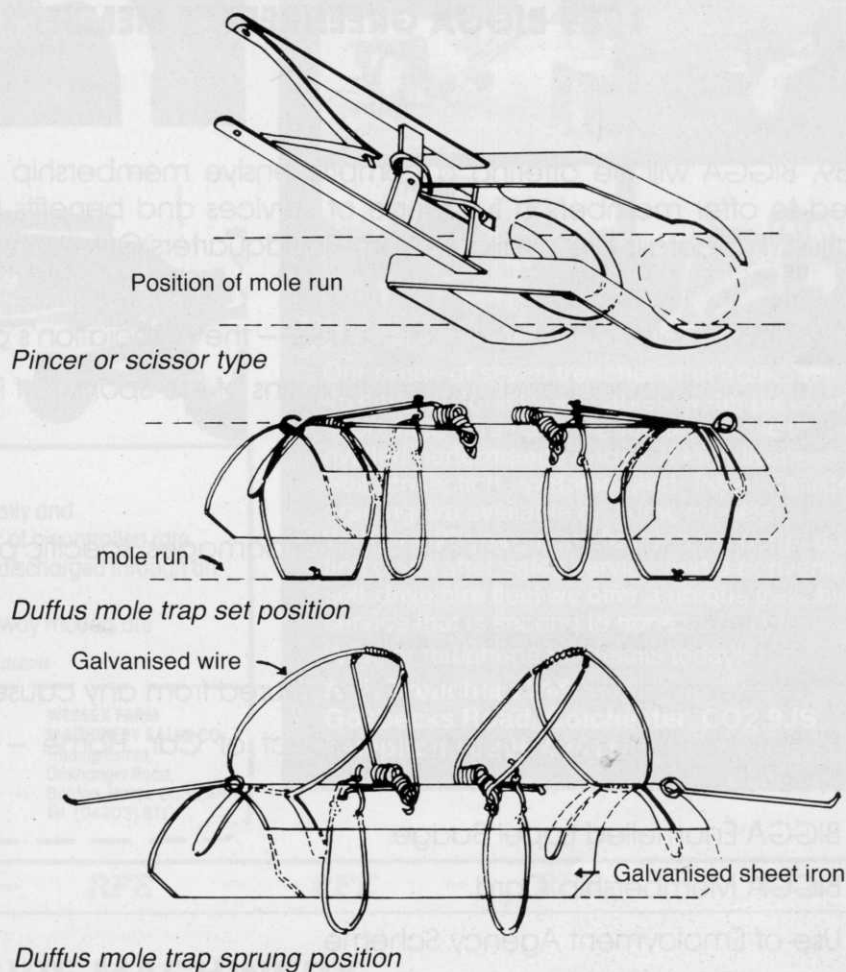
The most cost effective is poison baiting, requiring far less time and labour than trapping and when done correctly is a perfectly safe method both for humans and other animals.

Poison baiting using strychnine can be carried out on all agricultural land including golf courses subject to MAFF and ADAS controls and guidelines. It should be done by a fully trained commercial operative not only to eliminate the risks that this deadly poison can create, but it is sound business practice to give the job to someone who knows what he is doing and who can complete the work in the most cost effective way.

The cost of eradicating severe mole problems can vary according to the site, severity of infestation and neighbouring land. It can be as low as £1.00 an acre with a small problem on a large acreage to £5 an acre where the concentration of activity is confined.

A 'one-off' blitz is the most efficient method of removing moles,

THREE TYPES OF MOLE TRAP



but a follow-up treatment to mop up the inevitable survivors is vital for the long term control.

This can be easily achieved by site training your own staff in the use of gas pellets and mechanical trapping.

Where poisons cannot be used by the professionals, trapping is the next best method, but it is an art which has to be taught.

The correct use of the scissor and Druffus mole traps is best shown on the course with practical demonstrations. It requires a high degree of skill not only in positioning the trap so the wary mole is caught, but in locating the main run used as the mole's motorway to the feeding area.

Traps placed out near the mole hills or haphazardly by the uninformed is depressingly ineffective. Considerable care must be taken to excavate the trap site ensuring nothing will give the mole a clue to the presence of danger.

The hands that set the trap dare

not carry traces of nicotine, oil, or other noxious substances or the foraging mole will perform a smart about turn and find another route.

Once the area is cleared, watch out for a further invasion. Moles from neighbouring land not under your own control will start reinfestation as soon as the boundaries and tunnel systems are empty. Kill on entry is the only answer, otherwise within weeks it is back to square one.

And now to the other methods! Poison gas tablets can be useful but they are not very reliable particularly on sandy or well drained soil as most golf courses are.

You can shoot them with a 12 bore as long as someone can spare the time to sit in the field and wait for a soil heave.

Mole smokes will move them on to dig a whole new set of tunnels and hills once the old runs become too smelly for comfort.

Sprinkled broken glass, white-thorn branches, old exhaust pipes,

1989 BIGGA GREENKEEPER MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

For 1989, BIGGA will be offering a comprehensive membership package for greenkeeper members designed to offer members a full range of services and benefits in line with a progressive professional Association. Full details are available from Headquarters Office on request, but the package will include:

- (i) Monthly copies of the 'The Golf Course' – the Association's official publication.
- (ii) The annual Journal and quarterly Bulletins of the Sports Turf Research Institute.
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NEW Members will also receive a BIGGA car badge sticker and golf bag tag.

NB. Existing legal and insurance covers terminate at 31st December 1988 and it is essential that *current* members renew with effect from 1st January, 1989.

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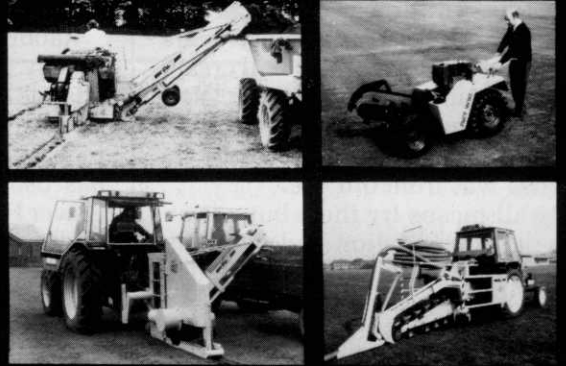
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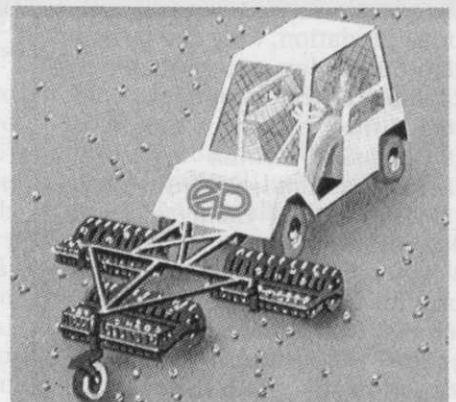
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MANAGEMENT

milk bottles, hosepipe, electric vibrators, children's plastic windmills on sticks, proprietary baits and other old wives tales will create inconvenience but little more. You may find an odd mole who died laughing, but it was more likely its demise was from old age.

By all means try them but not on our recommendation and certainly not if it costs anything. Complete control is only possible with professional help, backed by continuous monitoring by your own staff on a daily basis.

And now to rabbits, but where does one start? They are synonymous with breeding, can scratch, dig, despoil, destroy newly planted trees, turn a bunker into a children's sand pit or create a complimentary hold for putting on the green.

They may well feed and frolic on your hallowed acres, but live in comparative safety on neighbouring land across the way.

Myxomatosis, whatever view you may hold on the disease is no longer having the total extermination effect of twenty years ago. Rabbits are recovering from the infection and in many cases developing an immunity.

Their non feeding periods have changed from the deep burrows in banking to spending daylight hours in shallow depressions and deep undergrowth, though with continuous predation, they can be controlled but seldom exterminated.

Rabbits can be trapped, snared, ferreted, shot, gassed or caught by dogs. If asked which method I would recommend, I would reply "At least three of them, and any three will do!"

Work of this type can obviously be provided on a professional basis. Much can also be done voluntarily by the thousands of keen fieldsportsmen around the country. Many belong to shooting organisations such as the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (B.A.S.C.), carrying full 3rd party insurance.

Gassing holes and warrens is a worthwhile operation and can be done by staff using Phostoxin tablets in systems, which are observed to be active. Professional instruction is advisable to gain the best

effect from this method, the same applies to trapping and snaring.

Rabbits can now be fenced out simply and effectively using 3 or 4 strand electric fencing systems fixed low down at 3, +3½, +4, +4½ inch wire spacings. This method has been pioneered by Gallaghers Power Fencing, UK at Coventry. It is widely used by market gardeners, field scale horticulturalists, and farmers and is often the only practicable method of stopping damage, especially when rabbits are coming from adjoining property.

These fences, and others at different spacings are equally effective in controlling badgers, foxes and deer. They are far less obtrusive than other methods. Further information and advice can be obtained from the manufacturers.

Rabbit control is a long term project. A professionally drawn up plan of campaign combining riddance and exclusion is the first and most important step.

Many creatures cannot fairly be described as pests but will occasionally cause damage or create nuisance. Crows, other corvines and seagulls sometimes develop a taste for golf balls. Unprotected species can be stopped by removing the individual responsible. One normally only gets one shot at a crow, before the difference between a 5 iron and a 12 bore is learned.

The presence of large numbers of Cockchafer grubs in fairways and in the 'rough' will often lead to major excavations by rooks and badgers. The cure on areas frequently damaged lies in spraying the turf to kill the grubs and leather jackets, not in destroying the rooks and badgers - another example of, remove the food and the pest moves on! Likewise create a barrier, like electric fencing between a feeding area and shelter habitat and the pest feeds elsewhere.

Wildlife is something to be encouraged on golf courses. The provision of rough natural areas and ponds for conservation will enhance the appeal of any such Club. Staff trained to recognise and treat developing problems will make such areas both rewarding and valuable.

Professional consultation, service, staff training and co-ordinated help, provide the link between wildlife and habitat conservation and damage prevention.

To return to my opening question, 'What is a pest?' - some things are always pests, and anything can be a pest. Everything has its place, but it doesn't have to be on your place.

Andrew Venables is an expert in pest control systems specialising in assisting golf clubs.

He operates A & R Fairway Pest Control from Tywyn, North Wales offering both consultancy on pest problems, staff training or eradication.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

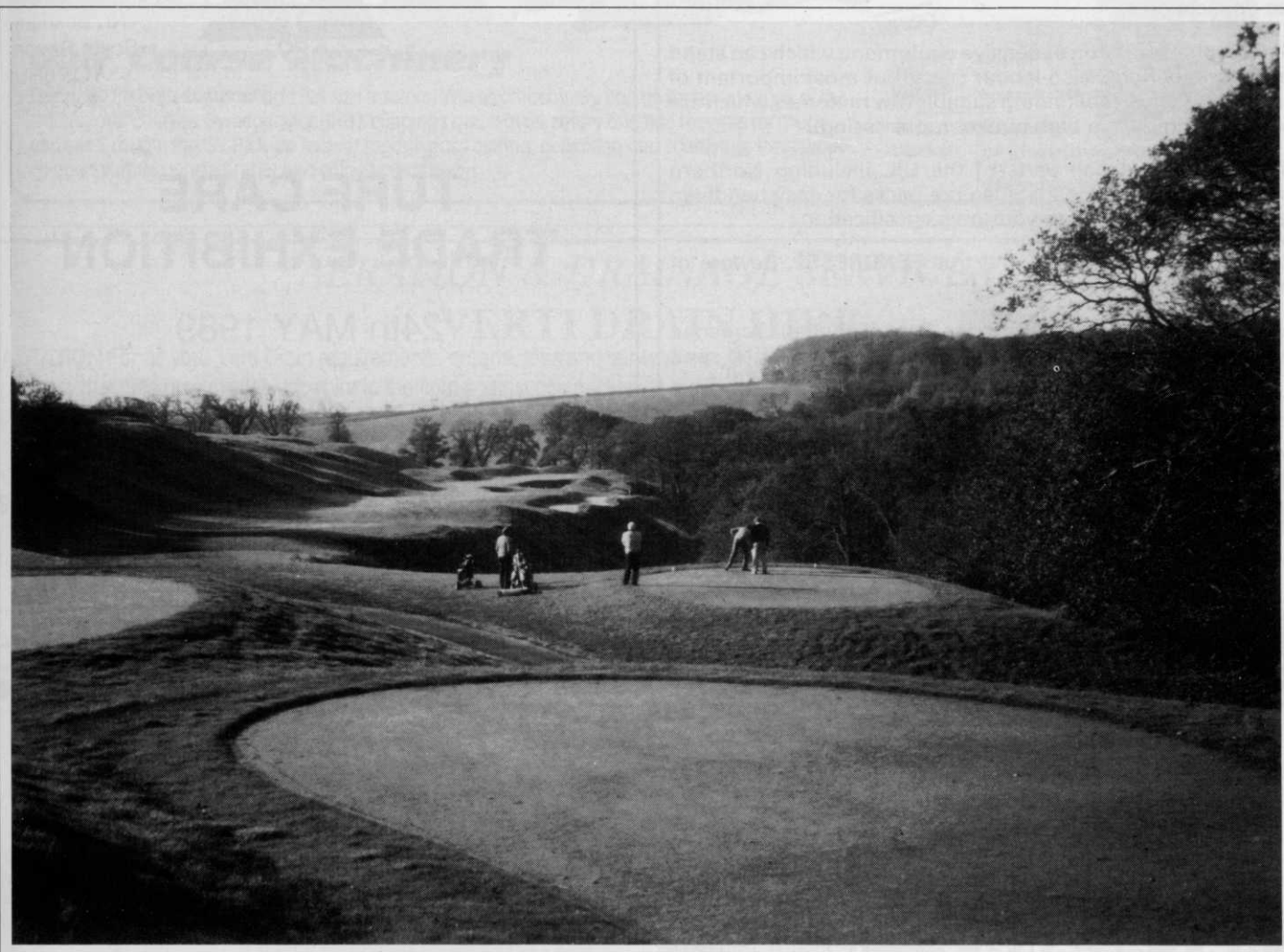
17th-23rd JULY, 1989

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.

Courses with top pedigrees

John Campbell reports on three new Golf projects using seed imported by BSH



There is a good choice of tee positions at every hole on the Jack Nicklaus International Course.

Having heard and read much about the Nicklaus International Course at St. Mellion, Cornwall, it was interesting to visit the complex recently to tour the layout and facilities by courtesy of Herman Bond, co-owner of the club with his brother, Martin. When I arrived there the place was a seething hive of activity in the morning sunshine, the car park full, a golf school in progress on the practice ground and an enthusiastic group of society golfers preparing to go out on the course. On a pleasant hillside location overlooking the golf scene, earthmoving machinery was busy preparing a site for building luxury homes as part of the complex - it seemed a superb setting.

Commanding views of the surrounding countryside from the

clubhouse and parts of the course are a scenic feature. Although there is a fall of 200 feet from the clubhouse to the lowest point of the course, by dint of extensive earth movement most of the fairways have been constructed on the level. The course layout has been designed to accommodate special routes for golf buggies and other traffic flow, also with big events in mind there are many natural vantage points to present ideal viewing facilities for spectators.

While the course was specially designed to offer a challenging test for professionals and low handicap players it also caters for the ordinary golfer by a choice of tee positions at each hole. The contemporary style of green design gives the course a good degree of character, the

mounds and traps around the putting areas are well balanced to provide contrast, depth perception and blend well with the surroundings. Water is also an attractive feature and good use has been made of lakes and streams to enhance the playing strategy.

British Seed Houses supplied all the grass seed for the course construction. Their A12 fairway mixture - 35 per cent Frida/Checker chewings fescue, 45 per cent Boreal creeping red fescue, 10 per cent Julia smooth stalked meadowgrass, 10 per cent Highland browntop bent, is an ideal blend of species now well established on all the fairways to make a good playing surface. It allows the ball to sit up well and is a boost to the golfers confidence for the next shot to the

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South West and South Wales Region

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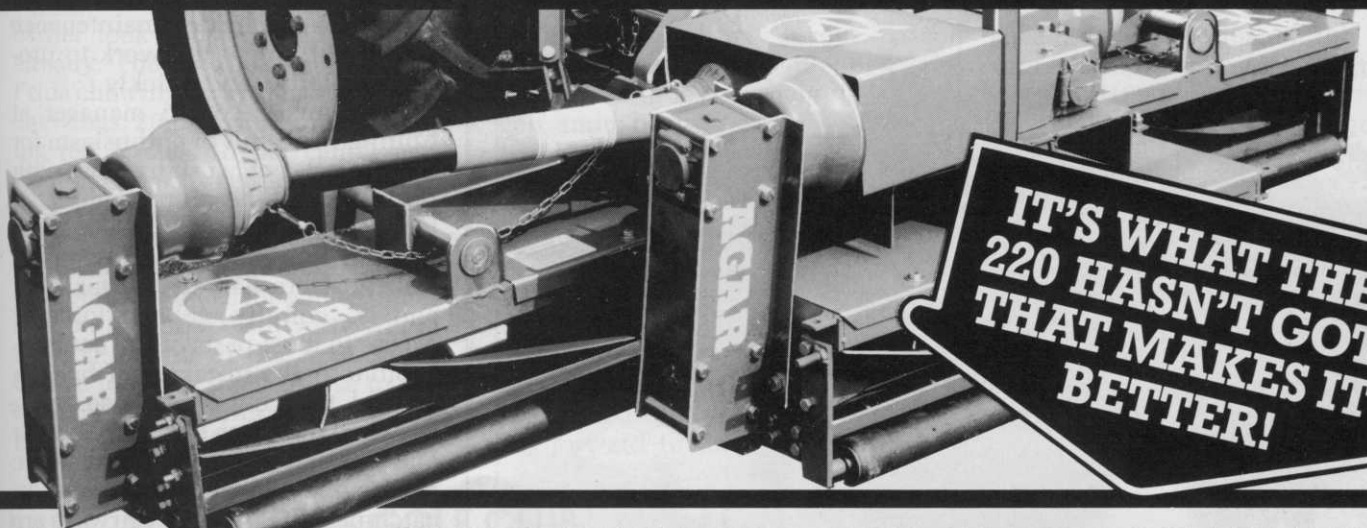
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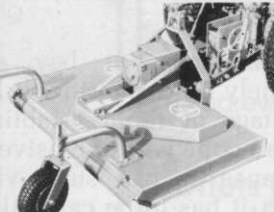
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ON THE COURSE



Water is an attractive feature of the course at St Mellion.



Good use has been made of water at the 18th hole of the Johnny Miller course at Collingtree Golf & Country Club.

green.

Penncross was used on the tees and the green where it has provided a smooth resilient surface for putting. I was also impressed by the colour and density of cover achieved. The remarkable vigour and strong stoloniferous habit of this bent grass seems to keep annual

meadow grass at bay and is extremely hard wearing. It has the advantage of rapid establishment and can cope with intensive play.

Because it has such vigorous growth it has to be carefully managed, frequent scarification or verticutting is needed to reduce thatch accumulation it also requires nitro-

gen at low rates every six weeks in the form of sulphate of ammonia. It will make excellent root growth on sand greens or those constructed on a soil peat and sand mixture. Penncross has been successfully used on as many as 50 golf courses in this country.

I have also seen the new Johnny Miller course at Collingtree Golf Village, Northampton owned by International Resort Holdings. Plans for the new complex include low density housing, 180 residences, private nursing clinic and retirement homes along the fringe of the playing areas.

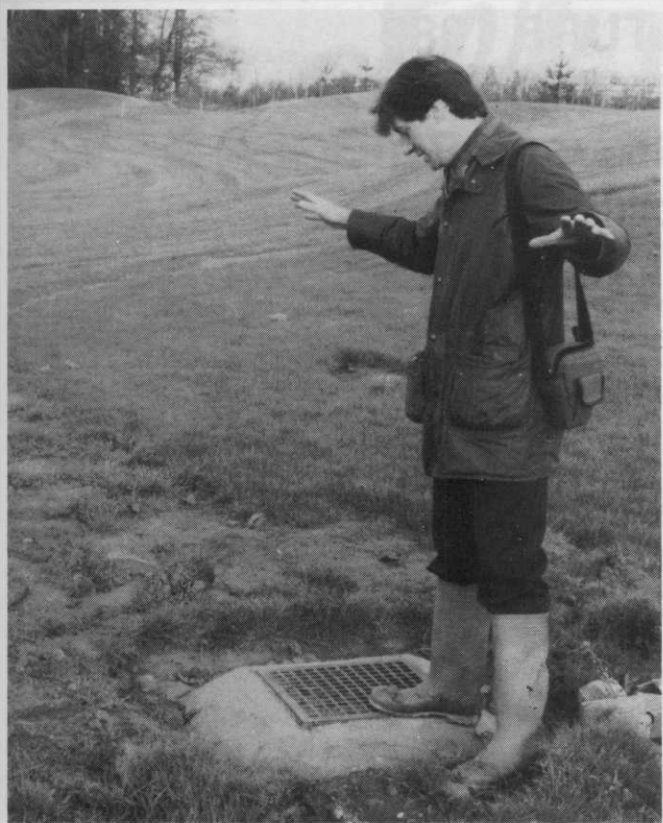
The original site for the course, a flat area of land has been skilfully transformed by earthmoving techniques to create a gently undulating landscape ideal for golf. Excavation work for lakes and swales has enabled thousands of cubic yards of soil to be moved around for the construction of mounds, greens, tees and bunkers that now look as though they had been there from time immemorial. The golf course architect has obviously considered ease and economy of course upkeep by thoughtfully providing gentle grades for machinery maintenance which will allow the work to proceed smoothly and quickly.

Peter Jones, course manager at Collingtree is full of enthusiasm for the project and working hard with his staff to get the course completed for the opening date in 1990. Their modern equipment building and staff quarters has all the facilities and is centrally situated for easy access to most parts of the course.

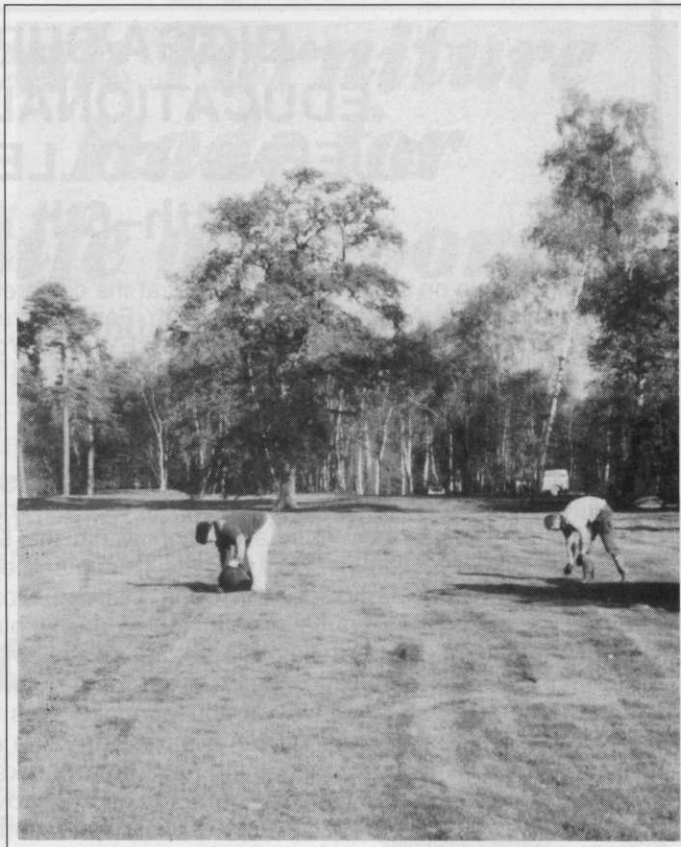
Stone paths to take golf buggies around the course are also being installed to absorb some of the wear and tear that results from this traffic movement. Storm water drains in catchment areas on the fairways are designed to discharge high volumes of water through a network of large bore pipes to adjacent lakes on the course which will also be used for irrigation.

British Seed Houses supplied all the grass seed for the 27 hole golf complex. The Penncross Bent chosen for the greens and tees has rapidly established within a short period and Peter Jones was pleased with the progress of these important surfaces. The fairway seed has also germinated satisfactorily at this stage and some fairways sown

ON THE COURSE



Peter Jones, Course Manager at Collingtree Golf & Country Club explains how the storm water drains in the catchment areas are designed to work.



Stone picking on one of the fairways on the new South Course at Wentworth.

earlier look good enough for play already. The mixture - 20 per cent Frida chewings, 25 per cent Checker chewings, 20 per cent Boreal creeping red fescue, 10 per cent Logro slender creeping red fescue, 10 per cent Highland bent and 5 per cent Julia smooth stalked meadowgrass.

All the Surrey heathland courses are popular venues for golf enthusiasts, particularly Wentworth where the completion of the new South Course to add a third course to the complex is a significant landmark in the history of this famous Club.

This is no ordinary layout - par 72, 7,100 yards - it is planned to present a real test of championship golf amid heath, heather and tree lined surroundings - a golfer's dream. The construction work was undertaken by Golf Landscapes to a design specification by John Jacobs Associates. With the contractors work completed the important phase of grooming and getting the course ready for play is a priority for Michael Hunter, clerk of works and the greenkeeping staff who are looking forward to the task they have

ahead. It is anticipated the new course will be open for play in the spring of 1990.

The above average size greens have been laid with turf from Inturf Ltd on a sand base to a specification by the Sports Turf Research Institute. British Seed Houses A12 fairway mixture has been used on the fairways which along with the greens are already looking in good shape. The amount of growth and density of cover should provide an ideal playing surface to cope with all the wear and tear of play.

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EDUCATION

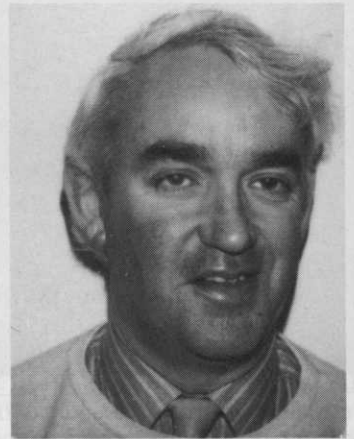
BIGGA/SUPATURF 1989 EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE QUEENS' COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, 4th-6th April, 1989

In this third profile on speakers to be heard at the conference, *THE GOLF COURSE* this month features Tony Gentil of the Cheshire College of Agriculture, Reaseheath. For Conference details, please contact Neil Thomas, Executive Director, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute, BINGLEY, West Yorkshire, BD16 1AU. Tel: 0274-560556

TONY GENTIL

Tony Gentil is Deputy Head of Horticulture at the Cheshire College of Agriculture, Reaseheath - one of the approved Greenkeeper Training Colleges. Tony has extensive experience of further education within the sphere of horticulture and management. He is also involved with the writing and editing of educational texts and has been particularly active in open learning. Tony will be elaborating on different aspects of the educational minefield and explaining the complexities of current educational opportunities. His lecture will explain the changes in philosophy and attitude towards education being developed in conjunction with the industry rather than in the traditional way of educational bodies telling the industry what it should need, and his lecture will be of particular value as the Association moves forward with its education and training plans for greenkeepers.

Tony promises to offer some encouraging and controversial insights and delegates should thereafter have a much better understanding of terms like BTEC, NCVQ, CPVE, TVEI, 'Open Learning', and Distance Learning! Conference attendees can look forward to an informative lecture.



NATIONAL TOURNAMENT 1989

Members should note that this will be held at The Lyme Regis Golf Club, Lyme Regis, Dorset from 14th-16th August 1989.

For full details, please contact

Gordon Child, Regional
Administrator, Archways, Churston
Road, CHURSTON FERRERS, Nr
Brixham, South Devon, TQ5 0HU.
Tel: 0803-844056.

G.C.S.A.A. CONFERENCE AND SHOW, ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA 6th-13th FEBRUARY, 1989

A BIGGA party of thirty persons attended the recent G.C.S.A.A. Conference and Show. A full report with photographs on this major greenkeeping event will appear in the next issue.

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AROUND THE GREEN

BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MIDLAND AND NORTH WALES SECTION

Mid Anglia Section

The first meeting of 1989 was held at Beadlow Manor Hotel, Golf and Country Club on Monday, 23rd January with a look back over 50 years in Greenkeeping through the eyes of Bob Plain.

Bob's early days at Gullane were spent mowing greens with a 16" Certes push mower, top dressing fairways with dune sand, controlling weeds by digging them out with hand forks.

Soon after World War II, Bob moved to the beautiful Beaconsfield Course in Bucks where he was to spend well over half his working life. He recalled the using of Morrow Meal as a worm killer, which needed hundreds of gallons of water to wash into the turf and then the sweeping up of barrows-full of worms as they surfaced. In later years, arsenate of lead, an evil but very effective worm-killer was introduced only to be replaced in the '60's by Chlordane. The introduction of Ransomes Overgreen was a major innovation in the late '40's but things really took off in the '60's with the first pop-up irrigation system installed at Handsworth in 1964 and in the early '70's with Triplex Ride on mowers.

Bob has also derived much pleasure from his impressive playing record, winning the Greenkeepers Annual Tournament at Sudbury Golf Club in 1947 and tie-ing for the News of the World Scratch Cup at Little Aston in 1967, only to lose the 18 Hole play-off.

Bob's talk was both interesting and colourful and was followed by a brief look further back to 1923 with a short film of a Professional Golf Tournament at Verulam Golf Club, sponsored by Mr Samuel Ryder and his brother, who a few years later donated the Ryder Cup. Each Professional was paid £5.00 to cover his expenses for the day, and the 36 hole Tournament was won by Arthur Havers, the Open Champion, whose Second Round 67 was 10 under par (bogey) and the original Course Record was bettered no less than 21 times during the day.

The film was in remarkably good condition and the holes shown have not changed in 65 years. We thank Mr Len Ryder, grandson of the sponsors, for the loan of the film and to Bob Plain for what was indeed a fascinating glimpse into the history of our great game.

Out thanks also to Mr J Minashi, managing director and members at Beadlow for the use of the club house.

We return to Beadlow Manor on Wednesday, 26th April for the Spring Tournament over 27 holes. The entry fee is £17.50 for coffee, lunch and evening dinner. This should be sent to:- Ken Bunting (0442-843359) by 19th April.

Other dates for this year's diary include:- Monday 10th July, Summer Tournament at Berkhamsted Golf Club, 36 holes. Tuesday 26th September Autumn Tournament at Buckingham Golf Club 27 holes. Thursday 7th December Christmas Scramble at South Beds Golf Club, 18 holes.

R J GOODWIN

Midland Section

Our Christmas Tournament in December attracted a record number of players and guests, over the Whittington Barracks Golf Club. Our thanks to Trevor Morris and his staff for producing the course in wonderful condition on such a still and sunny day after early frost. Two starting points proved its worth with all of us sitting down to our traditional Christmas meal by 5.30pm. Many thanks to the inside staff and also to the gentlemen who provided us with coffee and mince pies at the halfway point. First prize was won by E. King, with Ted Evans in second place. The AGM on the 13th December at Edgbaston Golf Club was conducted with 22 members present to elect the same officers and Committee as last year, plus one new Committee member Dean Cleaver.

Our 1989 Golfing Competitions are booked, the first one will be on Tuesday 25th April at Bridgnorth Golf Club, fee £12.00 per person, closing date for entry, 5th April. You will all receive an entry form for all the tournaments sometime in March. Remember you MUST always book your entry through Peter Richmond, including your entry remittance. NO-ENTRY on the day.

On the 9th January Mr David Jenkins (Charterhouse Turf Machinery) gave a very interesting talk on that age-old problem of "Compaction". He gave some very useful advice on the setting-up of a Verti-Drain machine, for different depths pattern and lift. Many thanks to David Jenkins and the 20 or so members for attending.

March 29th Moor Hall Golf Club. Your chance to hear and put your questions to Neil Thomas! Hope to see you there.

I R TOON

East Midlands Section

For the first time we held a golf tournament prior to the AGM held at the Erewash Valley Golf Club, Ilkeston, Derby on 14th November. Fifteen members played on a very successful day with the main prize donated by Maxwell Hart Limited. Our thanks to Erewash Valley Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of their course, to the inside staff for the hospitality and the excellent meal, and to Graham Arnold and his staff for the very good condition of his course. Nick Danvers, our retiring Chairman, presented the winners with their prizes who were as follows:- Winner - G. Arnold, 2 up. Second - R Willars, 1 up OL9. Third - M Billings, 1 up. Fourth - D Leatherhead, 1 down. Fifth - G Mitchell 2 down.

The AGM at 6.30pm was attended by 18 members and the following officers were elected:- Chairman Nick Root, Vice-Chairman Richard Barker, Secretary Roger Willars, Committee Graham Arnold, Nick Danvers, Paddy McCarron and Gordon Mitchell, Section representatives Nick Danvers and Roger Willars. Another first time event was the Rigby Taylor Winter Stableford held at Birstall Golf Club on Wednesday 14th December. This event to be held annually was a bring and win competition with 21 members and guests attending. Our thanks to Birstall Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of their course, to Doreen and Reg James for the excellent Christmas Dinner presentation and hospitality shown to us, and the outside staff were also thanked for the very good condition of their course. Steve Blakeman of Rigby Taylor presented the divisional winners with their Rigby Taylor Salvers, who were:- 0-14 R Willars, 40pts. 15-28M.Hopkins, 33 pts. As it was a bring and win competition, all competitors took something homewith them at the end of a successful day.

R W WILLARS

Berks, Bucks & Oxon Section

All members of the Section please note details for the forthcoming Spring Tournament:- To be held at Badgemoor Park Golf Club 24th April, 1989. The entry fee

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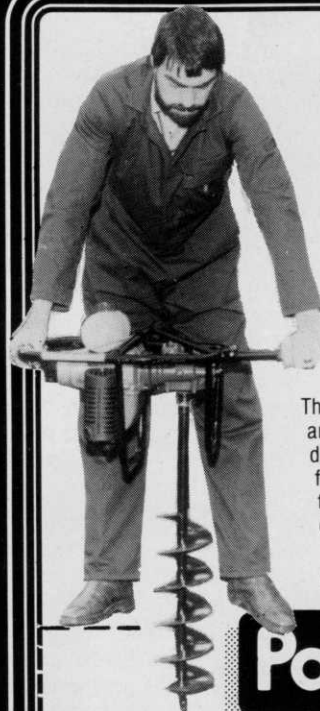
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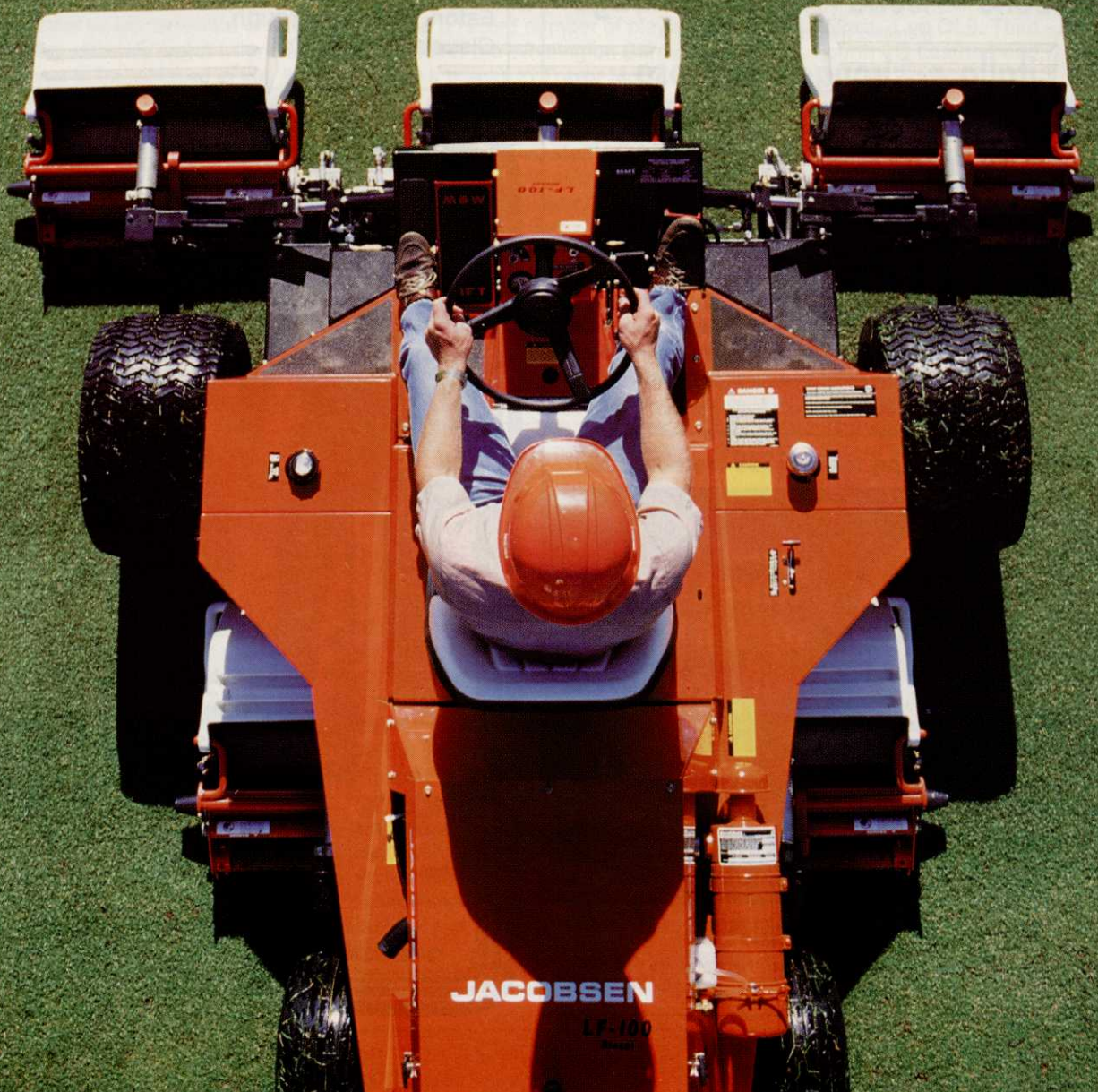
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AROUND THE GREEN

is £15.00 per person for a 36 hole competition including morning refreshments, lunch and evening dinner. First come, first served, and the first 60 people to enter with Mr Ian Rickman, 53, Woodruff Drive, Basingstoke, Hants, RG22 6NH will be the lucky ones! Starting times will be notified and NO late entries will be accepted. Details of the new Section Committee areas follows:- Chairman, Bill Paterson, Secretary, Roy Kates, Treasurer, David Childs, Publicity Secretary, Harvey Tribe, Golf Administrator, Ian Rickman. Other Committee Members are:- Des Murtagh, David Duke, Simon Edmond, David Heads, Peter Henderson. Thanks to Mr Simon Johnstone of the Berkshire College of Agriculture who gave a very successful lecture on 22nd February to 25 members on Pesticides and the Law.

H.TRIBE

North West Section

Congratulations are in order this month to two North West Section Members of the Association. First Bill Lawson is due to become National Chairman of the Association in April. Bill has been an active member of the North West Committee and the Board of Management since BIGGA was formed. It must be said that the honour of being National Chairman is no more than Bill deserves. His life revolves round greenkeeping and the BIGGA. Good luck Bill and enjoy your year in office. Secondly, our North West past Secretary David Golding, has been appointed Education Officer for BIGGA. This appointment can only be an advantage to the Association as David has worked so hard to help the Association off the ground. I am sure that David has a great deal to offer all our Members, so lets hope that greenkeepers of all ages take advantage of what David and the Association have to offer educationally. Once again, David good luck in your new venture. Members who failed to attend the half-day lecture at Bury Golf Club on 5th January missed out on a very informative day. Turfland arrived with a large selection of Brouwer equipment, but rain put paid to any demonstrations. Instead, we were shown videos of the machinery at work and a film of a 'typical day in the life of a greenkeeper'. I think his name was superman! Danny Godfrey from Inter Seeds closed the session with an excellent talk on grasses and how seeds are

collected and distributed. This man is a mine of information! The one sour note of the day was the fact that only nine people bothered to turn up; once again leaving the organisers embarrassed and apologising to people who travelled many miles to help our Members.

B.CROSS

Northern Section

Jeepers Creepers what a winter!! With conditions that would have caused old Brutus to be anything but discontented, we press on, cutting grass, working soil like silk, in an ambience most conducive to rational thought and stable foothold! Did you have a good Christmas? About thirty of our number limbered up for the event at South Leeds on the 21st taking part in our Turkey Shoot. Although scrambled at relatively short notice, a good time was had by all, with a little bit of something for about every knocker. Many thanks to Mel Guy and South Leeds for the organisation and a warm welcome. Sorry you missed the AGM. Had the journal appeared on time matters would have been different. Then came the event that had everybody buzzing: ETME. The European Turf Management Exhibition was a winner and, without doubt, is destined to become the UK's premier amenity event. Northern Section Committee members figured prominently, being in attendance throughout the period ensuring the smooth running of the seminar programme. All in all, a very well-orchestrated affair which ran without mishap. February we went on a Tiger Hunt! The "Tiger" though, on this occasion, turned out to be a lissome young lady whose fitness was patently obvious. She was pursued (hunted) through river and forest by fellas on tractors which, had you taken your mind off the bird, could be considered very suitable for golf course duties. Needless to say, she was netted in the end. Carraro was the machine, JCM our presenters on the Italian Jobs and other interesting pieces of equipment. Our thanks to JCM and Mr Gordon Henry. 1989 promises a super season golf wise, commencing on May 25th at Wakefield Golf Club. This event will produce the qualifiers for the Iseki semi-final at Baildon during July. Then it's get-your-guest-lined-up for the Invitation Tournament at Ganton on July 27th. Another event to remind you about is the Dinner Dance at Otley Golf Club on

Friday 14th April. Secure your booking now to avoid severe disappointment on 0943-72008.

D.HANNAM

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION

South Coast Section

For our February meeting, 60 Members and guests were delighted to welcome Kevin Munt as our speaker. Kevin gave a first-class illustrated talk on the arrangements for the 1987 Suntory Matchplay Championship. This was the tournament that was hit by the October Hurricane and Kevin's talk illustrated only too well the hard work that took place to enable the tournament to proceed. As was to be expected, Kevin also discussed the construction of the sand greens at Wentworth's South Course, and a lively discussion took place on the correct method of construction and maintenance required for this type of green. Our thanks to Kevin for an excellent evening and our best wishes to him and his family on his new venture as Course Manager at Munich in West Germany. The Section's golf tournaments for 1989 are as follows:- Spring Tournament Monday, 22nd May, High Post Golf Club, Summer Tournament Wednesday, 12th July Cowdray Park Golf Club, Autumn Tournament Thursday, 5th October, Isle of Purbeck Golf Club. Annual Match v South West Section Thursday, 12th September, Salisbury and South Wilts Golf Club. Please retain these details and direct all enquiries to our tournament organiser, Joe Burdett. Details of our Spring Meeting are as follows:- Mondays, 22nd May High Post Golf Club, 36 hole Medal competition teeing off from 08.30. Members wishing to play 18 holes will be entered in an 18 hole medal. Members aged over 50 can compete for the Nita Simpson Trophy. Entry fee £11.00 each and cheques to be made payable to "BIGGA South Coast Section". Written entries giving name, address, handicap and fee should be sent to Joe Burdett at the following address:- 948, Castle Lane East, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6SP. Tel. 0202-483017. Please state whether you wish to enter for the 36 hole, 18 hole or Nita Simpson Trophy. Entries to arrive no later than SATURDAY 6th MAY. Section representatives to compete for the Regional Iseki Tournament at Budleigh Salterton Golf Club, on 6th July will be chosen following



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AROUND THE GREEN

this competition. Finally, our best wishes to Eric James who is retiring from Parkstone Golf Club. Eric, has ably represented greenkeeping and greenkeepers over many, many years and is well-known to all in the industry. Justice cannot be done in these few lines to Eric's achievements, and I am hoping that he can be persuaded to write an article on his many and varied experiences. Thank you Eric, for all your hard work over the years much appreciated by all Members of the Section. **B.DENNIS.**

SOUTH EAST REGION Surrey Section

Guildford Golf Club was the venue for last year's Turkey Trot where 48 Members of the Section turned out to play in this popular fixture. Results:-First, B.Eastman, 40 pts, Second, S.McMillan, 38 pts, Third, J.Chambers, 37 pts, (back 9), Fourth, D.Woodward, 37 pts. Considering the windy conditions, the results were still very good proving there are still too many bandits playing off false handicaps! Our thanks to Guildford Golf Club and Rob Denning and his greenstaff for having the course in such excellent condition. On December 17th, a Dinner Dance was arranged at Leatherhead Golf Club, which I am told was a fantastic night for all who attended. This was a great chance for the wives to meet each other and get away from greenkeeping, to which their life is accustomed! As for the men, it was probably just another day at work!! Fixtures 1989:- Gentlemens Dinner, Walton Heath Golf Club, 17th March. BIGGA v Secretaries, Malden Golf Club, 10th March, Spring Tournament, Betchworth Park Golf Club, 11th May. Cresta Cup, New Zealand Golf Club, 12th

June. England v Scotland, Walton Heath Golf Club, 4th July. McMillan Tankard, Sunningdale Golf Club, 4th August. Silver Salver, Leatherhead Golf Club, 21st September. Autumn Tournament, Worplesdon Golf Club, 23rd October. Turkey Trot, Effingham Golf Club, 8th December. The Committee for 1989 is elected as follows:- Chairman, Clive Osgood. Vice-Chairman, Ian McMillan. Secretary, Jim Cassidy. Treasurer, Stuart McMillan. Other Members, Jim Russell, Bob Wiles, Dave Johnstone. Any queries regarding problems within the Section, should approach any of the above named. **J.RUSSELL**

Kent Section

On 13th December, we had our Turkey Trot competition at Ashford Golf Club. The winner was Steve Suttle of Sene Valley, closely followed by Andy Toomey of Bexley Heath, Malcolm Graham of Littlestone, Bob Cook of Parkers and Paul Copsey of North Foreland. Bob Cook's performance earned him best finalising position in one of our competitions (as he kept reminding everybody), but what a fantastic prize was in store for him. What appeared to be a box containing a bottle of scotch turned out to be a rather large article of ladies underwear wrapped around a metal bar and wrapped in newspaper!! It makes you wonder who the cruel culprits could have been to have put this prize on the table, but at least some thought had gone into it and it was different from all the other bottles of spirits on the table. Never mind Bob, they may come in handy one day! The weather on the day was dull and damp, but the 30 competitors had a good day and thanks go to Willie and his staff and the catering

staff at Ashford for their efforts. In the evening, we held our AGM and all the existing Committee were re-elected:- Chairman, Chris Mardon. Secretary, John Millen. Members. Derek Keen, Andy Arthur, and Paul Copsey. On 31st January, a machinery clinic was held at West Malling Golf Club and very many thanks must go to Vic Maynard and Paice and Sons for organising an excellent and very informative day. The 30 or so delegates heard an excellent talk from Nigel Church of Ransomes in the morning, with the afternoon devoted to Kubota engines and tractors. Hopefully all those who attended learned a little more about basic principles of servicing and repairing all types of machinery, and perhaps one day we may repeat the exercise on a larger scale as the topic is very relevant and an excellent chance to gain valuable knowledge, save time and money. All members should have received a newsletter and a programme of events for the forthcoming year, and hopefully all Members will support the events as well as they did last year. New faces would be welcome. Our Section grew by over 20 last year and perhaps will grow in strength this year. It's with much sadness I learned of the passing of the Supaturf representative, John Field, at the end of January. John was a welcome and regular visitor to my previous Club for Supaturf and previously TMS. He was one of the characters of the profession. His untimely death is especially sad as he was so looking forward to full retirement and spending more time with his wife and playing golf. He will be fondly remembered and may I wish his wife and family our sympathies and best wishes for the future. **P.COPSEY**

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Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of modern greenkeeping, conversant with automatic watering systems, machinery maintenance, turf management, and have the ability to control and motivate 3 or 4 staff.

No accommodation available.

Applications in writing, including a full C.V. stating salary to be sent to:-

**The Secretary,
Lewes Golf Club,
Chapel Hill,
Lewes.
E. Sussex.
BN7 2BB**



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HEAD GREENKEEPER

(Manual)

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Possession of a clean, current driving licence is preferred.

**Application form and job description etc. can be obtained
from the Personnel Services Manager, Civic Centre,
Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 4AW Telephone: Medway (0634) 732706
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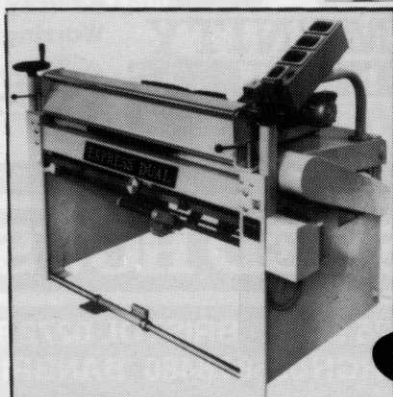
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No accommodation available, salary commensurate with experience, an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic hard working person at this expanding private members club.

Please apply in writing including a full C.V. to:-

**Mr. A. Harrison,
Secretary/Manager,
Retford Golf Club Ltd.,
Brecks Road, Ordsall,
Retford, Notts.
DN22 7UA**

HEAD GREENKEEPER

required by

DYRHAM PARK GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

An excellent opportunity for a well qualified Head Greenkeeper exists at this first class private members club. The applicant must have the essential skills and experience to fill this important position which carries a top salary and other benefits.

Please reply in writing giving full details and experience to:-

**The Secretary,
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Galley Lane,
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Please apply with a full Curriculum Vitae to:

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APPOINTMENTS

ST ENODOC GOLF CLUB

invites applications for the post of

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

from persons of proven ability and experience in all aspects of Course Maintenance and knowledge of machinery maintenance with ability to direct and motivate staff. Relevant qualifications would be an advantage.

References will be required.

No accommodation available.

Salary negotiable.

Applications in writing to:

**The Secretary,
St Enoc Golf Club,
Rock, Wadebridge,
Cornwall.
PL27 6LB**

(Telephone: Trebetherick 3216)

LLANWERN GOLF CLUB

invite applications for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

The successful applicant will be responsible for a 27 hole golf course.

Applicants should have extensive experience in the theory and practise of Golf Course Management.

Applicants should apply in writing and include a full C.V. to:-

**The Secretary,
Llanwern Golf Club,
Golf House,
Tennyson Avenue,
Llanwern, Newport,
Gwent. NP6 2DY**



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The Manager, Frinton Golf Club, 1 The Esplanade, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex. CO13 9EP.

APPOINTMENTS

KNOWLE GOLF CLUB, BRISTOL

require an

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be suitably qualified in greenkeeping with a knowledge of modern equipment.

Salary negotiable. Apply in writing to:-

**The Secretary,
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Fairway, Brislington, Bristol. BS4 5DF**

HAVERHILL GOLF CLUB

require a

GREENKEEPER

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No accommodation available.

Applications in writing stating age, qualifications and experience to:-

**The Secretary,
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Invite applications for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Must be fully qualified and experienced in all aspects of course and machinery maintenance.

No accommodation available but help given towards removal expenses.

Salary negotiable depending upon age and experience, but commensurate with this important position.

**Apply to:-
The Secretary,
Shrewsbury Golf Club,
Condover, Shropshire.
SY5 7BL**

MUSWELL HILL GOLF COURSE

requires

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Applicants should be knowledgeable in the use and maintenance of a wide range of machinery, course equipment and modern greenkeeping methods.

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Handwritten applications with C.V. to:-

**The Secretary,
Muswell Hill Golf Club,
Rhodes Avenue,
Woodgreen, London. N22 4UT
Tel: 01-8881764**

ASHRIDGE GOLF CLUB

require a

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Apply in writing to:-

**The Secretary,
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