

# 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.