

## Crossing the water

Water is almost an essential feature on the golf course. It may be a burn crossing the links at Troon, St. Andrews or Muirfield or a man made lake at an inland course such as Collingtree Park.

But where there is water, there is a need to cross, and Sarum Hardwood Structures meet this need.

Using Ekki, a very durable hardwood from West Africa, the Company build a range of bridges ideally suited to golf courses.

A simple bridge will comprise of a pair of beams spanning the stream decked with skid resistant grooved boards.

To cover large expanses of water Sarum Hardwood Structures can supply multi-span bridges on piled support yokes crossing lakes for a distance of 50 metres.

All these bridges can be designed either for pedestrian or vehicular use and can be supplied with or without parapets to suit individual needs.

One design that has proved particularly popular has low kerbs at each side of the deck and can support buggies, mowers and tractors. Bridges of this type have been installed at Collingtree Park and at the East Sussex National Golf Course.

All Sarum Hardwood Structures bridges are of elegant design, strong construction and offer a maintenance free service life in excess of 50 years.

## Museum setting for Ransomes' celebrations

The two hundred year history of Ransomes, the Ipswich company that pioneered grass cutting machinery, was celebrated in style during the three day Windsor World Trade Exhibition.

Almost 300 Ransomes' dealers and their guests, many of whom had jetted into London from as far afield as Korea, Japan, Australia and the United States, were set off on a mystery tour from the Inter-Continental Hotel at Hyde Park Corner, to arrive at the nearby Natural History Museum.

Dinner jacketed diners accompanied by their ladies were ushered into the domed hall to be seated at tables under the museums most awe inspiring exhibit, the 150 million year old reconstructed Dinosaur.

The overseas visitors were the most impressed and many must have wondered if the champagne might have gone to their

heads when the dry ice smoke bellowed from the prehistoric monster.

The venue for the celebrations, kept a dark secret from all but the inner core of Ransomes' management, was the brain wave of General Sales Manager John Wilson and Publicity Manager Perry Crewdson.

It was such a cloak and dagger operation that late arrivals at the Inter-Continental hotel searched in vain for the banqueting room before the only member of the hotel management, party to the plan, arrived on duty and directed guests to the taxi rank. Ransomes' have much to celebrate in their two hundredth year of business as it marks not only the end of their one time main source of income - farm machinery, but the acquisition of the giant Cushman organisation, which includes Ryan and the Brouwer operation.

To add icing to the birthday cake, Westwood Ltd has also been bought, which will enhance the business of the Mountfield Company.

## New Lynx CDA system from Micron and Rigby Taylor

Rigby Taylor's Weed Control Division has launched its new Lynx C.D.A. System. A joint venture between Rigby Taylor and Micron Ltd. The system features a sophisticated hand held lance purposely designed for user safety, comfort and accuracy.

The standard Lynx System gives variable swath widths from 4" to 4', producing optimum droplet sizes of between 200 to 300 microns for complete coverage of target weed foliage. An optional extra of twin head increases the spray width to 8 ft.

Pre-packed chemical packs have been designed to comply with current pesticide regulations regarding washing out and disposal. A unique, non-return valve produces constant chemical flow, allowing all the product to be fully utilised.

The approved chemicals launched in conjunction with the Lynx System are Mascot Highway, Mascot Gauntlet and Mascot Ultra-Sonic. All total herbicides, these water based products require no special cleaners.

The complete Lynx System is priced at £131 plus VAT, with the accompanying Mascot range of Products starting at £5.25 per litre. For further details contact Rigby Taylor Ltd Weed Control Division on Free Phone 088424 919.

## Turfcare seminars - date changed

The date of one of the two seminars 'New horizons in turfcare' has been changed. The dates of the seminars are now as follows:-

22nd November at the All-England Lawn Tennis Club, Wimbledon.

27th November at Anfield, the home of Liverpool FC.

The Seminars will be jointly presented by four of the leading companies in the turfcare field - Cameron Irrigation, Fisons Horticulture, Johnsons Seeds and Ransomes.

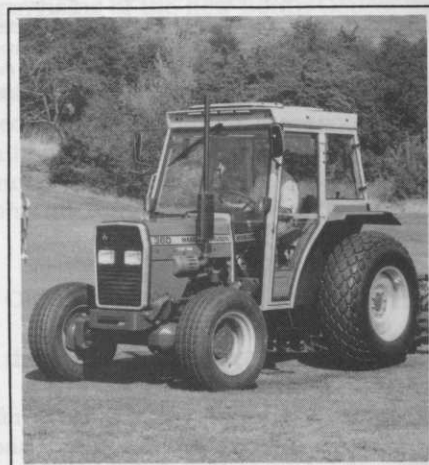
## Music while you work

Warm feet and cool head - that's Massey-Ferguson's recipe for helping modern tractor drivers stay comfortable, alert and efficient, with new cabs on the company's 300 Series tractors.

The improved cabs were included on models, which the company showed as part of its Ground Care and Maintenance range.

Their major new feature is a roof-mounted ventilation system, delivering cool, filtered fresh air via adjustable overhead vents. A revised heating installation gives a plentiful supply of warm air to the feet and floor area, and for defrosting the windows.

Other changes include a bigger area of fender over the tyres, and the latest in-cab entertainment is provided by a new stereo radio cassette/clock unit, for which the two speakers have been repositioned to either side of the cab for better acoustics.



The M-F 360 is rated at 63hp

**Turfland rises to the challenge**

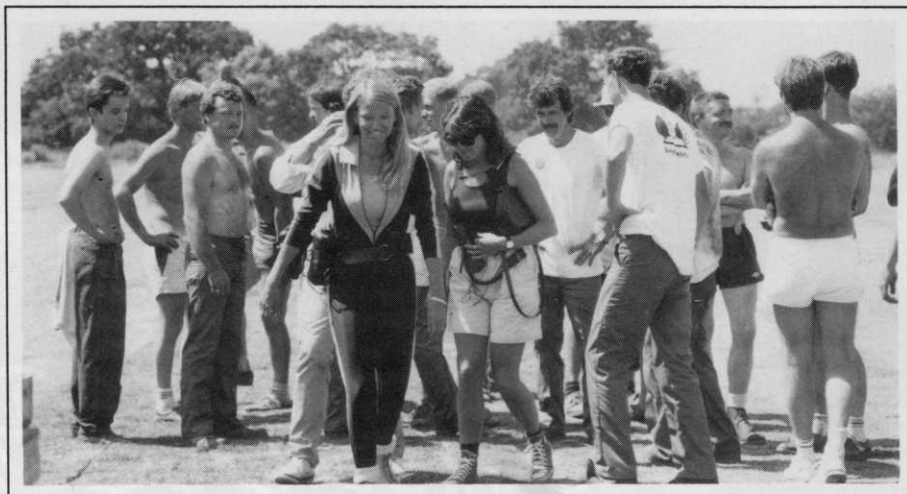
Imagine relaxing in your garden on a hot Sunday afternoon and suddenly being confronted by Anneka Rice, star of the popular BBC1 series, 'Challenge Anneka', together with a host of camera and production crews. Suddenly you are part of a really exciting charity event.

This is what happened to Chris and Janet Watmore, owners of Warrington-based Turfland when, challenged to provide a complete new pitch, showers and changing rooms for Norbury Athletic FC in just 29 hours, Anneka sought out the growers that had risen to the previous challenge of restoring the pitch at Wembley Stadium when it was devastated by the Live Aid concert.

Chris and Janet readily agreed to provide the 8000 sq. yards of 'Sportsman' turf for such a worthy cause. They were also able to advise Anneka on ground preparation and introduce her to Wilmslow based Ned Yates Landscapes for site preparation and laying the turves.

As Anneka zoomed off down the drive, the phone lines were already buzzing at Turfland to 'rally the troops' on a Sunday evening. True to form, the team responded to the call and within the hour, Turfland's two large Brouwer turf harvesters were at work cutting and rolling up pallet after pallet of turf. And as each pallet was deposited by the harvester, it was whipped up by the Hitch-Hiker forklifts to be placed on the waiting trucks for despatch to Stockport.

Meanwhile the site at Stockport was already being ploughed up and prepared by



Ned Yates Landscapes. Work on both sites continued through a beautiful sunset into clear moonlight.

The following day the whole thing came together, thanks to the efforts of very many

willing and charitable people, and it was with tremendous pride that everyone was able to enjoy a truly fabulous event - and a team of keen young footballers to enjoy a new pitch and proper facilities.

**Rhone Poulenc acquire giant chemical company**

Phone-Poulenc, the international chemicals group, have made two major acquisitions that will enhance the company's position in the speciality chemicals market.

In what represents the largest acquisition in the company's history, Rhone-Poulenc has signed an agreement to purchase the speciality chemicals operations of RTZ Corporation PLC, for £512 million.

RTZ Chemicals, with estimated annual sales of approximately £580 million for 1989, is engaged in the research, development and manufacturing, of a variety of chemicals such as polymers,

epoxy resin and acrylic monomers, water soluble gums, latex, fluorinated organics. The company employs 5,000 people in the United Kingdom and the United States. RTZ Chemicals has three major business areas: performance product, fine inorganic chemicals and basic chemicals.

Phone-Poulenc has also reached an agreement with GAF Corporation to acquire the company's surfactant chemicals business for \$480 million.

Approximately 270 people are employed in the operations being purchased. Projected sales for 1989 are approximately \$190 million.

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## Green Industry's international chairman re-appointed

Kenneth Dawson, Managing Director of Rolawn Ltd., Elvington, York has been reappointed Chairman of the International Representative Committee for the American Sod Producers Association, the only world-wide organisation that exists for the advancement of the turf industry.

ASPA represents nearly 800 cultivated turf producers in the U.S., Canada and fifteen countries worldwide. In addition to hosting meetings, it also publishes a variety of technical literature and sponsors research.

Ken Dawson is the only British chairman of any of the committees and this is his fourth year of office.

Rolawn was founded in 1975 when the only turf available in this country was meadow turf or seawashed turf. With Jackie his wife, and his father Leslie Dawson, Ken started on just eight acres of land in Yorkshire.

Fourteen years later he is running the largest company in Europe and Britain's market leader, selling annually around four million square yards of specialist turf.

## Honour for Fred Hawtree

F.W. Hawtree, the internationally renowned golf course designer, has been honoured by the National Turfgrass Council for his outstanding services to the industry.

At a presentation ceremony at Windsor he was presented with the second NTC Award by the chairman, Howard Swan.

His practice, now in its third generation, is the oldest in the world and has been responsible for over 300 projects. Fred Hawtree's involvement goes back over 60 years and he is a world leader in course architecture.

"He has always taken a keen interest in his profession's association and fostered links with other aspects of golf, particularly greenkeeping," said Mr. Swan. "He is a very worthy recipient of the NTC Award.

His father F.G. Hawtree, founded the Golf Greenkeepers Association in 1912 and F. W. Hawtree has continued to support the Associations through many changes of name and composition.

## East Sussex national raises the price!

The cost of the debenture for those invited to become members of East Sussex National Golf Club will be increased to £17,000.

Due to the number of applications that have been received and accepted by the membership committee, this has now filled the "A series" debentures that were issued in Spring of this year.

Brian Turner, Chairman of East Sussex National Golf Club, commented "We are trying to introduce a new concept of club, with relatively high cost for the U.K. enabling the members to enjoy unrivalled playing conditions, and clubhouse services. We felt it would take time for people to come around, but we are being proved wrong. The club situated only 15 miles south of Gatwick Airport has just opened a full 18 holes, and will eventually comprise 36 holes, 3 hole teaching academy, 9 acre practice range, 211 bedroom hotel and members' clubhouse, among its many facilities.

## First UK seminar

Turfland Professional Equipment Ltd are to sponsor the first ever seminar to be held in the UK for turf producers.

The seminar, which will be held at Mottram Hall, Cheshire on 17 - 18 November 1989, will include talks on seed and turfgrass cultivars, fertilisation techniques, agro-chemicals and finance, by professionals from both commercial organisations and from independent bodies such as the STRI. "This seminar will help the turf producers by stressing the basics of good husbandry, respect for the environment and correct growing techniques, we hope to build quality throughout the whole of the industry, a quality which will endure," said Janet Watmore, Turfland's Director.

## Ransomes cut more staff

The Management of Ransomes Sims & Jefferies announced last month that with regret they have dispensed with 78 of the workforce. This is as a result of ending the contract to manufacture farm machinery for Agrolux Limited and the reduction in the demand for grass machinery that has been evident in the first half of the year. Discussions have commenced with the

trade unions involved, and it is hoped that a large number of the reductions will be voluntarily achieved with the aid of early retirements.

## Problems in Poland

The proposed golf course at Pultusk, outside Warsaw, reported in the August issue of the **Golf Course**, has run into difficulties according to our correspondent in Poland, as one of the principal backers has withdrawn. The plans are however still live and the project will go ahead once the financial problems are resolved.

News has come through of another golf course planned for Nadarzyn, also near Warsaw, backed by the Polish airline - LOT and a Swiss industrialist. This course will be designed by a Polish architect, who has already produced draft plans.

Nearer home the proposed course within the grounds of Ridding Park at Harrogate, to be designed by Hawtree & Son, has also fallen foul of the local planners.

The Ridding Park House, now converted into a magnificent hotel and conference centre, faced similar objections when conversion plans were first mooted, but these were overcome. This time the planning officials have gained the support of the English Heritage, who are raising strong opposition to the parkland around the Grade 1 listed building to be used as a golf course.

Their view is that golf courses destroy natural parkland and change the nature of the landscape. Harrogate Councillors however were not opposed to the golf course within the park but objected to the incorporating of 40 acres of land farmed by one of the estate tenants. It is likely that owner Mark Mackaness will appeal.

The Casey Group of companies based in Rochdale have expanded the resources of the division specialising in the design and construction of golf courses and associated developments, with the appointment of Steve Marnoch.

The new head of division is a qualified landscape architect specialising in golf course construction. His experience includes works on the Jubilee Course, St Andrews, and at Portmarnock Golf Club, Dublin, together with a range of other inland and 'links' courses throughout the UK. Projects undertaken in the past by the division include golf courses for F.W. Hawtree & Son and Donald Steel. Steve Marnoch can be contacted on 0706 341121.