

OUT AND ABOUT

NEW DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN JACOBSEN UK

Jacobsen Textron have appointed Rene Orban as their UK Managing Director with the objective of developing the company to become Britain's top grass care machinery supplier.

Rene Orban believes a key element of his future work with Jacobsen will be to apply his marketing experience to significantly raise the level of the company's presence in Britain.

Jacobsen has been establishing itself in this country in recent years and Rene's strategy is to expand and strengthen the Jacobsen dealer network over the next few months.

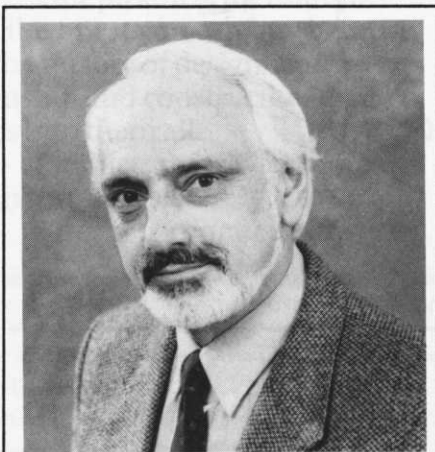
Other plans include expanding their range of products from two, three and four-wheel drive greens and fairway cutting machines to high quality hand mowers and E-Z-Go Trucks.

Jacobsen, have some of the best performance machines on the market, many with specialist features developed by their own experts.

They also have a proven track record in reliable after sales service, parts supply and customer care, from the King's Lynn headquarters.

Before his appointment, Rene Orban was the Managing Director of Compact Machinery Limited, a little known company, to one of the country's leading machinery suppliers, within only three and a half years.

By joining Jacobsen the challenge for Rene (pictured below) is to take a company with proven machines, after sales service and a reputation to market leadership.



ROUND ONE TO PING IN BOX GROOVES BATTLE - AND TWO TO THE R & A

Karsten Solheim, the head of the Ping company has won the first part of his court battle to have the so called square or box grooves on the face of the Ping clubs declared legal.

As well as the £62m joint action against the USGA and the R & A who have said they intend banning the clubs for amateurs from 1st January 1996, Ping took out a separate action against the US PGA Tour, seeking an injunction against the professionals imposing their ban on the clubs. Solheim has won this action and a subsequent appeal against the professional body.

The ruling bodies claim that the grooves on the club face, used by Calcavecchia to win the Open Championship at Troon this

year, enable players to impart extra back spin to the ball.

The PGA European Tour intended adopting the R & A method of measuring grooves on club faces from the 1st January this year, but in the light of the court ruling in the United States, they have not implemented the move. In fact, although nothing has been put in writing, professionals competing in Africa have been told they can use the clubs on the Safaria Tour this year.

An Arizona Court has subsequently ruled that it has no jurisdiction over three named officials of the R & A, including Michael Bonallack, so the grooved clubs will be banned from this year's Open Championship.

Amateurs meanwhile, watch these columns with interest.

Their clubs are still facing a ban in Britain from 1996 unless agreement can be reached between Karsten Solheim and the R & A.

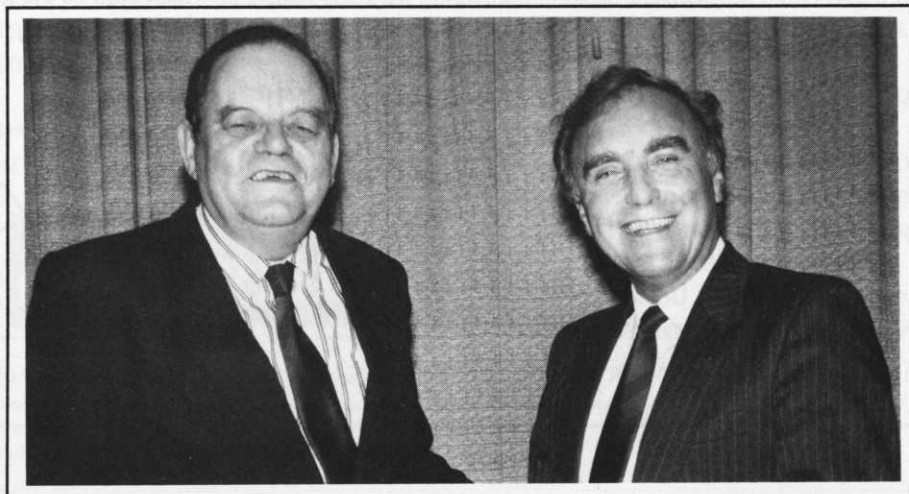
RETIREMENT AFTER 43 YEARS

After almost 43 years with Ransomes Sims & Jefferies, Perry Crewdson has retired from the post of Public Relations Manager.

During his extensive career with Ransomes, Perry, having originally joined the company as a 'gentleman' apprentice, spent many years promoting the company's products in Africa, North America and Asia. He was the first representative to visit Japan selling grass and farm

machinery.

In later years he was in charge of the company's public relations department, a role which he admits he found 'stimulating, particularly in recent years with the acquisitions and expansion within the group.' Given a rousing send-off by his friends and colleagues, and pictured receiving a cheque from Bob Dodsworth, Group Chief Executive, Perry intends spending his retirement developing his country garden and enjoying golf. He lives at Otley with his wife Claire.



Perry Crewdson, Public Relations Manager, Ransomes Sims & Jefferies, pictured with Bob Dodsworth, Group Chief Executive

OUT AND ABOUT

JACOBSEN EXPANDS, IMPROVES TURF GROOMER LINE

Jacobsen Division of Textron recently introduced an improved Turf Groomer (R) greens conditioner and new model for fairway use.

The Turf Groomer has a larger front roller and larger, thicker six-point cutting blades for greater strength and durability. Two blade spacings are available.

The Turf Groomer has a tough 1" drive belt that's protected from debris by a sealed housing. The cover can be removed for inspections and adjustments. A double pin clutch is standard.

The quick up/down blade adjuster can raise or lower the reel up to 3/8" in 1/8" increments to raise the blades to skip grooming. A micro-depth adjustment dial fine tunes cutting heights without tools.

Anti-scalp gauge wheels help prevent the marking of turf.

The patented intersecting action of the Turf Groomer's roller and knives produces a fine quality cut. The roller's grooves have bevelled edges that help lift horizontal grasses on greens and fairways. The knives rotate through the slots in the roller, slicing the grass blades and surface runners before they lie down to the grass stands up for a smoother surface.

GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTORS APPOINT NEW OFFICERS

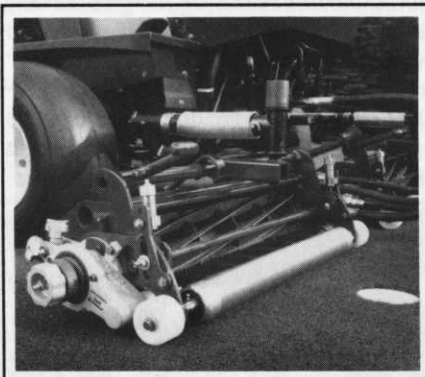
After the resignation of Howard Swan as Secretary and as a member of the British Association of Golf Course Constructors, a full meeting of the Association took place recently. Brian Pierson has been appointed Chairman, Jim Bull Treasurer, Tim Banks Secretary and David Clarke as meeting co-ordinator.

The Association viewed the 1990s as a period of sustained growth for the golf course construction industry and the Chairman was pleased to note the number of new Constructor members who will be in a position to professionally satisfy a sizable part of the expected demand.

To promote the Association's aims, a new handbook is in the process of production which will illustrate to developers and clubs contemplating altering their existing courses of the need to use experienced and reputable companies in the golf course construction field.

This cutting action promotes a more vertical growth with more leaf surface for better photosynthesis, encouraging deeper roots and improved stress tolerance.

Regular use of the Turf Groomer can increase green speed up to 25 percent and allow the reduction or elimination of certain stressful speed enhancing practices. On both fairways and greens, it helps eliminate grain, and control thatch.



Jacobsen Turf Groomer (R) Greens/Fairway Conditioner

SHOW GROUND BATTLES IN 1990

As the IOG announce record bookings from exhibitors for the Sports and Leisure Exhibition at Peterborough from the 4th - 6th September, the Garden Machinery

Association say they now have 140 companies exhibiting at their show at Kempton Park between 2nd - 4th September.

The GMA promoting Britain's first "International Professional Lawn, Garden and Outdoor Power Equipment Exhibition" (only an ex-civil servant could have dreamed up a title like this) have for reasons best known to themselves, chosen clashing dates with the established IOG.

Although it could be argued that the two events do not necessarily compete, there must, in our broad based industry, be something of an overlap even if it is only in the matters of grass maintenance.

The Peterborough Exhibition, despite earlier mis-givings on moving the venue away from London, looks certain to be a winner. The earlier September date is more likely to provide a settled spell in the weather and the Midland location will attract a large number from the northern part of the country, who have spent more time in traffic jams than walking around the stands.

The GMA meanwhile are pushing ahead with their publicity campaign to make the Kempton Park show a viable proposition. With the possibility of companies wanting to be at both shows, there could well be queues on the A1 northbound, on the first Tuesday in September as exhibitors attempt to be in two places at once.

NEW JOB FOR JACK

Jack McMillan has resigned as Head Greenkeeper at Sunningdale Golf Club to take up a post as an international golf course advisor. Jack and his wife Rita have been a part of the Sunningdale scene for most of the last decade and they have been heavily involved in all aspects of greenkeeping through their greenkeeping sons as well as Jack's Chairmanship of two greenkeeping Associations.

Jack has always been willing to exchange views with other head greenkeepers and with advisors such as Jim Arthur and his club's own Secretary, Keith Almond both of whom are members of the R & A's Greenkeeping Panel.

In joining the International Golfers Club, based in London, he will be bringing to golf course advisory work not only a great deal of first hand experience but an unequalled enthusiasm for golf courses, having visited courses in all parts of Europe and the USA and compared golf course mainte-

nance practices in a variety of climatic zones.



Jack and Rita McMillan

Perhaps his greatest greenkeeping achievement was the way Sunningdale Old Course was presented for the Walker Cup and it is to be hoped that he will be able to assist others in his capacity as an advisor to reach such standards of preparation and presentation.

OUT AND ABOUT



Paul Davis from Swindon, who complicated the proceedings by asking for a left-handed set.

CHARTERHOUSE WINNERS

One often wonders who were the winners prize draws run at the numerous trade shows around the country, or if (heaven forbid) the goodies were ever awarded. Charterhouse Machinery, who exhibited several variations of the verti-drain at Windsor, have now produced their list of winners for the three complete sets of golf clubs and confessed that none of the lucky participants played the game! That is until they won their clubs.

The prizewinners were drawn on each of the three days of the Windsor show.

Paul Davis, of Mordon Nurseries, Swindon, Wiltshire, is an area supervisor with Thamesdown Contractors, a local authority contractor; Mr T. H. Heath of Saunton Harold, Leicestershire, is a ground maintenance contractor; and Mr P Bloomfield of Ipswich, Suffolk, is groundsman for Ipswich School.

Second prizes, of a magnum of champagne, went to Mr D J Wood of Cowden, Kent; the Secretary of Parkstone Golf Club, Poole; and Mr T Huntley of Worcester Park, Surrey.

Third prizewinners, who received bottles of wine, were Mr C P West of Rickmansworth, Mr G Brooks or Horsell Common and Mr J S Potts of Newcastle.

KUBOTA DEALER SALES PERSONNEL FLY EAST

A ten day trip to Japan and Thailand, was the prize Kubota (UK) Limited provided for 40 of its top dealer UK sales personnel for successful sales of Kubota tractors and ride-on mowers during the 1989.

The party, led by Brian Hurtley, Vice-President-Director, Kubota (UK) Limited recently returned from this trip of a lifetime and everyone agreed the 'Eastern Promise' was very definitely fulfilled.

The first part of the ten day adventure was a visit to the Kubota headquarters in Osaka followed by guided tours of the manufac-

turing plants at Sakai, Rinkai and Tsukuba, where everyone was shown the emphasis Japan's largest tractor manufacturer places on research, development and innovation. After the business was completed the party flew on to Thailand for sightseeing in Bangkok and then relaxation in the Thai 'riviera' resort of Pattaya Beach.

The 10 day trip certainly lived up to its 'Eastern Promise' and Brian Hurtley added, "The trip had been well and truly earned by our dealer sales personnel following a very successful year and an increase in our market share in the UK. Our major problem now is to find an even bigger incentive for next year!"



Brian Hurtley (third right), Vice President-Director, Kubota (UK) with the Kubota dealer sales personnel party in Thailand during part of their ten day Eastern Promise trip

ALLEN POWER EQUIPMENT APPOINT PARKERS AS LONDON DISTRIBUTORS

T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Ltd of Worcester Park, Surrey, have been appointed the London Distributors of Allen Power Equipment of Didcot.

The Allen machines involved are the National 68" and 84" Triple Mowers; Brushcutters including the Reciprocator, a revolutionary multi-purpose trimmer/brushcutter, edger, branch clipper and pruner which is exclusive to Allen and incorporates a new safety cutter; and Professional Hover Mowers which have the unique Allen 'Safe-way' Mowing System, the first really safe blade. "We are delighted at our appointment," said Mr Peter Simpson, a Director of Parkers, "it further strengthens our position as one of the leading Turf Care Specialists in the South East of England."

WEED CONTROL COMPANY JOIN RIGBY TAYLOR

Rigby Taylor have acquired a controlling interest in Complete Weed Control Limited, a specialist spray contracting service to the amenity industry. The Company operates via a network of seventeen regional offices throughout mainland Great Britain and will continue under the direction of Roger Turner and the Sales and Marketing Director, Nick Thain.

Mr. Turner is the Chairman Elect of the National Association of Agricultural Contractors and has been instrumental in formulating the contracting industry's Code of Practice. Bernard Hedley will act as Chairman of Complete Weed Control Limited with Bob Young, Manager of Rigby Taylor's Weed Control Division, joining the Board.

OUT AND ABOUT

JOINT SISIS/BRITISH SEED HOUSES/ ROLAWN FIELD DAYS

Around 330 groundsmen and greenkeepers turned out for three joint SISIS/BHS/ROLAWN field days in Birmingham, Stoke and Southampton at the end of October. In spite of hard ground conditions the SISIS Varicore pto operated aerator performed impressively and the new Hydro-main Twin 25 aroused much interest. Demonstrations of other new and established SISIS aerators, scarifiers, seeders, top dressers and sweepers provided a well-balanced programme of interest to Local Authorities, Golf Clubs, and all types of Sports Clubs.

All those who attended were interested to hear about the production and use of Rolawn cultivated turf from Technical Director, Robert Laycock.

Samples of turf on display attracted much favourable comment and all concerned were impressed by the professionalism of the Rolawn team.

Some of those present had no experience of using turf other than meadow turf and many did not realise there was now a ready supply of cultivated turf direct from Rolawn depots and that it could save them time and money and satisfy their commitments and players at the same time.

The selection of grass seed species was the theme behind the British Seed House presenting, taking into account that the

wear tolerance of a grass sward is the main criteria for those engaged in the maintenance of outfields. Similarly tolerance of close mowing of certain grass species is equally important for the upkeep of fine turf areas.

Specific cultivars were later highlighted quoting examples of where they had been successfully sown: Penncross Creeping Bent had been chosen as a monoculture for seeding the greens at the new Johnny Miller Course at Collingtree and light play was possible 8 months after seeding; Hermes, Loretta and Gaton perennial Ryegrasses are consistently specified by Local Authorities for renovation of winter sports pitches and British Seed Houses confirmed that these cultivars are excellent choices with quick establishment and maximum wear tolerance guaranteed.

The possibility of holding similar seminar/demonstration days in 1990, in other parts of the country is being discussed and plans will be announced early next year.

MOORE TO RECEIVE NEXT OLD TOM MORRIS AWARD

For the first time, the Golf Course Superintendants Association of America (GCSAA) will bestow its highest honour, the Old Tom Morris Award - upon a member superintendent.

Sherwood A. Moore, CGCS, 50-year GCSAA member and past president of the association, will receive the award during the closing banquet of the 61st GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show on Feb. 26 in Orlando, Fla.

Moore was the superintendent at Winged Foot Golf Course in Mamaroneck, N.Y., from 1957-1967. From there, he moved on to become superintendent at Woodway Country Club in Darien, Conn. When Winged Foot was selected to host the first Senior Open in 1980, Moore returned to help get the course in prime condition. In 1984, he left to join The Captains Golf Course in Brewster, Mass. Moore also served as acting agronomist for the USGA Green Section during 1987-88. Recently retired, Moore still continues to work as a consultant at The Captains.

GCSAA established the Old Tom Morris Award in 1982 to recognize individuals who have made outstanding lifetime contributions to the game. The award is named in memory of Old Tom Morris, greenkeeper and golf professional at the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, four-times Open Champion, club-maker, ballmaker and golf course architect.

Moore joins the host of golf luminaries who are past Old Tom Morris Award winners: Arnold Palmer, Bob Hope, Gerald Ford, Patty Berg, Robert Trent Jones Sr., Gene Sarazen and Chi Chi Rodriguez.

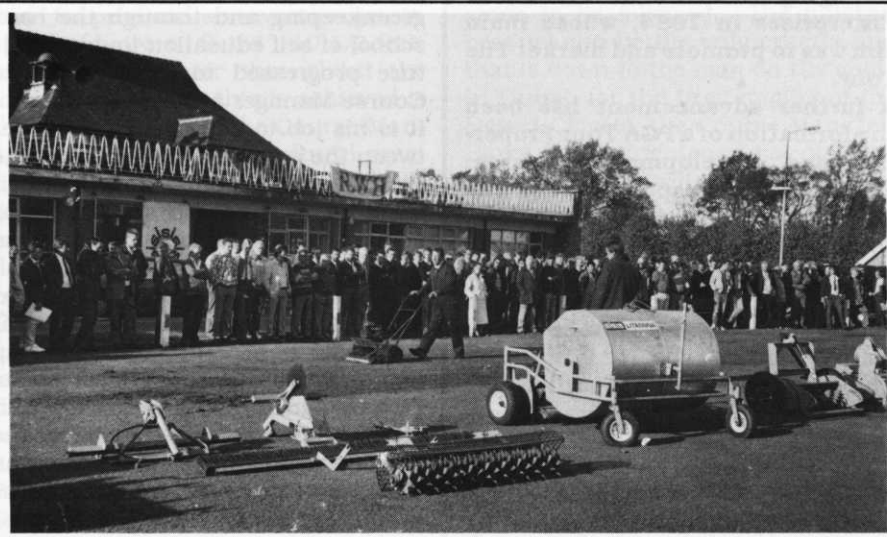
SECOND SITE FOR STA-BRITE

Sta-Brite Supplies Ltd, the grounds maintenance company, moved into their new warehouse and office complex in Basingstoke during December.

The premises will be racked out for palletised goods, including an ample chemicals store built on a modular design and capable of being extended to contain up to 13 tons of herbicides and pesticides.

Innovative mechanical handling should make the warehousing operation extremely efficient and the excellent level of service provided to customers at present is set to improve still further.

The telephone number for sales is (0256) 811811



The Sisis Varicore at the joint Sisis/Rolawn/British Seed House Field Day at the Mitchell & Butler Sports Ground, Birmingham