

OUT AND ABOUT

CUSHMAN MOWERS IN NEW CATALOGUE

The newest catalogue covering the full line of Cushman R Front Line Mowers has been published by Cushman, Inc.

The full-colour catalogue covers the 808 and 809 gas-powered, liquid-cooled engine models, the 804 air-cooled gas engine Front Line and the 806 and 807 diesel-powered models. All models can be equipped with either 60-inch or 72-inch mower decks, which have pin-adjustable mounts for eight different mowing height positions.

The catalogue also illustrates the new Cushman Grass Caddy attachment with special Top Flow deck for positive pick-up of clippings and debris.

Also shown is the Cushman Core Destroyer attachment, and the full range of accessories for the Front Line tractors, including snowblower, snow blade, high-output heater/defroster for liquid-cooled models, ROPS and two cab enclosures, blower, flail mower and tine rake de-thatcher.

For a free copy of the new Cushman Front Line Mower and Accessories catalogue see your local Cushman dealer.



THE VICTA RYAN CHANGEOVER

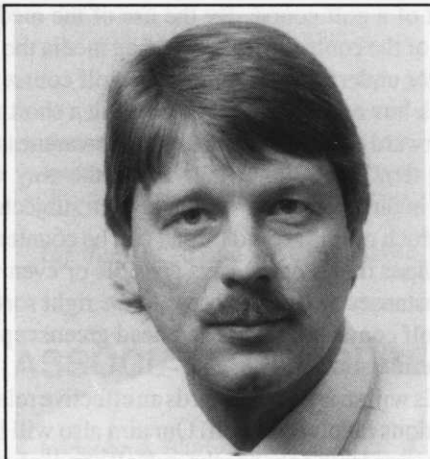
Ryan turfcare equipment will no longer be handled by Victa (UK) Ltd, after July. Ransomes the new owners of Ryan, will arrange their own distribution.

Victa's Managing Director, Bill Brooks said, "To ensure that our customers are not inconvenienced, we have negotiated with Ransomes for spare parts to be available from our dealers until June 1991. Every effort will be made to make the transition as smooth as possible.

For the few months, until the change over, Victa is still very actively involved in promoting the Ryan machines.

KEITH CLEVERLY - A TRAGIC LOSS

It is with sadness we report the untimely and tragic death of Keith Cleverly, one of the greenkeeping profession's most ardent supporters, a man who inspired enthusiasm from not only those he worked with, but all within the turf grass industry. To many, including the staff of The Golf Course, Keith was a valued friend as well as a business associate, an additional reason for the sadness felt in the departure of someone so young at the bloom of his career.



Keith joined ICI in the early 1970's and began his career in one of the development trials teams based at Jealott's Hill, the ICI Agrochemicals Research Station. His potential was soon noticed and in the late 70's a successful commercial career started as a technical sales representative for ICI Agrochemicals UK Sales in the Bedford area where he made many friends within the agricultural community.

It was in the amenity and public health business that Keith Cleverly really made his mark. In 1983 he launched a new business venture, ICI Professional Products. Within six years this department grew rapidly under his stewardship to become leading suppliers of pesticides, fertilizers and pest control products, to the amenity turf industry.

Keith was also involved in many industry committees with the unselfish aim of raising the standards and highlighting the valuable contribution that these, then 'Cinderella' industries, could contribute to the overall pesticide market.

In February 1989 Keith won the promotion

he so justly deserved, leaving a healthy UK Professional Products business to develop the European markets for ICI Public Health. Unfortunately he was unable to meet his new challenge as, tragically, within one month of taking up the appointment, he was taken ill. Despite two major operations, his determination still showed through. Sadly Keith's brave fight, which was an inspiration to us all, ended peacefully on Saturday 13th January.

Keith Cleverly only 37, will be missed by us all, both in business and socially particularly on the golf course where he was a determined and capable competitor. Our thoughts and sympathies are extended to his wife Barbara and his family.

KUBOTA HAVE LAUNCHED A NEW 40hp TRACTOR...

...it has integral power steering as standard and is particularly suited to turf maintenance needs in the golf, sports grounds and local authority markets.

The L3250's additional horse-power, heavy duty dual clutch and gearbox provides the extra power required for turf maintenance on banks and inclines, using the vertidrain or larger gang mower units. The improved linkage geometry also provides the operator with more than 100lb additional lift capacity.

The Kubota L3250 is lightweight giving less ground pressure and ideal for golf courses using special smooth profile turf tyres.

The mechanical shuttle transmission offers 8 forward and 7 reverse gears and creep speed as standard for vertidrain operations. The partially synchronised transmission enables the operator to bring the tractor up to full speed quickly and easily for road travel.



BAGCC - COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN BRIAN PIERSON

The occasion of my election as Chairman of the British Association of Golf Course Construction provides me with a reason - or excuse to look back on 25 years of Golf Course Construction and to compare conditions at the start with those which exist nowadays.

It may come as a surprise that today there is less divergence of opinion between the main architects and contractors on basic construction than there was at the start of the golf course boom of the mid sixties.

It was then the exception rather than the rule for Architects to specify that greens were built on underdrained stone carpets. Certainly most specifications stipulated the use of local soil topped with 2" of seed-bed compost!

Greens were built in isolation from their environments and the imaginative marrying-in of greens with wide gently contoured surrounds was almost unknown. There was none of the current emphasis on keeping constructional machinery away from vulnerable and very important approaches.

Some specifiers were still advising the use of perennial ryegrass for fairways and only minimal attention was given to construction and design.

What a contrast today! There is almost universal agreement that both greens and

tees must be built on drainage rafts, properly blinded and with a uniform imported sandy soil root zone two mix.

Often entire courses from greens to rough are sown with basically the same fescue/bend seeds mixture, variations occurring only regarding seed rates and perhaps the use of cheaper strains for the rough.

Of course it costs a great deal more to build a golf course today than 25 years ago - from which time there are however plenty of examples of quite satisfactory courses being built for less than £10,000. This is not only due to inflation, but much more to higher standards and more elaborate specifications, including full automatic irrigation.

However, a word of warning may be appropriate. If the need for more golf courses is to be met economically (which does not mean building cheap, bad courses) then money must not be wasted in enormously expensive earth moving operations. Nor must we overly rely on extensive water features, to create character.

Contractors have to build to architects specifications and none of us should be inveigled into accepting constructional standards which have no relevance to our climatic and soil conditions.

Sand greens! Will they ever work!

We, the contractors, have the experience and skill to make good courses to suit our Northern European conditions. It is depressing when inexperienced clients opt

for much more expensive specifications quite needlessly, just because they think if they pay much more they will necessarily get a much better golf course.

The need for more courses is not arguable. How to produce them is, but we should, I feel, be thinking far more about providing for the beginner golfer because if he starts on something better than golf in a field, I feel that the long term future of golf will be in much safer hands.

FRANCE HOSTS GOLF COURSE CONFERENCE AT DEAUVILLE

The French Federation of Golf are to sponsor the first International Salon of Golf Course Maintenance and construction to be held at the Parc des Espositions at Lisieux, near Deauville from 24th-26th November.

The exhibition and accompanying conference is expected to attract over 100 stands. The conference hall is large enough to house 600 delegates and there will be dual French/English translation facilities.

At the same time the French Golf Greenkeepers Association will hold their 5th meeting of members.

Deauville is an ideal venue for the event as the heart of Normandy has become one of the leading areas of France for the expansion of golf. New courses have recently opened at St. Julien, St. Gratien and Caen.

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SCIENCE, MATHS AND MEDICINE INVESTIGATE THE GAME OF GOLF

Golf is to come under the eye of the scientists, physicians and psychologists at the First World Scientific Congress of Golf to be held at the University of St. Andrews this summer.

Already on the agenda of the expected 21 nation conference are studies in swing techniques, the psychology of the successful golfers, club and ball design, and bio-mechanical analysis of the strains and stresses exerted on the golfer's back.

Also to be discussed is the aerodynamic lift and drag of golf balls and the physical principles governing the swing mechanism on the long drive from the tee.

Those who have studied the physiological principles of "The Inner Golfer", know there is far more to shooting a par 4 in level figures than two shots to the green and two putts. How many of us have been told it is all in the mind?

You know the formula, relax, no tension in the arms, slow back swing, down and through the ball. As one golf psychologist says, "Back, wait - hit".

Similar, if less ambitious schemes to unravel the mysteries of the golf swing by a mathematical and scientific approach have not been very rewarding. Those of us who have been around the game for some time, might also remember the famous "Button Boys", the elite band of budding young professionals who were subjected to intense isolated coaching in a bid to turn them into super-stars.

* How many can remember today who they were or what they achieved?

However, the R & A who are reported to be sponsoring the congress to the tune of £25,000 are supporting the five day event because they want to find out, amongst other things, the effects of modern improvements in golf ball manufacture and club design with special reference to course architecture.

We hear Karsten Solheim has accepted an invitation, an excellent opportunity for him to explain his aerodynamic approach to the manufacture of Ping clubs. It has been reported that an aspect of his research was to drive at speed with a club head out of the car window.

The Director of the Congress, Martin Farally, who is also the head of recreation at St. Andrew University says, "The primary aim is to encourage and exchange ideas among scientists, golf course architects, coaches and physicians as well as those who play the game at all levels".

In the last few years we have seen balls that go further, cut free, slice resistant, illuminated for play in the dark and others guaranteed to impart more back spin.

Clubs now bear little resemblance to the spoons, niblicks and brassies with hickory shafts used by Taylor, Braid and Vardon. In little less than a decade we have been introduced to carbon and graphite shafts, metal heads for persimmon, heel and toe irons and copper beryllium as the present ultimate for performance.

To go even better, the Japanese have now introduced the Yonex range, where a set of irons and three woods will give little change out of £2,000.

Perhaps it is time golf was subjected to the scientific approach, otherwise the next step will be the electronically guided laser putter, with the accuracy of an Exocet missile. We already have one member in my club who putts like that - just imagine 50 more!

The Congress takes place July 9-13, registration by the 1st July, at St. Andrews University, fee £130.

* *For the record they were Brian Barnes, Tommy Horton, Mike Ingham, Iain Clark and Alan Ibberson.* J.E.L.

COLLINGTREE PARK PREPARES FOR TAKE-OFF

Collingtree Park Golf Club, the UK's newest five star tournament golf resort due to open in May has appointed John Cook from Henley as resident professional.

Still active as a professional player, his most recent successes include winning the 1989 Hennessy Cognac Clubs Championships in Sardinia and the 1988 Southern Club Professionals Championship.

One of the prime objectives of Collingtree Park is to offer business people a high standard of all-round service. John is particularly impressed by the use of golf buggies, just one aspect of the all-inclu-

sive package members will receive.

"It is an innovative idea which I have not come across at any other British golf course," he says. John will set up and organise the complex's unique Golf Academy, the most sophisticated golf practice facility in Europe, with a floodlit covered 16-bay covered driving range three challenging practice holes - two par four and one par three; a sand bunker and an immaculate putting green.

There is also indoor video to record and analyse members' playing techniques and a computerised custom-fit club centre to enable golfers to select the correct equipment for their game.

NEW TURF CONSULTANT

A new turf consultant has joined the staff of Inter Seeds Ltd., the amenity grass seed and wild flower seed specialists. Mrs Jennifer Waterfield will soon be seen around the South East of England offering help and advice.

Jennifer, joins Inter Seeds Ltd. from a major fertiliser company and her role will be to advise local authorities, landscape architects, landscape contractors, turf growers, sports clubs and golf clubs on the correct choice and use of grasses, wild flowers, fertilisers and biodegradable erosion control matting.



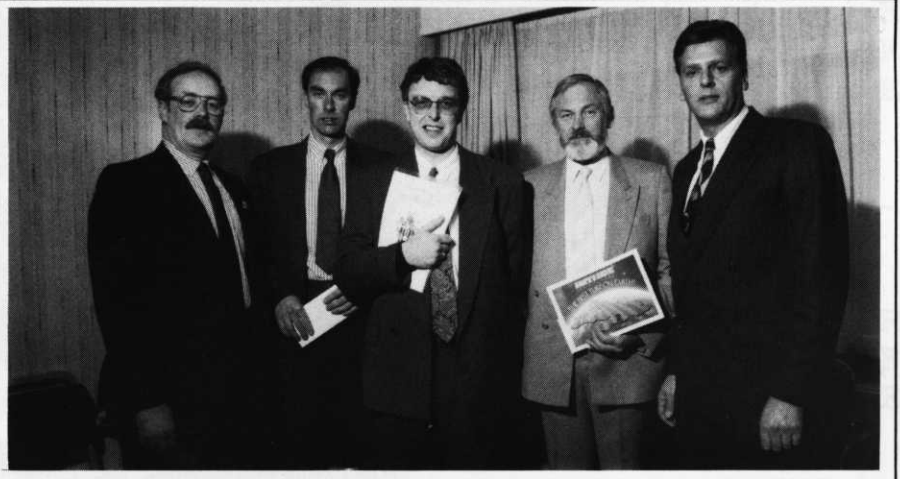
Jennifer Waterfield, Inter Seeds new turf consultant

OUT AND ABOUT

INTURF WINNERS

A trip for two to Orlando, was the prize won by Mr Larry Westlake of Hertford in a competition sponsored by Inturf. The convention lasts for six days and Larry plans to take this opportunity of a trip to the United States of America to visit Disneyland and enjoy the fabulous facilities Florida has to offer. Larry picked up his entry form to the competition at the Cavendish Hotel in Eastbourne, where Inturf was participating in the Annual Conference of the British Association of Landscape Industries.

Second prize went to Laurence Pithie, Course Manager at Michinhampton Golf Club at Stroud. His trip includes a guided tour around two Turfgrass Breeding Centres and two sportsgrounds in Holland. It also includes a weekend for two enjoying the sights of Amsterdam, plus spending money.



Inturf winners centre, with Alex Miller - IOG (left) and Derek Edwards, Inturf's managing director

A day at the races to include entry to the members enclosure, at Newmarket, champagne and £25 stake money went to Colin Jones, the recreation manager with

Welwyn Garden City Council. Inturf supply large quantities of turf from their East Yorkshire headquarters, to golf courses and for other amenity turf requirements.

If you are considering a golf facility on your land, let us answer these questions for you:-

1. Is the Site Suitable?
2. Driving Range/9 hole/18 hole/36 hole?
3. Public/Private facility?
4. How much will it cost to build?
5. How much income could I expect?
6. How much will it cost to run?

The answer to these and many other vital questions can be obtained by investing in our

Feasibility Study.

This also includes:-

A preliminary course layout suitable for outline planning permission application.

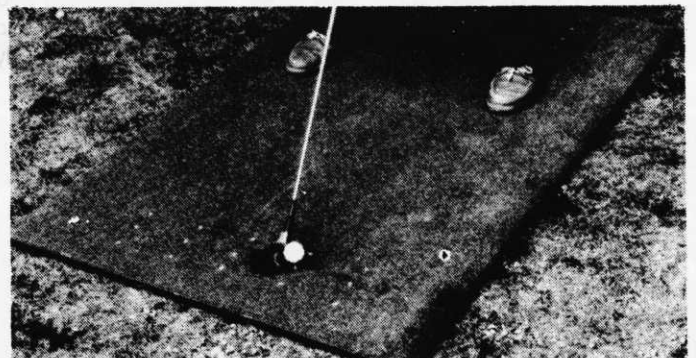
Cost for this service - £2,500 plus VAT

Contact us for further information and to arrange a personal site visit.

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OUT AND ABOUT

EMPLOYEE BUY-OUT AT TURFMASTER

The staff at grass machinery manufacturers Turfmaster, Lincolnshire, have bought their company from the previous owners, Harlow Agricultural Merchants.

Turfmaster is now an independent company with HAM retaining only a 20% share. HAM, of Bishops Stortford, Essex, were keen to reduce their stake in Turfmaster because the fit with the, "corn, seed and feed" business was poor. Equally Turfmas-

ter's managers and employees felt they were ideally placed to move the company forward into the 1990's.

John deGraft-Johnson, Turfmaster's chairman, says: "Product performance, quality and service are the key issues in the professional market. So employee commitment is paramount.

"In many companies these words are truisms without teeth. But in Turfmaster's case, the employees have backed their words with hard cash. The enthusiasm and dedication is total."

GRASS COSY

A revolutionary cover which speeds up the re-seeding process in the summer and protects the grass from frost in the winter, has been launched by Bristol-based international netting company Kerrypak Limited.

An ideal groundsman's aid and particularly valuable for use on greens and tees, the Tildenet Grass Cover is made of lightweight 85% high density knitted polyethylene, making it simple to move around and store when not required. It speeds up the germination process by retaining warmth and moisture, and protects the area from frost in winter.

Made of netting, the cover encourages uniform grass growth, and allows the grass to breathe. It also protects re-seeding areas from the wind, and pests such as birds and rabbits.

IMPROVEMENT TO JACOBSEN GREENS KING IV

The Jacobsen Greens King IV now comes with newly designed, easy on/off grass catchers as well as easier steering. The Greens King IV gives greens a smooth, beautiful finish. Its cylinders 'float' to follow ground contours. The patented steering action of the units virtually eliminates marking during turns. Cylinders lift with a convenient foot pedal, and stay level while raising and lowering to prevent scuffing. A 62-inch cutting width means 18 average-sized greens can be mowed in under four hours.

The Greens King IV (below) is the only triplex available with the patented Turf Groomer (R) greens conditioner, to make greens healthier and faster.



Linette Carter, Turfmaster's youngest employee, receiving from John deGraft-Johnson, Turfmaster's chairman, the certificate for the shares she has bought in the company

REDS GO GREEN IN MOSCOW

Following the success of Ferrosol Liquid Iron from Farmura in the European turf markets the Kent company have supplied 40 litres of Ferrosol to the organisers of a large Pop Festival in the USSR.

The Ferrosol was used in the Lufhniki Stadium, Moscow following a pop festival in August, televised worldwide.

The organisers were asked to ensure that the stadium's grassed areas looked healthy and green after the event. Several large areas of the turf were covered for some time and it was expected that discolouration would occur.

The Ferrosol Iron was used for greening the grassed areas applied through a Walkover sprayer which was also purchased for the event and sent to Moscow with the Ferrosol.

ICI APPOINT TWO NEW DISTRIBUTORS

ICI Professional Products have completed negotiations with two major companies to join their national network of specialist distributors. In the South East T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Ltd., Surrey provide increased representation and sales of ICI Professional Products.

Edinburgh based, Sports Turf Services at Newbridge, will provide added commercial expertise and increased impetus to ICI Product sales in Scotland and Northern England.

David Siddon, Sales Manager for ICI Professional Products told 'the Golf Course' "The appointment of Parkers and STS to our national network of distributors is part of our strategy of ensuring we have the best companies in the market distributing ICI Products to the end-customer, particularly golf greenkeepers."



OUT AND ABOUT

QUALITY PROMOTION

Charterhouse Turf Machinery, the company who introduced the Verti-Drain to Britain, have now complimented this revolutionary aeration equipment by expanding their range of turf culture equipment to include top dressing machinery, with the Bulk Dresser, a Green Dress and a unique Easy Spread.

Last month Charterhouse, launched their 1990 promotion campaign with an eight page full colour announcement in the *Golf Course*.

Asked why the *Golf Course* was THE magazine chosen to head the Charterhouse advertising thrust, Managing Director, David Jenkins said a great deal of market research and thought had gone into planning the largest promotion campaign ever initiated by the Surrey based company.

"We knew precisely the people who would be interested in our enlarged range of turf maintenance machinery, which is why after careful investigation into the magazine readership market, we decided to open the campaign with the *Golf Course*."

"We needed to reach the Head Greenkeepers, Course Managers and those that make equipment decisions on golf courses, and your readers fall precisely into that category".

"Reaching the broader based market, sports fields, football pitches, race courses and similar intensively used amenity turf

THE MULTI-PURPOSE SPIKER. ONE UNIQUE MACHINE THAT DOES THE WORK OF THREE.



areas, pointed us in one direction for an overall coverage of this multi-million pound industry and that was to Turf Management, the most widely read publication among those responsible for maintaining leisure turf".

The Verti-Drain must be the most extensively used piece of aeration equipment on Britain's golf courses. There can be few that have not reaped the benefits of its unique method of relieving compaction, improving draining and increasing stronger

and healthier root growth.

Although the smaller clubs have in the past hired the Verti-Drain, Charterhouse Turf Machinery, through the introduction of the Pedestrian model, have now put this essential item of turf cultural equipment well within the capital budget of any golf course in the country.

We at the *Golf Course* are proud to have been nominated by Charterhouse as the No. 1 Golf Course Manager's magazine. We wish them every success in 1990.

GOLF LANDSCAPES LTD.

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Aerial view of the 1st and 11th holes including lake and feed ditch at the recently completed Graveley Golf Course near Stevenage