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**Ransomes Motor 180**, a versatile and highly manoeuvrable compact ride-on triple is ideal for mowing tees, approaches and even fairways. There's a choice of 7-knife floating head cutting units or optional 5-knife fixed head units. It's exceptionally manoeuvrable with instant forward and reverse hydrostatic drive and single rear wheel steering. Wide front drive wheels and low centre of gravity give excellent traction and stability on slopes, with minimum turf compaction. Large capacity grasscatchers are also available.



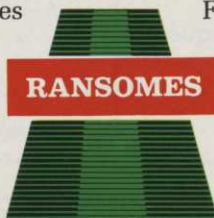
**Ransomes Verticut 214** controls lateral surface growth of turf on fairways, preventing thatch build-up and encouraging new growth so that the surfaces are maintained in peak condition. The floating head action of the hydraulically driven

verticut units follow undulations preventing damage to the turf. Quick tractor attachment and narrow transport width make it a most cost-effective machine.



**Ransomes TMV20**, is the most versatile turf maintenance vehicle around. Hydraulically driven, it's fast, simple to operate and has remarkably low running and maintenance costs. In addition to the big-capacity, tipping dumpbox, there's a host of attachments available from other manufacturers, from seeders to rollers, sweepers and aerators. There are few maintenance jobs the TMV20 can't handle.

Find out more about the cost-effective range of Ransomes grass machinery from your local dealer, or write to us.



# BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



## 1988 ASSOCIATE AND TRADE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

(NB. Not to be completed by Trade and Associate Members who joined during 1987)

To be returned to: The Executive Director, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute,  
BINGLEY, West Yorkshire. BD16 1AU.

FULL NAME ..... HOME ADDRESS .....

TELEPHONE .....

POSTCODE .....

NAME OF COMPANY (where appropriate) ..... PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS: .....

POSITION .....

POSTCODE .....

Categories:	B. 1.	Associate Member	£25.00
	B. 2.	Associate Member including subscription to the 'Golf Course' for 1 year.	£43.00
	C. 1.	Trade Member	£30.00
	C. 2.	Trade Member including subscription to the 'Golf Course' for 1 year.	£48.00

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 ..... Member in Category .....

and I enclose my cheque as indicated above in the sum of £ ..... made payable to BIGGA.

A receipt will not be issued unless specifically requested.

SIGNED ..... DATE .....



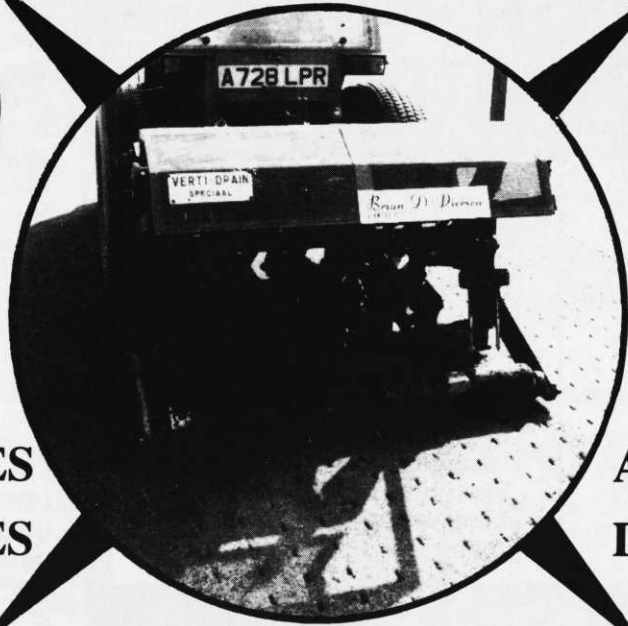
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# COMPACTION ?





# AYRSHIRE PLAYS HOST TO BIGGA

AYR is playing host to the BIGGA National Tournament/Annual Conference in September.

This part of the Scottish West Coast enjoys the relaxing influence of warm air from the Gulf Stream and has much to offer delegates, wives and girl friends in the way of entertainment, sport and other tourist attractions.

The Ayrshire Valleys have a

Prestwick Old Course. The Belleisle golf course is considered by many to be one of the finest public courses in Scotland, and the volume of play there is around 60,000 rounds a year. There is also an abundance of fine municipal courses, among which are Dalmilling and Seafield at Ayr.

Visiting greenkeepers will be able to sample the testing qualities of the holes on the

the Ayrshire Valleys to suit all the family. A wide choice of accommodation is available. Hotels, guest houses, bed and breakfast, self catering properties, caravans to let, caravan and camping parks. Detailed information is available from the Ayrshire Valleys Tourist Board, 62 Bank Street, Kilmarnock, KA1 1ER, Scotland (Tel) 0563 39090.

The town of Ayr has a rich variety of shops. Places to visit must include The Burns Cottage and Museum, Alloway. Belleisle House Hotel (see front cover) was originally the country seat of the Glentanar family - the immediate surrounds include two excellent parkland golf courses, an aviary and deer park. Those who prefer can take one of the many walks in the grounds and enjoy the celebrated garden.

BIGGA members should not miss the opportunity to visit this lovely part of Scotland, which is steeped in golfing tradition surrounding the game. Scottish greenkeepers are knowledgeable and proud of their profession and heritage, and visitors to the conference can be assured of many interesting discussions and exchanges of views in addition to a real Ayrshire welcome!



*3rd green Belleisle golf course*

rich tapestry of history and heritage. Over the centuries many people have come and gone; stone age hunters, bronze and iron age farmers, Roman soldiers and Viking invaders. Cairns, battle sites and prehistoric villages are a reminder of the many armies that have passed through the undulating Ayrshire terrain in years gone by.

Many famous names are associated with Ayrshire, the most notable being Robert Burns, a popular hero and great literary figure known throughout the world. You can still visit the small cottage, built by his father, where Burns was born on 25th January 1795.

Ayrshire is renowned for its famous golf courses and among the championship links are Turnberry, Royal Troon and



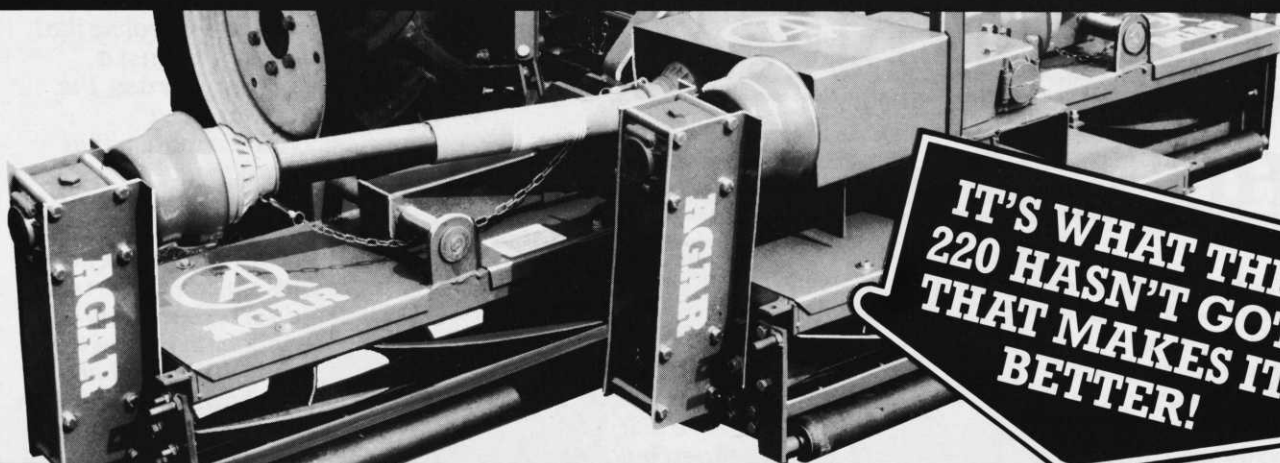
*Abbotsford Hotel, one of the many available locally*

Belleisle golf course, which is always in fine condition. This popular venue has staged many professional and amateur events in the past.

There is plenty to do and see in

by  
**JOHN  
CAMPBELL**





**IT'S WHAT THE  
220 HASN'T GOT  
THAT MAKES IT  
BETTER!**

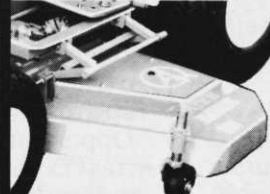
## NO BELTS • NO CHAINS • NO HYDRAULICS

### SWEeper/ COLLECTOR



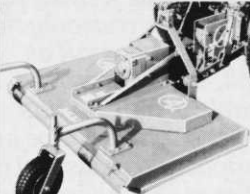
Incredibly efficient.  
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### ROTARY MOWER



3-point linkage.  
48" 60" and 72" cut.  
Cutting heights 1/2"  
upwards.

### Unique 3-Gang Mower for 15 BHP Tractors and Above

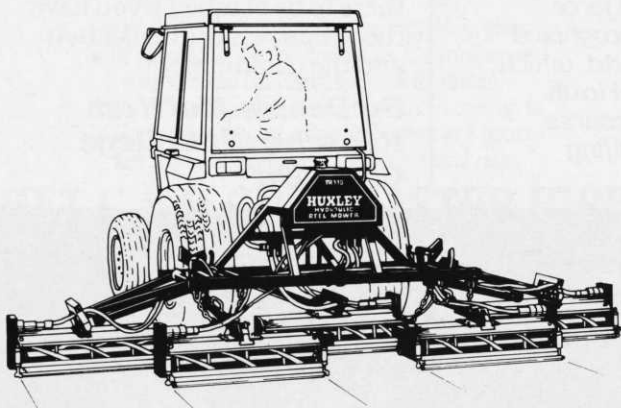
No more belt and chain adjustments! Time-consuming maintenance! Costly repairs! The 220 cuts all that out. Gives 84" cut. Cylinder removed in one minute. 3-point linkage. Quick attach/detach. Folding mainframe. (5-gang version now available).

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# Soilife



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# TRAINING -

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## THE WAY FORWARD

---

*"DO I really need to wear a collar and tie to be a successful head greenkeeper?"*

Yes, young man, you do. Metaphorically at least, as you need to portray the image of a supervisor and have the communication skills of a manager to attain your goal.

*"But what ARE my prospects? Do I aspire to the ivory towers of golf course management, and can I really expect to emulate the paths of those who manage Gleneagles, Wentworth or St. Pierre?"*

I am constantly asked these questions by greenkeeping assistants attending day and block release courses at Reaseheath, as I am sure are my colleagues in other establishments.

My answer lies in the rhetorical question: "Do you want to be successful?"

In his own words, let Mark Lewis present his own 'student profile'. Mark Lewis is just 22 years of age.

*"I attended Pensby Secondary School for boys in the Wirral and when I left school I started a YTS scheme at Neston Cricket Club where I gained experience in hockey, cricket and tennis. I attended Cheshire College of Agriculture, Reaseheath, for my City and Guilds in Golf Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management, first Phase I followed by Phase II.*

*"When my YTS finished, I went to Tranmere Rovers Football Club as assistant groundsman and remained there for 18 months. In the latter half of 1984 I joined Heswall Golf Club as an assistant greenkeeper.*

**Left to right: Bill Lawson, head greenkeeper Heswall Golf Club and BIGGA Board of Management member, photographed with his greenstaff in 1986.**

**Raymond Hunt now head greenkeeper at Goodwood Park, Mark Lewis and assistant head greenkeeper Guy Canning, and Ben.**

*"During my three and a half years there, I have been involved with all aspects of greenkeeping, from tee and green construction to everyday maintenance of a golf course, all with the expert guidance of one of the country's most respected head greenkeepers, Mr Bill Lawson.*

*"Mr Lawson has helped me tremendously during my time as an assistant, sharing his knowledge with not only myself but with all greenstaff at Heswall. This has proved invaluable to me and has shown through as I have just been appointed assistant course manager at Goodwood Park and Country Club near Chichester in West Sussex. This is a new course designed by Donald Steel and built by Brian Pierson, which will be opened in 1989.*

*"I have also been involved with BIGGA, the new greenkeepers association; in the north-west section as a committee member, and recently as section secretary. The association is a growing professional force which is becoming recognised within the golfing world, which can only be beneficial to all greenkeepers - from course managers of large golfing complexes to trainee*

*greenkeepers of small courses. "The sooner people realise that greenkeeping is not just a question of cutting grass, the better, and that it is a professional occupation that requires a great deal of knowledge and expertise in turf culture.*

*"My future as a greenkeeper is very promising, with my ambitions set on becoming a course manager in the not too distant future. This has been possible due to three things: Mr Bill Lawson, City and Guilds qualifications and BIGGA".*

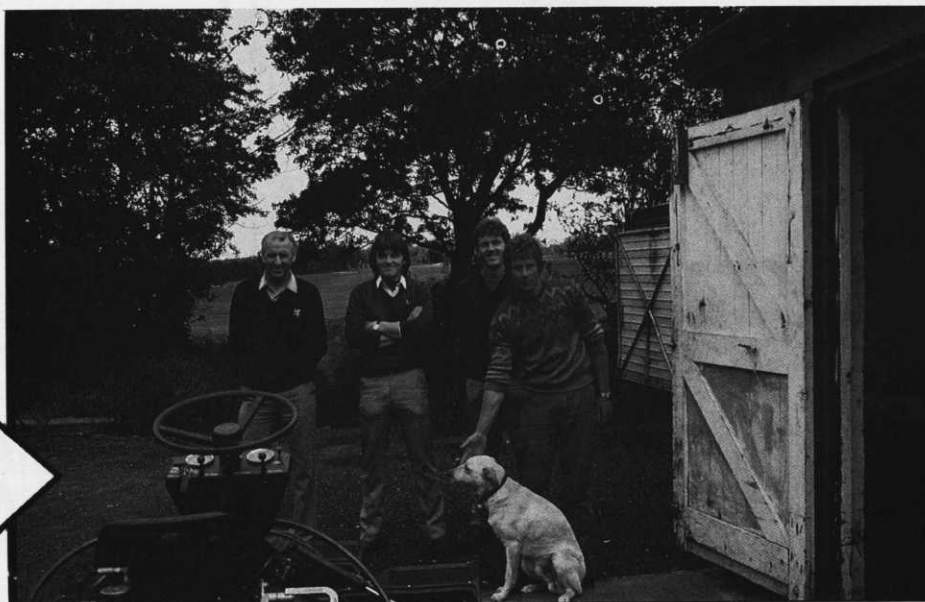
This is by no means just an isolated profile amongst Reaseheath students, but it does require dedication on the part of the young greenkeeper, dedication on behalf of his supervisor and a commitment to training on behalf of the golf club management.

Opportunities are available in a fast expanding industry. Old and traditional skills are necessary, but so are new skills in management, budgeting and communication.

Perhaps the case of Mark Lewis may prove that by lots of hard work, study and commitment, attending college and, by no means least, being a member of BIGGA, you can climb the ladder to success.

Make no mistake, the ladder is there to be climbed if you have the willpower, the dedication and the commitment.

**By Dennis Mortram  
Reaseheath College  
Cheshire**



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**NTC**

**National Turfgrass Council**

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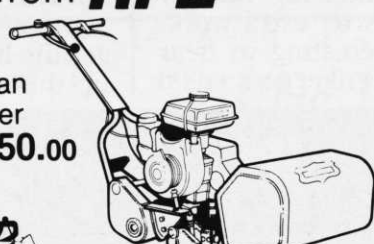
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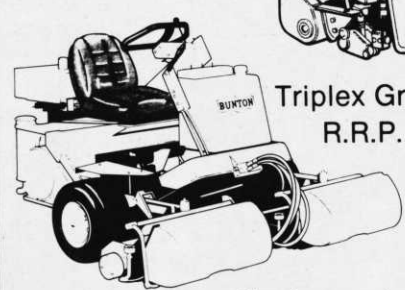
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# Cirencester Golf Club

GOLF has been played at Cirencester for almost a century, and the present course at Baunton commands truly magnificent views of this lovely part of rural England. The course was designed by James Braid on a rolling plateau where the eastern slopes of the Cotswolds descend to meet the plain.

The holes at the southern end of the plateau overlook an expanse of pleasant wooded countryside stretching as far as the great plain of Wessex. The course has occupied its present site since 1909, and so rapidly did the construction work progress that the club was able to hold its first competition in July of that same year.

David Parker, head greenkeeper at the club, is a greenkeeping enthusiast who likes to keep his course well groomed for members and visitors alike. David said, "I have always liked an outdoor life, having had a spell in farming and forestry before taking up golf course maintenance, and I've never regretted my decision to make greenkeeping my career.

"The Cirencester course, like many others around here, has its own particular character and qualities that make it attractive. We are in good playing condition all the year round, irrespective of the weather, but being on an exposed Cotswold plateau there are days when the elements can test the playing abilities of all golfers. The weather is normally mild in the spring and bracing in the summer. The course is at its best in the autumn and tough going in the winter."

David went on: "The preservation of wild life habitat and flora is an important concession we make to the environment of the course. Using selective weedkillers puts a special responsibility on us to treat particular areas with caution and protect certain flora and fauna to preserve the delicate balance of nature.



"The activities of rooks can be a bit of a problem, and I expect this is something that quite a few greenkeepers have to contend with. In our case the birds come from the woods nearby and pull out newly replaced divots on the fairways in search of food. It makes the place look untidy as well as leaving nasty lies for fairway shots, and gives us extra work. It would be interesting to hear how other greenkeepers deal

with the bird menace - apart from shooting them!

"Having many sloping fairways calls for machinery with good traction and power to negotiate steep banks to get the maintenance work done with a minimum of effort.

"Drainage is good, even under the wettest conditions and it is always possible to use our equipment without the worry of getting bogged down or 'tracking up' the turf.



David Parker with his enthusiastic greenkeeping team