

BIGGA NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

THE Scottish Region Sub-Committee is hard at work on the organisation of this event and it is anticipated that the brochure will shortly be with the printers. Full details of the week will appear in the April edition of *the Golf Course*. However, some preliminary details are set out, and a form for those wishing to register their interest in attending can be found below. Completion of this form and its forwarding to Chris Kennedy will ensure priority attention when the brochure is distributed.

Tournament: This will be played over three days, 26th - 28th September and competition will be for all the Association's major trophies, eg. News of the World Trophy and Golf Illustrated Challenge Cup. The team to represent the Association in the Kubota Challenge in October will be selected from the national tournament results.

Conference: This will be held at the Concert Hall in Troon over two days, 29th - 30th September. Invitations have been issued to speakers at home and abroad with a view to having a truly international conference.

Transport: Coaches will be arranged from major regional centres to Ayr and there will be no extra charge for this over and above the fixed rates for the week. Arrangements will be co-ordinated through regional administrators.

Social Events: There will be varied entertainment incorporating live music at a number of hotels each evening and major events will include a civic reception, a 'Scottish night out', big band dance and the banquet and prize-giving.

Coach Trips/Visits: There will be a number of interesting excursions, eg. Land O' Burns Centre, Monument Gardens, Burns Cottage and Auld Brig; 'Electric Brae', Culzean Castle, Crossangel Abbey - including tea at The Turnberry Hotel; 'Johnny Walkers' Kilmarnock; and 'By Popular Demand' which could include for instance a shopping trip to Edinburgh.

Sponsorship: Trade readers interested in sponsorship of the event should note that Jim Paton is co-ordinating this aspect and he can be contacted at Glenhaven, 1 North Road, West Kilbride, Ayrshire. KA23 9AQ. Telephone: 0294 823210.

Neil Thomas, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BIGGA 1988 NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**I am interested in attending the National Tournament/Conference.
Please forward me the brochure as soon as it is available.**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

I am interested in the following (PLEASE TICK)

Full Package - Single Person (£170.00)

Full Package - Couple (£320.00)

Full Package
without accommodation (£ 50.00)

Conference only
(£10.00 per day) (£20.00)

I require details of bed and breakfast accommodation

PLEASE FORWARD TO:
Chris Kennedy, 82 Dumbreck Road,
Glasgow,
Scotland. G41 9DW
Tel: 041 472 4242

BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



1988 GREENKEEPER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

(NB. Not to be completed by 1987 Members)

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

FULL NAME HOME ADDRESS
TELEPHONE
DATE OF BIRTH
NAME OF EMPLOYER ADDRESS
.....
.....
.....
PRESENT POST DATE OF APPOINTMENT

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

.....
I wish to be affiliated to the Section (see below).

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.

SIGNED DATE

Subscriptions are NOT to be sent with this form but will be invoiced separately.

Fees payable will be: (i) Full Member £25.00
(ii) 18 years of age and under £12.50

Sections:

Scottish Region : North, East, West, Central, Ayrshire.
Northern England Region : North East, North West, Northern, Cleveland, Sheffield.
Midland and North Wales : East Midland, Midland, East of England, Mid Anglia,
: Berks/Bucks/Oxon.
South East : East Anglia, Greater London, Surrey, Sussex, Kent.
South West and South Wales : South Coast, Devon and Cornwall, South West, South Wales.

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

Announcing the Winners of our Questionnaire Competition

In the November/December issue of "the Golf Course" we asked our readers to fill in a questionnaire, covering chemicals, fertilisers and their distribution. The results were most interesting - the answers to "What product not now available, would you most like your current supplier to offer....." were in the main humorous therefore our winners reflect that response:-

John Winterbottom, Course Superintendent, The Greenock Golf Club,
"A greens committee "bright ideas" suppressant"

Tim McCreadie, Head Greenkeeper, Hesketh Golf Club,
"A powder or liquid which is antagonistic to thatch"

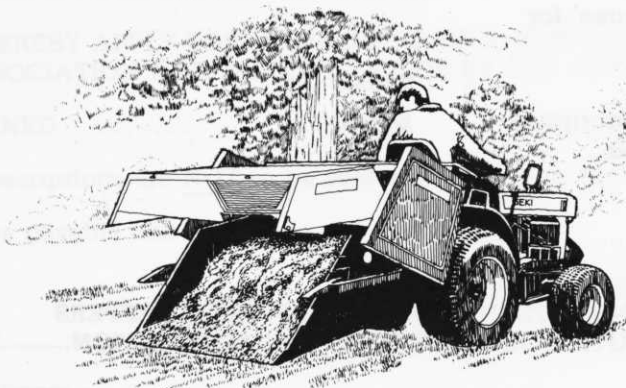
Bill Lawson, Course Manager, Heswall Golf Club,
"An effective irritant to be used on all greenkeepers who are not members of BIGGA"

Michael Pierce, Head Greenkeeper, Roehampton Golf Club.
"Instant hydraulic oil remover for greens"

Gareth Roberts, Assistant Head Greenkeeper, North Middlesex Golf Club.
"A liquid feed greens with whisky, so they come up half cut"

**To all our winners - congratulations
prizes are on their way.**

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They give turf a tough time and to help make good the damage you need Rigby Taylor Sports Turf Dressings.

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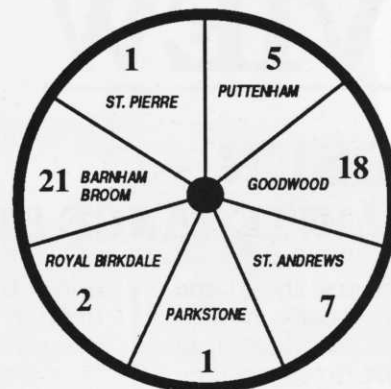
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(Contractors) Limited

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Telephone: Verwood 822372 & 824906 (STD 0202)



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A machine to work with

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The greenkeepers are no different, looking for the best in machinery to undertake jobs around the course. Rough cut, short cut, spiking, or draining, preparation, or conservation. More and more greenkeepers are looking to Iseki to provide the right machine for their course.

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Par Excellence

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"Please send me details of how Iseki can help my course"

Name

Address

Application

IS17/81/G

COMPANY REVIEW

JACOBSEN - TURF MAINTENANCE SUPPLIERS

FOR over 65 years the name Jacobsen has been prominently identified as a leading supplier of turf maintenance equipment. The company provides mowers, blowers, seeders, aerators, sweepers, etc. that help to preserve well manicured landscapes around golf courses, sports fields and recreation areas. In North America the name Jacobsen is a household name among greenkeepers and their equipment is extensively used on golf courses in many parts of the world, including the UK.

RELIABLE

Chris Smith, manager of Jacobsen, at Kings Lynn, Norfolk, said. "The increasing amount of equipment we have sold in this country is a good indication of the popularity and reliability of the Jacobsen range of machinery. We are also aware that the best machinery is no good if you cannot depend on fast after-sales service. Jacobsen's products line is backed by factory trained mechanics providing speedy, competent service". Chris continued, "Our service agents maintain a large inventory of spare parts

and these inventories are further supported by our computer ordering network, so that any part can be on its way to the customer within 24 hours. With Jacobsen, machinery spends its time on the job, not in the workshop".

Chris went on, "A friend of mine who has been in the golf course business as advisor and agronomist, says that golf clubs are like governments they like a change now and again with their equipment. Once you get them to change it is up to you to ensure that they keep using your products and the way to do that is by giving them the best service.

FAIR

"There is a wide choice of machinery now available in the market place. Competition is keen. We have always encouraged our appointed agents to be scrupulously fair in their dealings with customers and give good service. And that can lead to further sales".

Explained Chris: "When a greenkeeper recommends the purchase of one of our machines to his club and it is approved, it goes without saying we will guarantee he



Chris Smith

gets a first class follow-up service so that he will have no complaints from his committee if any minor faults develop in the machine's performance.

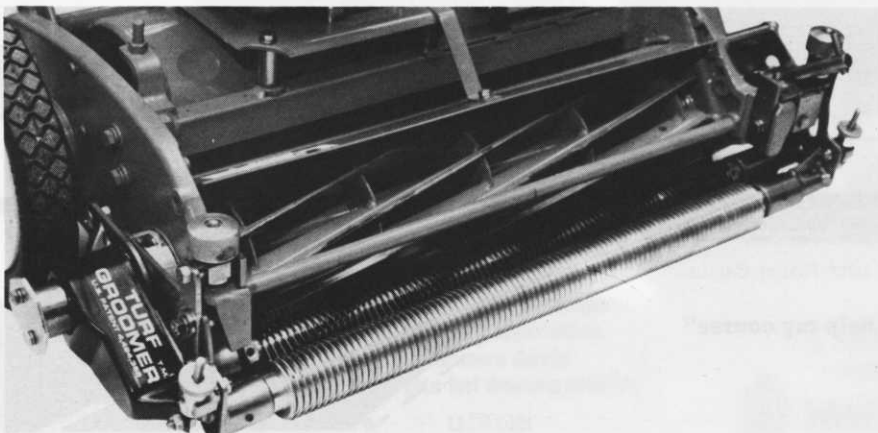
DEMONSTRATIONS

"During machinery demonstrations we like to invite club officials as well as greenkeepers so that everyone gets involved. Practical demonstrations are important because they allow every potential user to see the machine in action and be able to judge its performance under their own particular conditions.

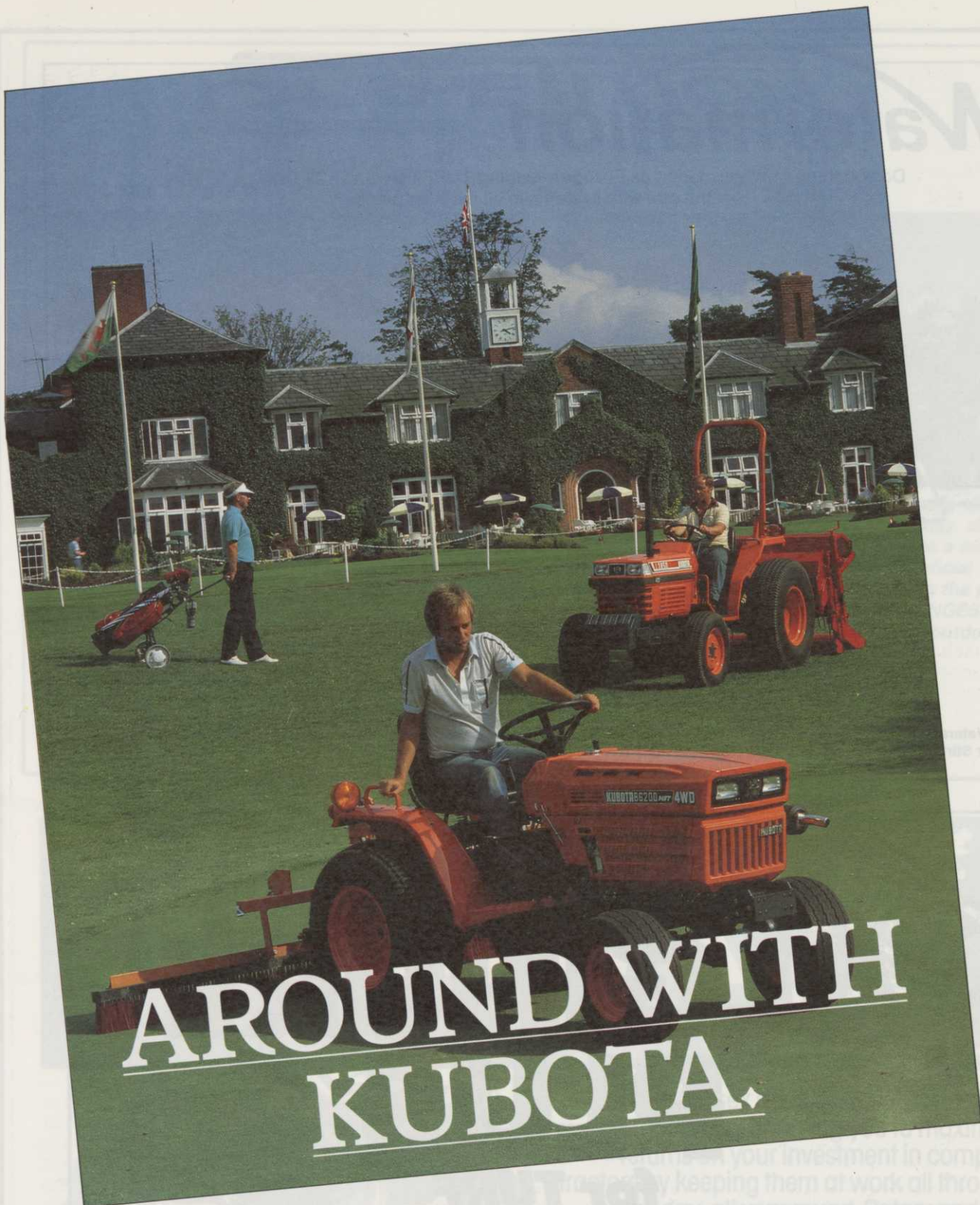
"As a matter of policy we are usually quite happy to leave our demonstration machinery with the greenkeeper for a couple of days to allow him to make a detailed assessment of its capabilities. When an experienced professional uses any of our machines we are confident that he will be impressed by its performance and that is the secret of our success.

"We sell direct through service agents in different part of the country. At Kings Lynn we have a technical service department, spare parts, accounts and sales co-ordination departments, and all work as a team. Our headquarters here are centrally situated for easy access to all parts of the country".

It was Jacobsen that produced the first ride-on Triplex Greens Mower. The Greens King IV is their latest example of the reliable, sophisticated greens mowing equipment that is a tribute to the ingenious engineering expertise of the company. Other popular products among greenkeepers are the Tri-King, Turf-Cat and Gang Mowers. ■



The Turf Groomer™ greens conditioner



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We challenge you to find a range of compact tractors and perfectly matched implements that are better equipped on course.

We challenge you to find a range which gives more manoeuvrability, more versatility or more economy.

We challenge you to improve on the two year warranty, and the tunnel block construction which ensures that your sacred turf remains unsullied by oil leaks.

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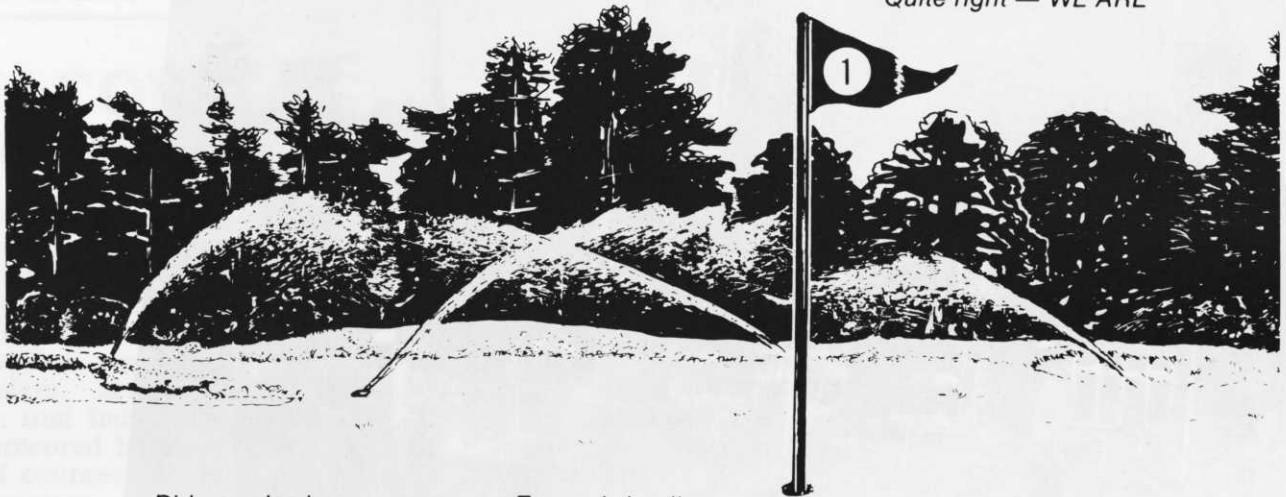


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FOR QUALIFYING
DETAILS.

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Quite right — WE ARE



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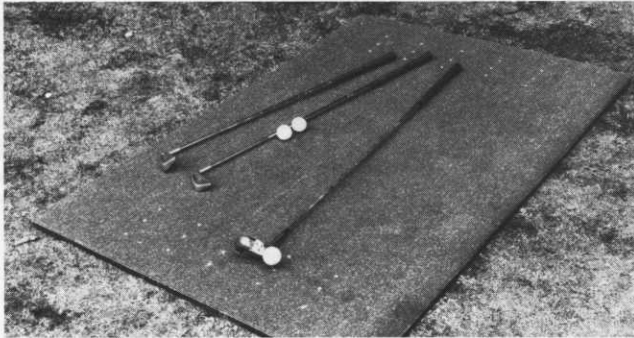
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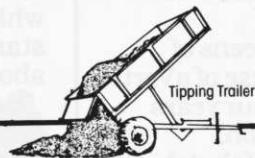


GM 122 Rotary Mower

Wessex have designed a range of machinery enabling you to maximise returns on your investment in compact tractors by keeping them at work all through the day, all year round. Rotary and flail mowers, pick-up mowers, leaf sweepers, trailers, spreaders, front blades and brushes, cultivation machinery, even wood chippers.



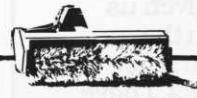
Sweeper Collector



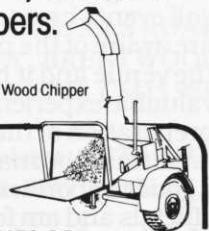
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TPU1084 Flail Mower



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Telephone (04203) 8111



THE history of Woodcote Park, Epsom, Surrey, goes back to the middle of the 12th century and it provides an admirable setting for the layout of the two 18 hole courses which belong to the RAC Country Club. From the elegant clubhouse building one has a commanding view of a lovely Capability Brown type of landscape, dominated by the golf courses which were laid out in 1915 by Herbert Fowler, the well known golf course architect.

The RAC Country Club has a good reputation among golf enthusiasts and those in the professional ranks, and the strategy of the courses was put to the test when the Martini International was played there in 1978. The Bob Hope Classic event allowed TV viewers to appreciate the beautiful surroundings and the superb golfing qualities of many of the holes.

The head greenkeeper responsible for the upkeep of the golf courses, Bob Wiles, 43, is a genial, friendly man, who is held in high esteem by all his enthusiastic staff. Said Bob: "I left school at the age of 15 and went to work on a farm briefly, then eventually go employment at Epsom Golf Club in 1962.

"I came to the RAC Club ten years ago with my wife, Janet and three children, Nicola, Sharon and Scott. We live in an old farmhouse on the edge of the course. My main hobby is karate, I am a brown belt and am studying for a black belt at the moment.

"I love the challenge of the job here," Bob continued, "and hope to remain with this club for the rest of my career. We have two courses, the Coronation and the Old course - the Coronation being the shorter of the two.

"Having staged international golf events here in the past we are aware of the popularity of the venue and it has given us valuable experience in the preparation of the course for important tournaments. I have a good rapport with all my club officials and am fortunate to have a knowledgeable and experienced estate manager, Keith Symon, with whom I have an excellent working relationship

OUT ON THE COURSE



THE RAC COUNTRY CLUB

When Bob Wiles was proudly taking me on a tour of his new greenkeeping headquarters at the club I was agreeably impressed and can honestly say his facilities must be among the best in the country and will be the envy of all his contemporaries. He explained "We have converted the old stable block into a modern greenkeeping complex, having a fully equipped workshop employing a qualified engineer, Tony Worsfold, and a trainee assistant. All our repairs are done here. No machinery is sent to manufacturers agents for overhauls. Each unit gets stripped down every year and is completely rebuilt with our own labour force."

Story by John Campbell

"Our main items of equipment are three Toro GM 3's, two Toro 216's, four Cushman and four tractors. There is a lot of grass here to cut - altogether about 300 acres, every blade of which gets clipped on a monthly rota during the growing season. On the chalky downland, drainage and growth is good and we are able to present the course in first class condition for major tournaments and club competitions. At one time we did have quite a bit of compaction on the greens of the Old Course, but use of a Verti-Drain over the past four years has cured the condition.

"We have a little bit of thatch on some of the greens and I have recently purchased a 'Coremaster', an Australian aerating machine, to start a hollow tining programme combined with overseeding in

the spring. The greens tend to hold a lot more surface water than they used to due to amount of thatch that has accumulated. After de-thatching operations we will follow up with an 80/20 dressing to help break down the build up of fibre".

Bob went on to talk about his staff: "I have two course foremen - Andy Davey, is in charge of the Old course, and John Shepherd, who recently joined us from Piltown Golf Club last year, is in charge of the Coronation course. There are five experienced staff working on the Old and three on the Coronation course. We also have a YTS lad who goes to college once a week. Good training is important for your greenkeepers. The job is much more technical now that courses are expected to be open 365 days a year. Nowadays, financial matters dictate that we have to be like the Windmill - never closed!

"All our staff are very industrious and we like to give them every encouragement. The club is good to us; there is a bonus and non-contributory pension scheme and meals are also supplied. We have all attended first-aid classes, chain saw instruction courses and we are about to start a course on pesticides which will help us to understand the rules and regulations about their application.

"Being fortunate in having first class workshop facilities, we are sometimes able to modify pieces of equipment to suit our particular requirements. One example was on our hydraulic 5-gang mowers, where no matter how securely the height of cut