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the **Golf Course**



Turnberry an Open
Championship venue,
owned by the Japanese

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RESUME



FRENCH

Le sujet du numéro de ce mois du Golf Course est le document que le Royal and Ancient Golf Club de St. Andrews publiera prochainement en tant que guide de la gestion des parcours de golf en Grande-Bretagne.

Comme tout ce qui concerne la culture britannique, le golf qui est né dans les dunes des côtes écossaises (bien que nos amis hollandais ne soient pas nécessairement d'accord à ce sujet), représente une certaine tradition sacro-sainte. Malgré l'aménagement d'autres terrains de golf d'abord à l'intérieur du pays, puis dans les brandes et ensuite dans les landes et dans les parcs, le Royal and Ancient Golf Club est encore toujours considéré comme l'organisme de contrôle du jeu.

La commission consultative d'entretien des parcours du Royal and Ancient Golf Club a examiné la gestion du golf au niveau des clubs dans son ensemble: la préparation et l'entretien des parcours, la formation des entreteneurs, les fonctions des différentes organisations de golf amateur et la structure des comités qui gèrent la plupart des clubs privés. C'est le système de club privés que la plupart des golfeurs européens considèrent comme typiquement britannique. Ils essayent de maintenir les niveaux de qualité sans les fonds nécessaires des membres qui en fait sont ceux qui se plaignent le plus.

Le mois dernier, le Golf Course souligna la nécessité de construire 500 terrains de golf en Grande-Bretagne dans les dix prochaines années mais compte tenu de l'importance des sommes requises, ils devront être financés par des entreprises commerciales. Les cotisations des membres de ces clubs devront être fixées de façon à maintenir la qualité du parcours à un niveau acceptable. Les clubs devront augmenter leurs cotisations pour empêcher que le niveau de qualité déjà bas ne chute encore d'avantage.

Jim Arthur, un collaborateur régulier, est membre de la commission consultative d'entretien des parcours du R & A. Il est responsable de la rédaction du rapport "The Way Forward". Ses commentaires se concentrent surtout sur la question de l'entretien des parcours.

Un traditionaliste de longue date, il déplore la tendance actuelle qui consiste à encourager les "mauvaises herbes" (poa annua) sur les terrains de golf et s'est démené pour convaincre les entreteneurs de parcours et les gestionnaires de terrains de golf d'adopter des techniques de culture de turf qui empêcheront cette espèce d'herbe de pousser sur les greens.

L'Exposition Internationale des Sport et Loisirs organisée pour la dernière fois sur le champs de course de Windsor, se tiendra l'année prochaine à Peterborough à environ 100 km à nord de Londres.

Nous faisons le compte rendu de cette exposition réussie de trois jours ainsi que des nouveaux produits susceptibles d'intéresser les entreteneurs de parcours.



SPANISH

El artículo principal del número de "The Golf Course" (El Campo de Golf) que sale este mes consiste en el documento que pronto publicará el club de St. Andrews, Royal and Ancient Golf Club, como guía para los gerentes de los campos de golf británicos.

Como el gran mayoría de los aspectos culturales británicos, el golf, que nació entre las dunas de arena que lindan las costas de Escocia (aunque no estarían forzosamente de acuerdo nuestros amigos holandeses) incluye muchas tradiciones sagradas y, a pesar del desarrollo ulterior de campos de golf, al principio tierra adentro en brezales y páramos y luego en parques, aún considera que el club Royal and Ancient rige este juego.

A través de su grupo de consejeros responsables del mantenimiento de los campos de golf, el club Royal and Ancient ha inspeccionado la administración completa del golf, a nivel de los clubs, desde la preparación y el mantenimiento de los campos de golf, la formación de los responsables de los campos, las funciones de los distintos organismos relacionados con el golf para aficionados, hasta la estructura de los comités de los clubs que dirigen la mayoría de los clubs privados.

El sistema de los clubs privados es lo que la mayoría de los jugadores europeos encontrarían típicamente británico. El intentar mantener un grado de excelencia a pesar de la falta de fondos suficientes, precisamente debida muchas veces a la poca generosidad de los miembros que presentan la mayoría de las quejas.

El mes pasado, nuestra revista The Golf Course, llamó la atención a la necesidad de crear otros 500 campos de golf en Gran Bretaña dentro de los próximos diez años, pero dados los enormes capitales que se requieren, tendrán que ser financiados por empresas comerciales. Las cuotas de los socios de estos clubs se fijarán a un nivel que permita mantener el campo de golf de manera adecuada. A menos que los clubs privados estén dispuestos a aumentar sus propias cuotas de acuerdo con éstas, las condiciones actuales más bien pobres empeorarán aún más. Jim Arthur, que contribuye con frecuencia en nuestra revista, es miembro del Consejo responsable de los Campos club Royal and Ancient, al que se le debe la publicación de "The Way Forward" (Camino al Porvenir). Sus comentarios concierne sobre todo la parte del informe que trata del mantenimiento de los campos de golf.

Muy tradicionalista, lamenta la tendencia actual de estimular el crecimiento de "hierba mala" (poa annua) en nuestros campos de golf y se ha esforzado muchísimo para persuadir a los responsables de los campos y los dirigentes de los campos de golf para que acepten métodos de cultivar el césped que excluyan este tipo de hierba de los campos.

La Exposición Internacional de Deportes y Pasatiempos que tuvo lugar por última vez en el hipódromo de Windsor, cambiará a su nuevo local en Peterborough, unos 60 millas al norte de Londres. Informamos sobre el éxito de este programa de tres días y sobre los nuevos productos que serán presentados, los cuales tendrán un gran interés para los responsables de los campos.



GERMAN

In diesem Monat befaßt sich "Golf Course" hauptsächlich mit dem Bericht über die bevorstehenden Golfplatz-Management-Richtlinien des Royal and Ancient Golf Club von St. Andrews.

Wie zahlreiche andere Aspekte der britischen Kultur beruht Golf, das seinen Ursprung in den Sanddünen Schottlands hatte (obwohl unsere Freunde in Holland damit wohl nicht unbedingt einiggehen), auf einer nahezu heiligen Tradition, die trotz der Weiterentwicklung von Golfplätzen — im Landesinneren zuerst auf Heide- und Moorland und dann auf Parkgelände — sich immer noch nach dem Royal and Ancient als Aufsichtsbehörde dieses Sports richtet.

Der Royal and Ancient hat über seinen Beratungsausschuß "Greenkeeping Panel" Überlegungen über das gesamte Golf-Management auf Klubebene angestellt, von der Vorbereitung und Instandhaltung von Golfplätzen, der Ausbildung von Golfplatz-Fachpersonal und den Funktionen der verschiedenen Amateurgolf-Organisationen bis zu der Struktur der Klubausschüsse, die die meisten Privatklubs managen.

Die meisten Golfspieler auf dem europäischen Festland würden sowohl dieses Privatklubsystem als auch die Aufrechterhaltung von Maßstäben ohne ausreichende Finanzierung seitens jener Mitglieder, die sich am meisten beschwerten, als typisch British bezeichnen.

The Golf Course befaßte sich im letzten Monat mit dem Problem, daß in den nächsten zehn Jahren in Großbritannien noch 500 Golfplätze angelegt werden sollten, die jedoch von der Unternehmenseite finanziert werden müssen, weil sie ungeheure Mengen Geld verschlucken. Die Mitgliedsbeiträge für diese Klubs müssen ausreichend hoch angesetzt werden, damit ein akzeptabler Golfstandard gewährleistet werden kann. Wenn Privatklubs nicht bereit sind, ihre eigenen Beiträge dementsprechend zu erhöhen, wird das bereits heute schwache Niveau noch weiter fallen.

Jim Arthur, unser ständiger Mitarbeiter, ist Mitglied des R & A Greenkeeper Panel mit Verantwortung für die Produktion von "The Way Forward", und in diesem Bericht nimmt er hauptsächlich zum Pflegeaspekt von Golfplätzen Stellung.

Als absoluter Vertreter der Tradition bedauert er die Tendenz, auf unseren Golfplätzen das Unkraut "Grass" (Poa annua) zu fördern, und er hat sich lange und hart darum bemüht, das Rasenpflegepersonal und die Manager zu neuen Rasenkulturtechniken zu überreden, bei denen Poa annua keine Rolle spielt.

Die letztesmal auf der Windsor-Rennbahn abgehaltene International Sport and Leisure Exhibition findet nächstes Jahr in Peterborough statt, ca. 60 Meilen nördlich von London. Wir werden über dieses dreitägige Ereignis und neue Produkte für die Rasenpflege dann Bericht erstatten.

GREENSIDE COMMENT

The Way Forward

The R & A document, "The Way Forward", is currently under discussion among the various bodies in Britain, who administer and contribute to the Amateur Game of Golf.

Some of these organisations are involved in golf for commercial gain, but that is no detriment to the input that they can make to the game. Such Associations were formed to ensure that approved standards were set and their members conformed to those standards.

The Administrators, apart from salaried secretariat, such as the Golf Unions, the Golf Club Secretaries Association and for that matter the Greenkeeper's Association, are run by volunteers, and here lies the fundamental problem in golf. This is the reason why the R & A have felt it was necessary to break with tradition and offer direct advice from the top. Some may say they should have grasped the nettle earlier, as it is to the R & A that every club and golfer looks for guidance.

Somewhat a misconception as the R & A is primarily a private club, a Rules, Balls and Implements Body and the organisers of the Open Championship. They also participate in running the links at St. Andrews through representation on the Links Committee.

However, no one else has attempted to drag the reluctant amateur clubs into the 21st century, so the R & A through their greenkeeping panel have bravely stepped outside their constitution with pertinent comments and a generous "dollop" of criticism, some quite justly deserved.

The Way Forward will eventually be issued to all clubs, whether direct, or through the Unions is not yet clear, but it will certainly rock the foundations of many a club committee, when they see that their management structure is described as "Old Style Established (vintage 1982)."

It is in the area of creating a more positive, effective and efficient management structure within member clubs that The Way Forward could have the greatest success. There are some very hard words for both

General and Green Committees, suggesting election to the golf club hierarchy is seen as a step on the social ladder, rather than a desire to make a constructive contribution.

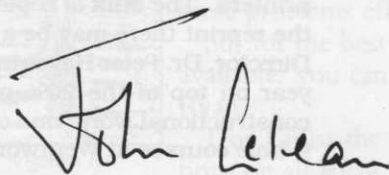
This malaise, according to the document, is also continued through to the Green Committee, where an interest in agriculture or gardening, particularly if combined with an ability to play golf to single figures, is regarded as sufficient qualification to over-ride the advice of the green staff or make alterations to the course.

Comment on the present state of our golf industry is not all destructive, there are guidelines for improving committee structures as well as suggestions to the Unions on methods for improving input to member clubs, by means of educational weekends and seminars.

They also recognise the need for more golf courses in Britain and the role the English Golf Union is playing to bring this about. What also must be grasped is the desperate necessity for clubs to have sufficient income to pay greenkeepers a wage level to equate with their skills.

Meagre annual subscriptions, which not only keep staff salaries on the bottom line, but allow nothing for equipment investment, could eventually grind the member clubs to a halt.

When built, the proposed 500 new golf courses in Britain will be mainly commercial, quite prepared to pay the proven manager the rate for the job. If the private clubs are not prepared to match these figures, the members will be cutting their own greens on Saturday mornings.



EDITOR

CLIPPINGS

By The Mower

Memorabilia

Malone Golf Club near Belfast celebrates its Centenary in 1995 and among other activities planned to mark the event, the Council of the Club propose to commission the production of a Centenary Book. While much information is already available from Club records, undoubtedly much else of value must exist, so the Council is anxious to commence preparation of the volume.

If any of our readers possess, records, correspondence, photographs or any form of memorabilia, the Secretary Manager, Malone Golf Club, 240 Upper Malone Road, Dunmurry, Belfast BT17 9LB, would be most grateful.

Good wishes

It was very pleasing to see former ICI Professional Products Manager, Keith Cleverly, making a tour of the Windsor Show Ground last month.

Keith has undergone two serious operations since his promotion, which took him away from the ICI headquarters at Farnham last year, but reports indicate he is making steady progress.

Although still on the "sick list", we hear he has been taking his golf clubs for a round at the delightful home club at Blackmoor.

Good wishes are extended for a complete recovery from former colleagues and his many trade friends.

Goodbye Cornelia

Congratulations are also offered to another former ICI manager in the same division, Miss Cornelia Norris. Now Mrs. Dyball, she tied the nuptial knot in June amid great celebrations and then announced she would have to resign as her new husband John had been offered a job in Munich. Bubbly Cornelia, a science graduate from Lancashire had been in the Professional Products Division for four years after a stint at the Research Station at Jelotts Hill and will be greatly missed by the ICI team.

Wentworth opinion

Government Minister Lord Young is not one of those who is objecting to the Japanese involvement at Wentworth. Quite the contrary.

Arriving back from Tokyo, where he had been accompanying Mrs Thatcher on her business boosting trip, Lord Young says "By using European and Japanese capital we can raise the standard of the club to the highest international level, whilst maintaining control in British hands."

He goes on to say that he knows Wentworth well and as a golfer he feels strongly that the sport needs modernising and our approach to the game needs updating.

No objection to that as long as we are not going to import the Japanese custom of five hour rounds of golf, with a break after nine holes for lunch.

STRI annual report

The STRI have had difficulties with the Annual Journal this year, due to problems at their Dewsbury printers. The bulk of copies have been despatched to some 5,000 recipients, but until they receive the reprint there may be a few customers who are still waiting.

Director, Dr. Peter Hayes in his report says advisory work on golf has increased by a further 17% this year on top of the 20% reported in 1988. There has also been a marked increase in fees for constructional work, one of the major projects being the supervising of the new South Course and 9-hole courses at Wentworth.

Ticket only

One of the outstanding successes at the Ryder Cup was the policy of restricting spectators to a ticket only entry. This ensured only those who played the game gained entry and although there was natural voluble partisan support, it was also fair, with equal recognition to the Americans.

The "Clippings Editor" was told by his daughter, that the atmosphere was fantastic, the crowds well behaved and polite, she had no difficulty in seeing the action and Tony Jacklin shook hands. Not a bad day out on a complimentary ticket!

Tired old course

A correspondent to Golf World has complained that the Old Course at St. Andrews was in a disappointing condition when he played there in July.

He said there were sweet papers on the course, empty cans in the Swilcan Burn, weeds in the bunkers and lack of grass on the fairways and greens.

The first two complaints can be laid squarely with the golfers themselves. As for the others, the weather has much to do with the lack of growth and our moaner suggested the solution on upkeep himself. Instead of allowing continuous play from dawn 'til dusk, give the staff a couple of hours in the morning without interference from the golfers.

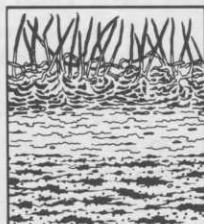
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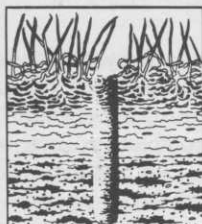
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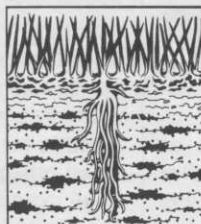
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Crossing the water

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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.

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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.

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