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OCTOBER '88

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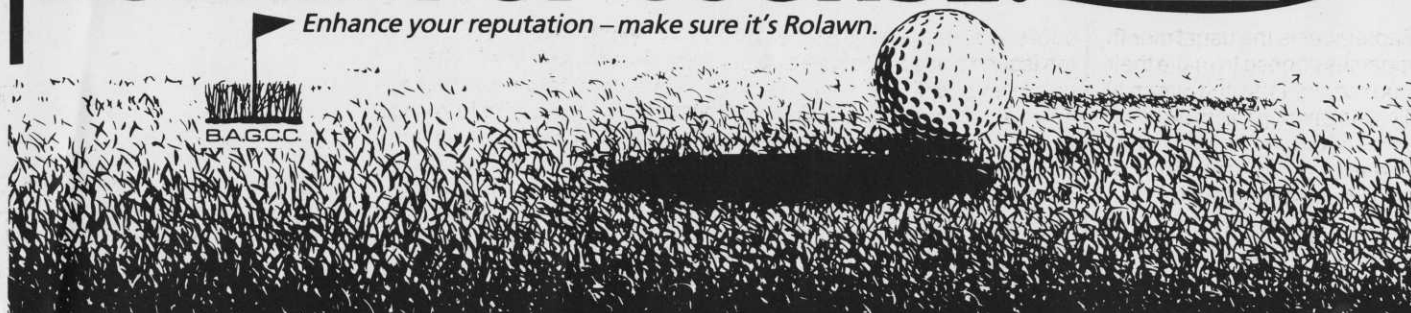
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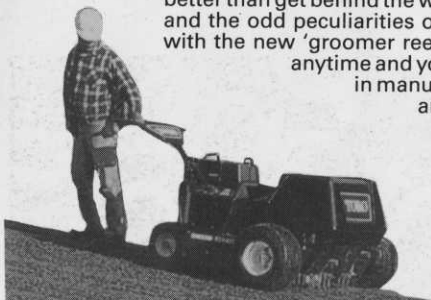
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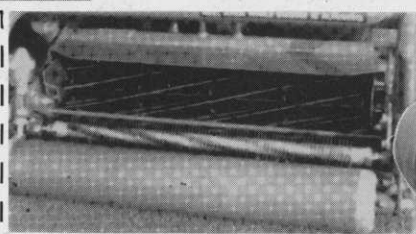
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Graphics & Design:
David Young

MERGER OF MAJOR TITLES

September is the usual month companies choose to make their announcements to the amenity turf press about product innovations, takeover bids, staff changes or other news likely to attract immediate attention from the ferreting scribes at Windsor's Sports and Leisure Exhibition.

This year the roles were reversed and it is the publishers themselves who created the talking point of the Show.

Golf Greenkeeping, published for the past six years, by Wharfedale Publications Ltd. will be amalgamated with The Golf Course, the official publication of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers' Association, with effect from the November issue.

This rationalisation has been welcomed by both the Executive and Directors of BIGGA, as well as manufacturers and distributors of golf course equipment in Britain.

It is seen as a major step forward for the developing Greenkeepers' Association, as The Golf Course will now be

published monthly, instead of ten issues a year. The size of the publication will be greatly increased, regular features and interviews are planned with golf course managers, in depth coverage of current technical subjects, plus all the up-to-date regional news from the North of Scotland to the West Country.

The re-launched magazine will now be published from the same stable as the highly acclaimed Turf Management, steered to success by the one time editor of Golf Greenkeeping, Stanley Ellison.

It is with a great deal of pleasure I can also announce that as part of the agreed merger of Golf Greenkeeping with The Golf Course, I am joining the newly formed publishing company as Executive Editor, to continue the role I have played and so much enjoyed for the past seven years.

It is no exaggeration to say I have made many friends among greenkeepers, manufacturers, agronomists, architects and those in education from literally the four corners of the globe,

since taking over as Editor of Golf Greenkeeping in 1982.

Those who witnessed the television coverage of the European Open at Sunningdale last month could not have failed to be impressed by the truly magnificent presentation of Jack McMillan's rolling acres. Although some may believe the fairies came out of the woods to paint the fairways in green stripes, our readers will realise the dedication and effort that was made to prepare an arena fit for gladiators.

As Course Manager, Jack personally received the accolades, but he is the first to pay tribute to the enthusiasm of his greenstaff, together with the army of volunteers, as well as neighbouring head greenkeepers and the industry who lent equipment. It was a co-ordinated effort in every sense of the word.

To be involved in reporting their achievements is a labour of love and one in which I shall continue to welcome with enthusiasm in the new launch of — The Golf Course.

See you next month!

Golf Greenkeeping is a combined subscription and controlled circulation publication for the golf course management industry. Current distribution 2,500 copies per month.

Published ten times per year. Copies are available on subscription, postage paid, £14.00 per year. Overseas surface, £16.00 per year. Air mail rates on application to the publishers.

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Published by:
Wharfedale Publications Limited
P.O. Box 12, Wetherby,
West Yorkshire LS22 4SR.
Telephone: (0937) 63181

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Front Cover:
Greenkeepers at the 'Open' with Jimmy McDonald.

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News . . . News . . . News . . . News .

Greenkeepers' Association to push forward with Education and Training

Jack McMillan, this year's Chairman of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers' Association, speaking at the presentation dinner after the Iseki Tournament at St. Pierre told the hundred guests it was the Association's intention to push ahead with the training and education aspect of greenkeeping.

The first education event will be held during the National Tournament and Conference at Ayr between 26th and 30th September. In the new year speakers will be presenting papers at the Harrogate Exhibition in January and next April a National Conference will be held at Queen's College, Cambridge, when the principle lecture will be presented by the renowned author and agronomist Professor James Beard of Texas A & M University.

Professor Beard will be presenting two papers to the Cambridge Conference, one is entitled "The current developments in turf grass maintenance on golf courses in the United States".

"I have never attended any lecture where I have not come away the richer for the experience", said Mr. McMillan.

He went on to tell the guests the quality of platform speakers already arranged was extremely high.

In answer to some critics who have commented that the Greenkeepers' Association was only a golfing society, he completely refuted the allegations and said that golf is our business and why shouldn't greenkeepers play the game. The tournaments such as had been sponsored by Iseki brought together greenkeepers from all parts of the country and had done much to bring the various administrative regions together.

Commenting on the first year of the new Association he said it is now essential that a National Headquarters be found. They had outgrown their office space at the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley St. Ives. It was also desperate that some-

one be found to take forward the programme of education and training.

Earlier Executive Director Neil Thomas had announced the Association were currently negotiating with a col-

lege of agriculture for the commencement of a Higher National Diploma Course in Greenkeeping, which would be residential and full time for a two year period.

American Superintendents' Membership tops 8,000

The Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America's active and visible role in golf — coupled with a vigorous and effective recruitment programme — is helping to pay dividends via a dramatic increase in membership. This month, GCSAA's rolls officially exceeded 8,000 for the first time in the association's 62-year history.

Timothy Robert Sever, golf course superintendent at Sugarmill Woods Country Club of Homosassa, Fla., became the 8,000th member.

"I believe the association's high visibility within golf is one factor contributing to this growth," says John A. Segui, CGCS, president of GCSAA. "At the same time, our continued increase in membership has also allowed the association to provide more benefits and services — which in turn has steadily attracted still more members."

In 1983 GCSAA had fewer than 5,000 members.

GCSAA headquarters is at Lawrence, Kansas, adjacent to Alvarado Country Club. The association annually hosts the International Golf Course Conference and Trade Show — one of the 200 largest trade shows in the United States — in various major cities across the nation.

The organization also provides nearly 70 educational seminars and offers its members a variety of other services, including insurance pro-

grammes, employment assistance and referral, an audio-visual lending library and an extensive line of exclusive merchandise.

More than 450 members of the GCSAA are expected to gather in Palm Springs, California, several days before the organization's 60th International Golf Course Conference and Trade Show to compete in the association's golf championship.

The two-day tournament will be played on four courses in the desert resort area. The PGA West courses that will host the championship will be the TPC Stadium Golf Course, site of the annual Skins Game, and the Jack Nicklaus Resort Course, where the 1988 PGA Tour Qualifying School was held. Other participants will play the Citrus Course at LaQuinta and the Mission Hills Resort Course. The first three are in LaQuinta and the latter is in Rancho Mirage.

Many of today's superintendents are avid golfers, and their knowledge about the game plays an important role in the maintenance of their courses. "When you play, you can sympathize better and have a better understanding for the course difficulty," says defending champion Dave Powell, golf course superintendent at Myers Park Country Club in Charlotte, N.C. Powell won his second GCSAA championship title early in 1988 in Houston.

Scottish golfers on the long road south

A nightmare journey lasting 26 hours, added least three shots a piece to the handicaps of the twelve contestants from Scotland, travelling south to the Iseki Tournament final at St. Pierre.

Forty miles short of the Severn Bridge their almost new Mercedes coach broke down not far from a Motorway Service Station. Rather than wait for assistance they decided to push the coach along the hard shoulder where the

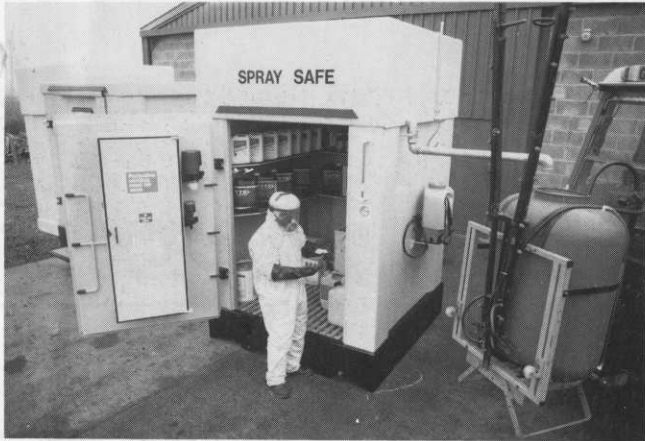
problem was diagnosed in the fuel pump.

Running repairs put them back on the road once more, only to break down again, this time for good.

And there they sat until the early hours of the morning waiting for a relief coach from Glasgow.

To add insult to injury, according to Chris Kennedy, they not only lost a night's sleep but were too late for breakfast!

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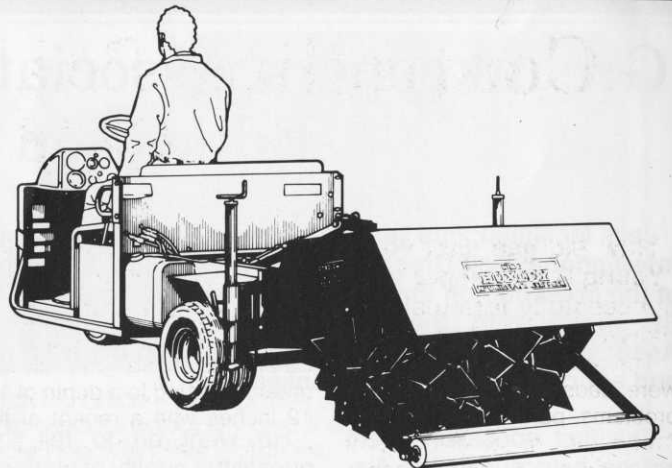


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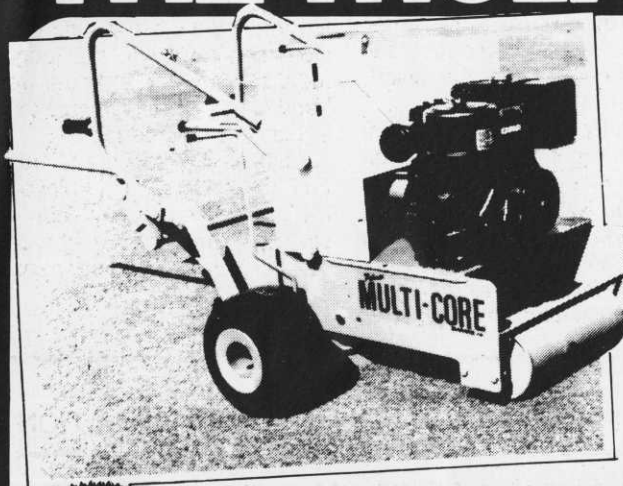
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News . . News . . News . . News .

Controlling Poa Annua on a Welsh Golf Course

Huw Morgan, last year's winner of the coveted title "Young Greenkeeper of the Year" describes how he has successfully formulated a programme of control at the Fairwood Park Golf Club at Upper Killay, Swansea.

The greens at Fairwood Park were causing a great deal of problems, particularly in winter. An analysis of the grass cover showed an 80% predominance of annual meadow grass, needing an excessive amount of fertiliser to keep them in playable condition, with an acceptable putting surface.

Detailed examination revealed a thatch layer some two to three inches deep over most of the greens, with all the in-built problems that thatch can bring.

Discussions took place with the Club Management and the Greens Committee on ideas to improve the situation and they gave me their full backing and support.

It was obvious to all that there was no instant remedy to the situation and any programme of improvement would need to take place over a prolonged period, so I planned a three year programme of intensive aeration, combining a system of hollow tining with verti-draining.

In September 1985, the greens were hollow tined to a depth of 2-3 inches and this was repeated in March the following year immediately prior to the first flush of spring growth.

In September 1986, the Verti-

drain was hired and all the greens aerated to a depth of 10-12 inches with a repeat of the operation a year later in September 1987.

During the autumn and winter months, September to March, aeration continued with a slit tiner at weekly intervals to a depth of 5 to 6 inches, combined with a light application of a sandy top dressing. This produced a remarkable improvement.

The poa annua had not only been reduced by around 50%, but the age old problems of standing puddles after heavy rain were eliminated, the putting surfaces were playable in wet weather and we went through the whole of last winter without closing the course once.

However, solving one troublesome winter difficulty then created another during the summer months.

At Fairwood Park we had no irrigation system to water the greens during the dry weather, though a system has now been installed.

Granular fertilisers were not practical without rain, so I experimented with a liquid fertiliser, spraying Farmura at monthly intervals at the start of the April growing season.



Huw Morgan

This proved highly successful until the temperatures soared to the mid 70s and then the greens began to show signs of wilting and brown patches started to appear.

Controlled irrigation would have put matters to right, but without water I began to wonder whether I had overdone the improvement to drainage, though the advantages still heavily outweighed the disadvantages.

At this point further applications of Farmura and liquid iron were given in an attempt to keep the greens correctly coloured, whilst praying for rain at the same time.

I am convinced this combination of intensive aeration, the use

of liquid fertilisers and a sparing use of water is the correct method to produce faster greens in summer as well as an acceptable putting surface in winter.

Initially, there must be a surface disturbance for a few seasons while these operations are taking place, but I was fortunate and grateful to my golf club management that they had sufficient confidence in my judgement to allow me a virtual free hand to plan improvements over a relatively long period.

I said earlier that we now have an irrigation system at Fairwood Park, this has recently been installed by Watermation, but I can assure you it is used very sparingly.

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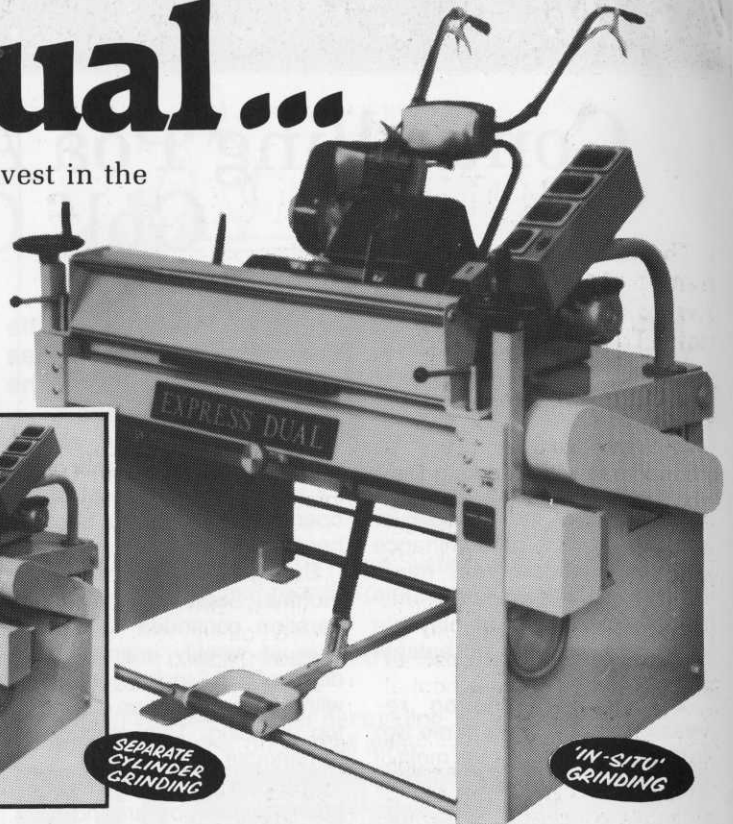
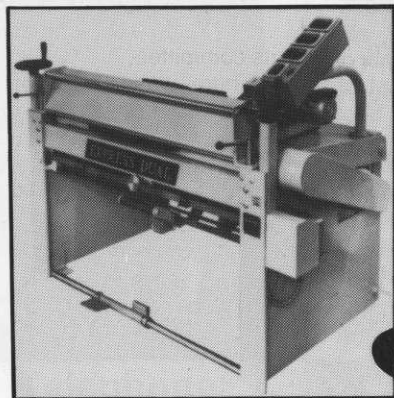
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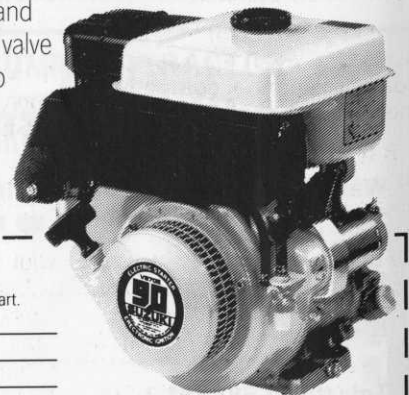


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News . . News . . News . . News .

SIXTEEN FINALISTS IN 1988 GROUNDSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Institute of Groundsmanship has announced the names of 16 finalists in its 1988 Groundsman of the Year Awards contest, sponsored by ICI Professional Products. They are:

Young Groundsman of the Year

Andrew Bruce (19), a groundsman with Tendring District Council in Essex and currently entering his second year of turf management studies at Writtle College;

Nick Cole (20), a finalist in 1987, Nick has recently left his Head Groundsman post at Northaw Preparatory School at West Tytherley, near Salisbury, to undertake a two-year National Diploma course at Myerscough College. He is a Member of the Institute's Winchester Branch;

David Cook (21), is a groundsman with Cleveland County Council and a Member of the Teesside Branch of the Institute of Groundsmanship;

Matthew Farrant (18), is a groundsman at the Cranford Club at Exmouth and is currently undertaking horticultural studies at Bicton College;

David Rhodes (19), is a groundsman at Bolton School in Lancashire and studying sports-turf management at Myerscough. He is a Member of the Institute's Manchester Branch;

Paul Tinsley (20), a Member of the Institute's Nottingham Branch, is a groundsman with Nottingham County Council. He is currently studying for his City & Guilds at Brackenhurst.

In the senior, **Master Groundsman of the Year**, section of the annual competition there are 10 finalists:

Raymond Barrett (34), a finalist in 1987, Ray Barrett is an Area Parks Superintendent with Hastings Borough Council and a Member of the Sussex Branch. He takes up a new appointment in November as Grounds Maintenance Officer with the PSA in Gosport;

Geoffrey Brereton NDT (38), a Member of the Cheshire Branch and Secretary of the Institute's North-West Zone, Geoff is a turf-culture lecturer at Cheshire College and grounds-

man at Birtles Cricket Club, Macclesfield;

Jonathan Eager (23), is a greenkeeper with North Down Borough Council in Northern Ireland, responsible for bowling and putting greens at Ward Park, Bangor;

William Elwood (48), Edinburgh & Lothian's Branch Secretary and Secretary of the Scotland & Northern Ireland Zone. Bill Elwood is Head Groundsman for the Scottish Rugby Union at Murrayfield;

David Evans (36), Head Groundsman at the University of Leeds Athletics Grounds, Dave Evans is in the West Yorks/Leeds Branch of the IoG. He is also North-East Zone representative on the National Executive Committee and sits on the Education Committee;

Clive Jones (22), is a greenkeeper at Llantrisant and Pontyglun Golf Club, a Member of the Institute's South Wales Branch and a Member of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers' Association. He is currently studying for his City & Guilds in Greenkeeping at Pen-coed;

Graham Mapp NDT (48), is Head Groundsman of the Birmingham Post & Mail newspapers and a Member of the IoG Branch in Birmingham. As well as organiser of a number of training courses for members in the Midlands, Graham is also National Quiz question setter;

Christopher Nolan (38), an active member of the Irish Greenkeepers' Association, Chris Nolan is Head Greenkeeper of the Castle Golf Club at Rathearnham, Dublin;

Laurence Pithie (35), was winner of the Master Groundsman title in 1987. He is Golf Course Manager at Minchinhampton Golf Club, a Member of the Institute's Gloucester Branch and a Member of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers' Association;

Paul Whiting (22), Assistant

Groundsman at Ranby House Preparatory School at Retford, Nottinghamshire, was a finalist last year in the Young Groundsman of the Year competition. He is a Member of the Institute's Sheffield Branch and has recently been elected to serve on its committee.

There was a total of 1,027 entries in this year's two contests and the final adjudications will take place at The Reform Club in London on Monday, 31st October, 1988. The names of the

winners and runners-up will be announced that same evening at the annual Institute Educational & Training Awards celebration which takes place in the Club's main Library.

With £10,000-worth of prizes — including a top award to the Young Groundsman and Master Groundsman of the Year of an all-expenses paid visit to the GCSAA Convention in Anaheim, California in February — this is the sports turf industry's biggest ever competition.

NATIONAL TURFGRASS COUNCIL APPEALS FOR MORE PATRONS

The NTC used the IOG Exhibition to bring together representatives of the Amenity Turf Industry to appeal again for further financial support from the trade to finance their programme of activities for the coming year.

They also used the occasion to make an award to The President of the Institute of Groundsmen, the doyen of their Association, W. H. (Bill) Bowles, now well into his mid-eighties, but whose mind is not only active, but able to see the future of the industry with a clarity to be envied by men half his age.

Thanking the Chairman of the NTC, Howard Swan for the Council's Award, Bill Bowles said, "Turf not only stood up to punishment better than any other surface but had powers of recuperation as well."

"Leisure, he added, is as big an industry as any other. More he believed should be done to get young people off the streets and on to the pitches and this means some Government body must take the industry seriously and give it their backing."

Howard Swan addressing well over a hundred representatives from Education, Manufacturing, Suppliers and Distributors said:

"During 1988, the National Turfgrass Council has established its permanent secretariat with John Shildrick, on his retirement from Assistant Directorship at STRI, Bingley, being appointed as Chief Executive.

This office will, I believe, give the Council a basis, lacking for so long because of its purely voluntary nature, upon which it can develop and grow into a more effective representative body for the Industry. This was possible solely because of the success of last year's patronage appeal and the 1988 programme."

"The Council also began to publish regularly its newsletter, on a bi-monthly basis, with circulation in excess of 10,000. It also published the highly authoritative and successful Code of Practice for Pesticides, with its simpler follow-up guide, as well as many other publications."

"The NTC's representation on other national bodies was widened so that the turfgrass industry's point of view could be firmly stated to allied industries, and perhaps most importantly, the connections with central government are closer and have been strengthened through discussion and co-operation in NTC seminars and meetings. I hope that my recent meeting with Colin Moynihan will be the first of many to be held on a regular basis, and the Government can, as it has said it will, actively assist the Council in its role."

"I believe, therefore, that the NTC has progressed quite well in 1988 and I would like to see it do even better in 1989. I am sure it can, given the support it needs from both the public and private sectors."

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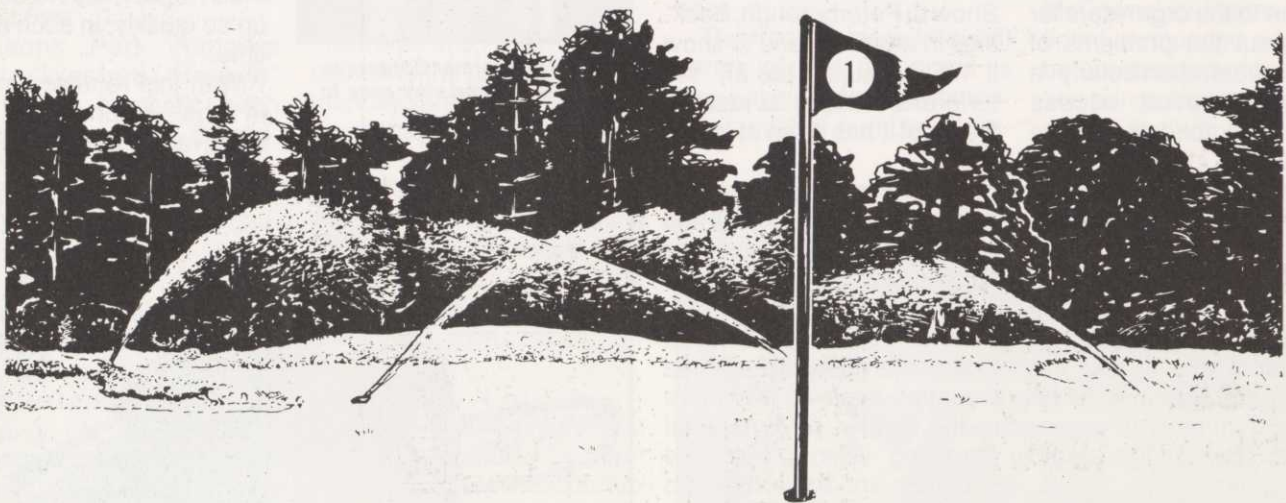
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WINDSOR

Review of the Groundman's Show

This September event, blessed with three fine Autumn days, was the eighth time the Exhibition has been staged on the Windsor Race Course, its home since Motspur Park and those early days at the Hurlingham Club, fifty years ago.

Even when the Exhibition moved to the London University sports ground at Motspur Park in 1966, there can have been few who would have predicted such a rapid growth in outdoor leisure that the organisers would be forced to seek an even larger site, settling on the race course at Royal Windsor in 1988.

There will be just one more exhibition at Windsor, then the show is on the road once more, this time in a somewhat contentious move to the East of England Showground at Peterborough, though after the traffic chaos experienced this year some of the opposition must be quelled.

More stands, over 400, plus an expanded demonstration area made this 43rd staging of the Show one of the best and a bouquet must be given to the organisers for sorting out the problems of recent years, particularly a greatly improved access across a footbridge into the NE corner of the Show Ground.

The brickbat goes to the Windsor Police, who, from the experience of previous years, were well aware of the numbers arriving by car and coach from all parts of the country, but appeared to be completely unable to organise a free flow of vehicles into the car parks.

On the second day traffic was queuing on the M4, more than five miles from the race course shortly before 10.00 a.m. The reason was a ten yard stretch of single lane on a mini-roundabout, combined with an entry system which involved turning right

against the flow of through traffic.

There was no obvious traffic control except outside the car park entrances, creating unbelievable chaos at the flyover roundabout as traffic merged with other vehicles not connected with the exhibition.

The Windsor site is difficult and this is known to everyone, hence the forthcoming move to Peterborough. With one more exhibition on the race course it is to be hoped the police will take a long hard look at their routings for next year and if necessary divert through traffic so visitors will not be forced to abandon their journey as many were on the second day.

Although there has been considerable criticism of the IOG's decision to move the Show to Peterborough, bookings in advance tend to show it will be supported by the turfgrass industry at least to the level it has been at Windsor.

Visitors, most of whom arrive by car and coach, will find little evidence of the hold-ups caused by the overloaded roads in the south. The civilised world does not end at Watford as many in the Home Counties believe, and there is the further advantage of attracting visitors from the Midlands and the North who in the past have spent longer on the road than they have at the Exhibition.

Arrangements are already in hand to make use of accommodation in the University at Cambridge. Hotels of a high standard abound around Peterborough, Hun-

tingdon and Stamford and visitors from abroad will still make the journey if the show provides the interests and equipment that has given previous events an international reputation.

★ ★ ★

So what was new this year?

The award for the best new product, went to Ciba-Geigy for their Transformer Spraying System. A remarkable achievement as the British



The Transformer Sprayer is lightweight and very easy to use.

end of this multi-national company were making their first appearance at the IOG Show since Motspur Park and this year's booking was a last minute decision because clearance for the primary chemical product used with the sprayer was only obtained in August.

Gardoprime A is a powerful forestry herbicide, designed to keep down weeds around the base of young trees without harming the sapling. Most conifers are not affected by the herbicide and it is also safe to use around Ash, Beech, Oak and Sycamore. It is certainly a product greenkeepers should look at if they are attempting to establish a large plantation of trees in areas of rough.

★ ★ ★

The product that probably experienced the greatest growth in sales in 1987 was the chain saw. Never has so much timber, had to be sawn up so quickly, in such a short time.

With this renewed interest in the mechanical saw, Husqvarna, part of the Elec-



The new Husqvarna 42 chain saw. Features a powerful 42cc engine, inertia activated chain break, chain catcher, rear hand guard, and a safety throttle lock. Competitively priced at £245.00 + VAT (13" bar).

R SHOW

Sports and Leisure Exhibition

trolux Group, launched a new lightweight 42cc engined chain saw aimed at the semi-professional, farmer, greenkeeper, ideal for tree pruning or the less major jobs of tree felling.

★ ★ ★

The turf growers were in evidence this year with stands by Rolawn, Inturf, Turfland and H. R. Fell. Rolawn and Fell were both offering a guaranteed annual meadow-grass free turf for golf and bowling greens. The fescue/bent composition from H. R. Fell, a South Humberside Company, is grown on sand to complement sand based green constructions.

Rolawn, based at York, but with growing grounds in various parts of the country, were showing two new specialist grades of turf.

"Washed Rolawn", developed for use on all sand constructions and their new greens turf guaranteed poa annua free.

Queens Park Rangers used "Washed Rolawn" when their synthetic pitch was taken up in June. By mid-August it was ready for play.

The poa free turf from Rolawn, shown for the first time at Windsor, is to be launched next spring when adequate stocks are available. It is grown from two new fescue and bent cultivars, with a chemical resistance to allow spraying to remove other grasses and weeds.

The two varieties, *Countess Chewings Fescue* and *Duchess Agrostis Tenuis* have been bred by Queens University, Belfast from a research programme sponsored by British Seed Houses.

BSH have contracted with Rolawn to give them exclu-



SISIS PARCAR

sive rights to produce turf from these two new fine grass varieties.

★ ★ ★

SISIS always offer a friendly welcome to their customers and this year was no exception. A number of improvements and alterations have been made to the range, but the additional item that caught the eye was the golf buggy.

Surely this must be a pointer of things to come! It is manufactured in the USA, functional, without frills and sells at a fiver below £3,000. Should you wish to dispense with the over canopy and the windshield and experience golf as the bag carriers do, completely exposed to the elements, then knock off £210!

The new SISIS Hydromain Twin Twenty-Five has been developed to incorporate front and rear hydraulic linkages and power-take-off. The existing range of well proven Hydromain Implementations and attachments can all be satisfactorily operated without modification.

The wheel-driven Hydromain sweeper has satisfied

demand for a unit of this type for a number of years. This new pto driven version, with 50% greater effective hopper capacity will do all the same work and more besides. Even damp materials and tine cores are collected and packed to the back of the hopper to fully occupy the available space more efficiently than ever before . . . and still, emptying is done without the driver leaving his seat.

The trend to more frequent coring of fine turf areas is once again gaining momentum and the number of im-

ported machines, of many types and sizes, for this type of work, is growing. Many greenkeepers and grounds-men have previously been happy to carry out their programme with walk-behind machines, but sometimes there is a need to speed up the process.

The pto driven Varicore has been introduced to give a wider selection of depths and hole spacings. You can select a variety of hole patterns with depth of penetration variable down to 4".

Wheel driven SISIS Top-Dressing machines have been used in the Hydromain System for many years, applying a wide variety of materials. The new pto driven fully-mounted unit, with a new drive mechanism, is even more versatile, in its handling of differing dressings, from pure sand to loam mixtures of various densities.

★ ★ ★

The takeover by F. W. McConnel of Dabro International announced a few days before the start of the Exhibition brings together two companies likely to have consid-



The new McConnel Dabro Interchangeable Ground Support System, consists of an Outfield Slitter, Green Slitter and Corer. All the implements slip easily in and out of the common frame.

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The catchment box for the rain gauge is set up outside on a convenient post and connected by 10 metres of weatherproof flex to the electronic recorder inside a building such as the Greenkeeper's shed.

Readings are taken inside, while the rain falls outside.

The accompanying SOIL THERMOMETER is an essential instrument for any Greenkeeper needing to know the below ground level temperature before seeding, fertilising, applying chemicals or explaining to the Greens' Committee why the grass is not growing!



This highly accurate electronic readout instrument also comes from the makers of RAIN-O-MATIC.

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WINDSOR SH

erable impact on the amenity turf market as a joint force.

There are some sound, solid and useful pieces of turf maintenance equipment in the Dabro range and with McConnel's marketing strengths the combined range should sell well.

★ ★ ★

Ransomes new TURFTRAK System, exhibited for the first time outside North America, incorporates 2 and 4 wheel drive power units, with a wide range of front mounted attachments. As the TURFTRAK System can be used in many applications, the power units can be used during much of the year.

In addition to a hydraulically operated triple cylinder mower, front mounted attachments also include a choice of rotaries, an aerator, dozer blades and rotary brush which are power angled, as well as power and snow blowers, scoop and bunker blades, amongst others.

Powered by a 16.5 hp Kubota diesel engine the TURFTRAK 2, besides being a good performer on slopes, is also very manoeuvrable. It has a low centre of gravity, an adjustable traction booster for transferring weight from

the attachment and a differential lock for use when the going gets tough.

The hydrostatic drive, controlled by a single foot pedal, together with power steering and individual drive wheel brakes, say Ransomes, make the TURFTRAK 2 very manoeuvrable. Without using the wheel brakes it has an inside turning radius of 35cm (14in).

Although seated comfortably low to the ground, the operator has a good view of the attachments in work and the controls close to hand.

The two-point quick hitch allows the front mounted attachments to be connected to the power units in 3 minutes or less by one person and without the use of tools.

★ ★ ★

Fertiliser and agro-chemical company, Lancashire based, Rigby Taylor Ltd. also used the venue of the Windsor Show to announce major changes within the company, merging the separate Rigby Taylor Companies in the South and the Midlands with the headquarters at Bolton.

This will not affect customers as the depots and distribution network will continue to operate under regional management. Board



Jacobsen's Tri-King 1671D

Diesel power and hydraulic reel drive on Jacobsen's new Tri-King 1671D maximizes mowing performance while minimizing maintenance requirements. The liquid-cooled diesel engine operates efficiently in demanding conditions, and offers longer life and greater fuel efficiency than air-cooled gasoline engines.

changes involve elevation for Jon Ryan and David Morgan together with Richard Elliott who takes the position of National Sales Director. Keith Dickinson, Sales Director in the North is to take an early retirement, after 24 years with the company.

Never has there been such a coming together of companies as was seen this year.

Rigby Taylor and Alginure announced their engagement and Alginure will in future supply exclusively to Rigby Taylor. This will give a seaweed based soil conditioner to the range.

A new range of organic liquid products is also about to be launched under the Mascot label. Three fertilisers are currently available, more are likely to follow.

The first an organic liquid is basically cow manure, though it was emphasized the dung did come from the best attested Friesian herds. It was logical, the best milk producers produced the best by-products!

Liquid Green contains iron to promote a rapid green-up effect, essential for those greenkeepers about to have their courses featured on television.

Mascot Liquid Cocktail is a mixture of cow manure with seaweed said to provide additional food to stimulate bacterial and microbial activity together with a high proportion of essential solids — polysaccharides. *(That was straight off the press hand-out and I am as wise about its meaning as you probably are, though I once grew the finest crop of potatoes you have ever seen by mixing seaweed into the dung heap. Ed.)*

★ ★ ★

Iseki Tractors had the complete range of new tractors on show following their introduction during their greenkeepers' golf tournament final at St. Pierre in August.

The new range Iseki TU Series is additional to their successful TX range and comprises 3 four wheel drive models from 19 horsepower to 27 DIN horsepower, all of them containing new practical features and showing both a dramatic design and, for the first time, a flat floor deck for excellent operator comfort.

The smallest of the range, the 19 horsepower TU 318, utilizes a new Iseki power-



Ransomes new 16.5hp Kubota diesel engined TURFTRAK 2 power unit pictured at work with a front mounted rotary mower. The TURFTRAK 2 has an adjustable traction booster for transferring weight from the attachment.

HOW

plant of 1006cc, a 3 cylinder diesel engine, and has a transmission of 6 forward, 2 reverse manual of the option of hydrostatic drive with 3 speed ranges.

Power steering is standard on the new Iseki TU series whilst range and gears on the machine are situated to the right and left hand of the operator, along with PTO engagement and operation of the hydraulic valves.

Iseki have also incorporated splash guards around the footwell to stop water and debris from entering the operator area.

Options include a futuristic design of operator cab.

Moving up the scale is the 22 horsepower TU 320, again with a new Iseki 3 cylinder powerplant of 1170cc and with either a 6 forward 2 reverse manual transmission or 3 speed hydrostatic drive.

As with its smaller brother the TU 320 has a wheelbase of 1.58m and, with the new front axle incorporating four wheel drive, is exceptionally manoeuvrable with a turning circle of 2.5 metres using the wet disc brakes.

The largest machine in the Iseki TU range is the TU 324 with its 1296cc four cylinder diesel engine producing 27 horsepower.

The new Iseki TU range, with its three new models and

hydrostatic and manual transmission variants, are just the first of a number of new tractors from Iseki.

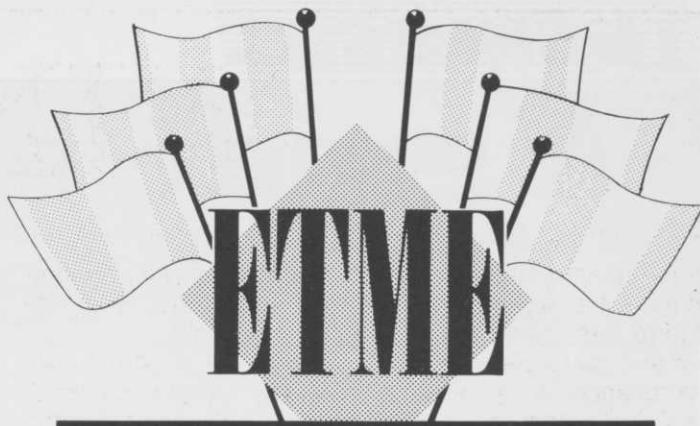
They mark an important step forward for Iseki UK with a number of new and existing features like a flat floor deck, smaller turning circle, better lift capacity and excellent serviceability.

Speaking at the launch of the new Iseki TU series Mr. John Hawkins, Iseki's managing director, commented "Since the formation of Iseki UK two and a half years ago, we have steadily increased our sales of compact tractors with the Iseki TX 2160 series now the best seller in its class. With the addition of the new TU series we have a new tractor that is undoubtedly going to set standards in design and features for the future. There is no doubt in our minds that the TU series is not just a new dimension but the start of a new generation in compact tractor development. It's an exceptionally exciting and adaptable range for Iseki".

Visitors to the stand could also see a video of the St. Pierre Tournament final. Exposure to the camera can be quite traumatic as some competitors discovered when they saw their golf swing.



A stepthru deck of the Iseki TU Tractor gives the driver a much more relaxed place to operate.



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A guide to artificial tees

The approach of winter, with its resultant wear to tees, already suffering from thousands of rounds of golf during the season, prompts thoughts of how much more surface damage is likely to occur, before spring heralds a new growing season.

Although artificial surfaces and particularly mats are not liked by winter golfers, the research and development conducted in recent years is now making available, teeing areas more akin to natural grass as a playing surface.

Polypropylene fibre is the principle material used to construct the artificial tee-ground surfaces, some designed to be moved around to suit the site or weather conditions, others laid permanently on a sand or concrete base.

The advances made in the manufacture of artificial fibres give them not only a hard wearing characteristic, but they are considerably more comparable to a natural grass surface both to stand on, whilst playing a tee shot and to hit the ball.

A complaint in recent years has been the tendency for tee pegs, particularly the plastic variety, to break off in the holes specially provided, leaving the following golfers nowhere to place the peg. New mats on the market are now overcoming this problem.

Mud from the adjoining fairways can be brushed off these surfaces or they can be hosed down.

If an artificial surface is to be installed, ensure that the teeing area is large enough to accommodate the expected traffic. It is a false economy to put down a postage stamp tee, so the golfer not only feels cramped playing off the surface, but metal studs will wear the mat in the same place, creating holes, which can be potentially dangerous.

A list of companies supplying artificial tee surfaces is shown at the end of this feature. They all supply brochures with prices. It is up to the reader to choose the best to suit the need.



'T' Master is constructed of bonded polypropylene on a base tile of self draining crum rubber.

ARTIFICIAL TEE SUPPLIERS

CARPETITION LTD
6 Kaffir Road, Egerton, Huddersfield,
W Yorks HD2 2AN
0484 28777 John Ward

CHIPMAN LTD
The Goods Yard, Horsham, W Sussex
RH12 2NR
0403 60341 M R de Ath

CLUB SURFACES LTD
The Barn, Bisham Grange, Marlow,
Bucks SL7 1RS
06284 5969 K McGuinness

GASKELL & COMPANY (Bacup)
P.O. Box 10
Lee Mill, Bacup, Lancs OL3 0DJ
0706 878787 Sylvia Elsworth

'LEISURE K'
Ingleside, Church Road,
Mannings Heath, Horsham, Sussex
0403 68500 David Knight

NOTTS SPORTS LTD
Launde House, Harborough Road,
Oadby,
Leics LE2 4LE
0533 716027 Shaun Patrick

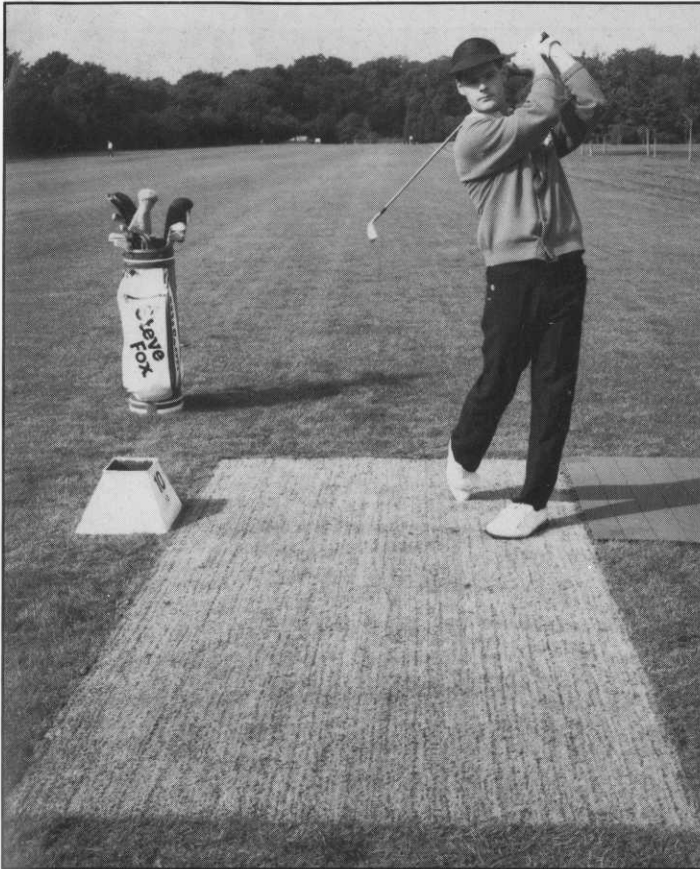
SAKER LEISURE LTD
Unit 42, Weston Industrial Estate,
Honeybourne,
Evesham, Worcs WR11 5QB
0386 841380 Stephanie Mitchell

A new synthetic golf tee mat, called 'T' Master has been developed by Gaskell & Company of Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire. The mat provides the ideal driving surface in all weather conditions, throughout the year, completely eliminating problems of divot scars left by earlier golfers and grass wear.

'T' Master can be loose laid onto almost any flat level surface, or inset flush with existing grass. Pre-drilled tee-peg holes are incorporated for both left- and right-handed players or, alternatively, players can drive directly from the carpet.

The mats are made of coarse denier polypropylene fibre, specially developed for use outdoors by F Drake (Fibres) of Huddersfield. Called Gymlene ODS, the fibre has inbuilt uv stabilisers to prevent it from breaking up in sunlight, or from losing colour. The fibre is totally impregnated with synthetic latex for strength and long life. The base tile is constructed of self draining crum rubber.

'T' Master is well suited to use on busy municipal golf courses, as winter tee areas or on driving ranges. Its attractive appearance makes it suitable for use at any golf club.



Saker Leisure supply the 'Mastertee'

Fibre manufacturers, F Drake (Fibres) are part of the Readicut International Group plc and are Britain's leading polypropylene fibre manufacturer.

★ ★ ★

A new type of golf mat has just landed on the market from P.N. Structures Ltd. of Piccadilly.

Already very popular on the continent, the Neolast Golf Mat claims to be both more comfortable and more durable than many of the older types of mat.

Approximately five feet square its coconut/polypropylene fibre with PU-coated woven backing is unaffected by decay, allows for the safe use of woods and is easy on the ankles and wrists.

P.N. Structures, who extended their expertise in the field of outdoor sports surfaces into golf by becoming the first company to provide a new club with all synthetic greens, is offering a special price on the Neolast Golf Mat



'Tee-path', an artificial surface for use on walkways to tees.

as part of its launching campaign.

A new company 'Leisure K' has been formed to market and distribute the golf tee products previously sold by Chipman of Horsham.

Former Chipman M.D., David Knight, set up 'LEISURE K' to handle 'Mastertee', 'Firsttee' and

'Teepath' throughout the U.K. and Ireland.

'Mastertee' is a high quality artificial tee made from a mixture of coir (coconut) and polypropylene, woven into a dense pile carpet some 30mm thick. It can also be supplied with a resin backing to increase the strength.

'Mastertee' has been

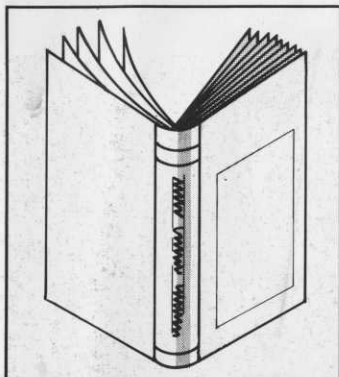
proved to have a life of well over two years in use on golf courses and driving ranges in this country and Continental Europe.

'Firsttee' is a sand-filled polypropylene carpet, in use successfully at many clubs in the U.K. 'Leisure K' will however only be offering a heavy duty material which gives some resilience underfoot and has a longer trouble-free life than the normal artificial turf product.

★ ★ ★

Another product — 'Teepath' overcomes another problem.

The surrounds to many tees get trampled until they are muddy and quickly look unsightly throughout the winter. 'Teepath' is a specially designed plastic tiling supplied in sheets which keeps the approach to the tee clean and dry and will allow grass to grow through.



BOOK REVIEW

Two new books of interest to greenkeepers have landed on the Editor's desk, one strictly practical, the other pure self-indulgence, but what hours of pleasure it will give.

The *World Atlas of Golf*, first published in 1976, was hailed as a golf collector's dream. The late Henry Longhurst said it was the most splendidly written, edited and illustrated book that had yet come his way. Tom Scott said it was a book you would love to give your dearest golfing friend and Peter Dobereiner writing in the *Observer*, said of the vivid descriptions of Killarney, the reading almost brings a hint of peat smoke to the nostrils.

The new edition is even bigger and better. In over 300 colour pages, lavishly illustrated, the book details the more famous golf courses in forty-three countries around the globe. Eighteen new North American courses are

included in this revised edition, an updated record of events and a revised index.

Unlike many of the golf books currently on the bookshelves, *The World Atlas of Golf*, delves deeply into the construction, design and maintenance of golf courses. It is not a book for cursory reading, it is an in depth reference study, for a cold winter's night, in front of a warm fire.

Some of the courses mentioned have possibly been played by our readers. One, *The Champions in Texas*, described with great affection by Charles Price, gave a party of British Greenkeepers a magnificent welcome when they visited the Houston Convention. To recapture memories of that fabulous day last February, playing the wooded Cypress Creek course, through the pages of this book brings a lump to the throat.

Edited by Pat Ward-Smith and published by Michell Beazley at £14.95, *The World Atlas of Golf* is an absolute must for the serious collector of classic golf books.

There can be few greenkeepers whose courses are devoid of water, whether it is a pond, lake or stream. Whatever form the water takes there is always the problem of keeping weeds under control.

Aquatic Weed Control, by Chris Seagrave, a lecturer in fish farming and fishery management at Sparsholt College, provides a practical guide to mechanical, chemical and biological methods of keeping weeds in check.

Species are described and illustrated for purposes of identification, recommended chemical

applications are listed, not only under the name of the product, but the supplier, as well as the prescribed treatment.

There is also a chapter on grass carp, the "weed eaters". Originally from China the White Amur, as it is known in the USA, is a prolific consumer of weed.

Trials conducted by a number of Water Authorities have now allayed fears that the introduction of a foreign species would unbalance the indigenous fish population in Britain and more and more lakes and ponds are stocking the grass carp under licence from the local Water Authority.

Aquatic Weed Control, published by Fishing News Books Ltd at £12 is a reference work that should be on the shelf in every golf course manager's office.

Title merger to give readers a "BIGGA and BETTA" Monthly Journal.

An agreement has been reached between the publishers of *Golf Greenkeeping* and *Park View Publications*, the new publishers of *The Golf Course* to merge the two titles with effect from the next issue in November.

The amalgamation of the two major magazines for the golf course maintenance industry in Europe has been welcomed by both the Amenity Turfgrass Industry and the British and International Golf Greenkeepers' Association, the rapidly growing organisation representing golf course greenkeepers and course managers throughout the United Kingdom.

The Golf Course, now to be published mid-month, every month throughout the year, is the official journal of the Association and will report news of the Association's activities, both from the National Headquarters at Bingley St. Ives and the various regions in Scotland, England, Ireland and Wales.

The combined magazine will be greatly increased in size, keeping readers informed not only of product developments from the turfgrass industry, but with regular features from the heart of our expanding business — the Greenkeepers, themselves.

We are now emerging from a long period of stagnation as far as the building of new courses in Britain is concerned, in complete contrast to the huge growth of new golf courses in Europe, particularly France and Sweden. More land is about to be released for leisure purposes and that must lead to additional golf courses in the private sector and in turn to greater opportunities for ambitious greenkeepers, whose career prospects have been sadly stifled in Britain.

We trust our loyal readers will enjoy the expansion of the publication and the benefits it offers. The readership of *Golf*

Greenkeeping and *The Golf Course* is not restricted to Britain, both publications have an international circulation, with subscribers in every country where golf is played.

Golf is a game with a spirit of friendship able to cross frontiers, political barriers, language, race, colour or creed. We hope our letters page will reflect this in future issues.

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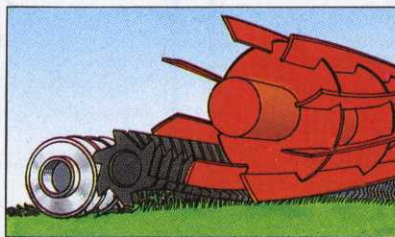


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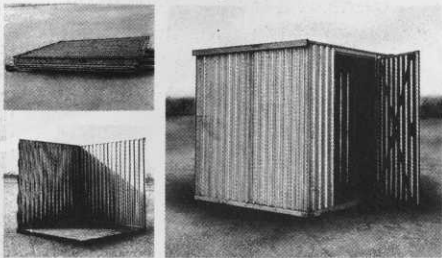
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