



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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