

**“You’ll see
when ordinary
aeration
just isn’t
good enough”**

“You’ll see alright. It may be surface water is still a problem. The turf could be looking thin and tired. Weeds could be on the increase.

“What you can’t see so easily is the cause. Compaction. Or a build up of thatch. Probably both. Either way, the result’s the same. Water doesn’t soak in properly. The soil is starved of oxygen. Rooting gets shallow. Weeds and disease get a hold. You’ve got a problem and just spiking holes in the ground isn’t going to solve it.

“Hollow tine aeration is the answer. What the Ryan people call Core Cultivation.

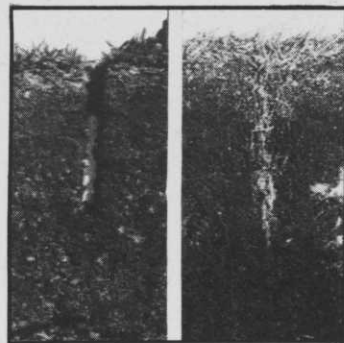
“In fact, I reckon that for most heavily used sports areas, Core Cultivation should be a routine part of any turf maintenance programme. Not just a problem solver. Obviously, how often you use hollow tining varies according to different soil conditions. I find once in the Spring and Autumn is about right.

Cores of soil and thatch



“So what’s this core cultivation all about?”

“First, hollow tining actually removes cores of soil—and thatch of course. That obviously relieves soil compaction far better than a spike or slit. As a result, it opens up the soil giving better movement of air, water and fertilisers. If the soil is good, breaking up the cores, either by a scarifier or a Ryan core processor, separates the thatch, which can then be removed easily.

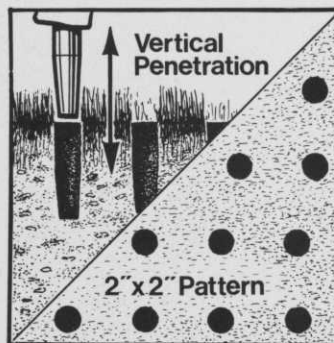


New vigorous growth after hollow tining

“Why do I think Ryan hollow tine aerators are the best?”

“Well, they’ve got some very special design features.

“Look at the Greensaire for instance. There’s the core pattern created by the tines. A close 2 inch by 2 inch up to 3 inches deep with a 24 inch swath. On a green of say 6000 square feet that’s 3 cubic yards of core material. And you can do that in well under an hour.



Ryan’s unique design features

“Then there’s the way the tines actually penetrate the soil. Ryan have a really clever design which makes each tine go in and out absolutely vertically. Unlike other makes, where the tines sort of rock to and fro which can damage the surface.

“It’s that sort of thing that makes Ryan aerators the best. In fact, you should have a look at the whole range of Ryan turf maintenance equipment. It’s the best you can buy”.

RYAN Turf Care Equipment

**Distributed in the UK by
Victa (UK) Limited**



Rutherford Road
Daneshill West
Basingstoke
Hants RG24 0QY
Tel: (0256) 50301
Telex: 858282

The Ryan Range

Aerators

Greensaire 16in
Greensaire 24in with optional
Core Processor
Ride-Aire 19in ride-on
Lawnaire 19in
Lawnaire 3ft tractor towed
Tracaire 6ft tractor towed
Renovaire 6ft contouring
tractor towed

Scarifiers

Ren-O-Thin 5hp 18in
Ren-O-Thin 7hp 18in
Mataway 10hp 19in self propelled

Turf Cutters

J.R. 12in width.
Heavy duty 12 and 16in widths
with automatic chop off and
turf rolling

Purchase, hire or contract schemes available

Contact your nearest official
Ryan dealer for further
information

Scotland

Autogarden (Glasgow) 0505 24341

**Northumberland, Tyne & Wear,
Durham, Cleveland, N. Yorks. (NW)**
J M Raine 0388 604847

**Cumbria, Lancs, G. Manchester,
Merseyside, Cheshire, Derbyshire, N.
Yorks (W), W. Yorks (W)**
Fletcher-Stewart (Stockport)
061-483 5542

**S. Yorks, Humberside (N), N. Yorks
(Cen. & E), W. Yorks (E)**
Sewards Agricultural Machinery
0904 704121

Clwyd, Gwynedd, Shropshire, Powys
Walker Engineering 069-186 2447

**Staffs, W. Midlands, Warwicks,
Hereford, Worcs.**
E T Breakwell 021-7444477

Lincs., Notts., Leics., S. Humberside
Lawnmower Services (Lincoln)
0522 810562

Northants., Cambs., Beds.
Rogers Engineers 0234 870201

Norfolk, Suffolk (NE)
Ben Burgess Garden Equipment
0603 628251

Essex, Suffolk (SW), London (E)
R Johnson (T.E.S.S) 0708 28811

**Oxon, Berks, Bucks, Herts, London
(NW)**
Risborough Turf Suppliers
08444 3023

Glos., Avon, Wilts. (N)
Bristol Garden Machinery
0272 719361

Dyfed, Glamorgan, Gwent
Celtic Mowers 0792 41517

Somerset, Devon
L F Jewells 0278 424088

**W. Sussex, Hants, Dorset, I.O.W.,
Wilts (S)**
Marshall Rolfe 0794 513185

Kent, E. Sussex, Surrey, London (S)
Shanks Mowers (Croydon)
01-771 4811

N. Ireland
Cyril Johnston & Co. 0232 813121

Eire
Brophy’s Lawn & Turf Machines
0001 974081

GOLF GREENKEEPING

and Course Maintenance

The Official Magazine of the
British Golf Greenkeepers'
Association

Founded 1912

The Association is affiliated to the
English and Welsh Golf Unions

Editor & Publisher
John Lelean

President:
J. Hamilton Stutt

Editorial Contributors:
F. W. Hawtree, Martyn Jones

Vice Presidents:

Gordon Wright, W. Mountain,
F. W. Hawtree, F. G. Catchpole,
G. Vaughan, J. F. R. Wilson,
J. Cogan, B. C. Jennings,
T. Scott, D. Craig,
E. Staniforth, M.B.E., J. Field,
D. B. Hargreaves, D. R. B. Hopkins,
W. Payne, R. Bird,
J. E. Lelean, J. Moyce,
Dr. P. Hayes,

Chairman:

George Malcolm,
1 Ryehill Cottage,
Brass Castle Lane,
Middlesbrough
Tel: 0642 323729

Vice-Chairman:

Paul Fitzjohn
272 Park Avenue,
Bushey,
Herts.

Hon. Secretary & Treasurer:

W. Heeles,
7 Tentergate Close, Knaresborough,
N. Yorks.
Tel: 0423 863851

Executive Committee:

H. Fry, M. Sheehan, I. Scoones,
H. Gillespie, W. Pile, E. James,
G. Malcolm, A. Kite, P. McCarron,
J. Richardson, H. Herrington, A. Gamble

Accountant:

Peter E. Doyle & Co,
Chartered Accountants
Claro Chambers,
High Street,
Knaresborough

Solicitors:

Mr. M. Holmes,
Topham Phillips & Co.,
11 Princes Square,
Harrogate, N. Yorkshire
Tel: 0423 66777

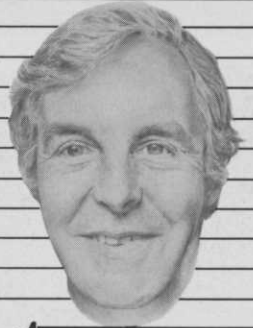
The BGGGA, The Editor and Publishers do not necessarily agree with the comments and views expressed in this publication and do not accept responsibility for any personal opinions stated therein. © Copyright 1986 Golf Greenkeeping and Course Maintenance. Permission for the reproduction of features and articles will be favourably considered for non-commercial purposes on application to the publisher.
Printed by: W. Kristall Ltd., Leeds.

Golf Greenkeeping and Course
Maintenance is published by:
Wharfedale Publications
Limited
P.O. Box 12,
Wetherby,
West Yorkshire LS22 4SR
Telephone: (0937) 63181

Published ten times per year.
Copies for non-members are
available on subscription
postage paid from January
1987, £12.00 a year. Overseas
surface and air mail rates on
application to the publishers.

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

Greenside Comment...



John Lelean

THE SEARCH BEGINS

Some years ago there was a popular monologue emanating from across the Atlantic attempting to define 'What is a boy', with a sequel asking the same question for the opposite sex. It went something like this. 'A boy is tousled haired with short pants and dirty knees. He likes getting into scrapes, ice cream, kicking a ball, throwing stones and stamping into puddles. He dislikes, girls, washing his neck, going to bed, school dinners and doing as he is told.

The first task of the BIGGA Committee is to appoint an Administrator for the Association, but before that can be done a similar specification must be produced for the person who will ultimately be appointed to take on this most exacting role.

Unlike other appointments to head and represent an Association the applicants for this job needs to have very special qualities. The greenkeeping profession has a long and distinctive role in the game even before Old Tom Morris which has often, and not without foundation, been described as more akin to a disease or a religion. Those who play and those who produce the fields for combat are invariably totally dedicated in their efforts to seek the ultimate in perfection. Few succeed, but this is never regarded as a deterrent. There is always tomorrow, when improved skills, additional determination and a little slice of luck will produce the results that evaded them today.

First and foremost the General Administrator must have a total understanding of the work of the greenkeeper. The long hours spent, often in adverse weather conditions, tending over one hundred acres of turf. To many laymen one blade of grass is, much the same as another, but the greenkeeper knows far better. Only he can distinguish the desirable species and the best method of cultivation.

To lead the greenkeepers to full recognition, the Administrator must also be aware of their working conditions, present educational facilities, and more important, the lack of them, and often, the total incomprehension by some Club Committees, to understand the greenkeeper is a professional. To maintain their golf course, he should be given the authority, facilities, status and salary to carry out his duties to the best of his abilities. The Administrator will need to have the diplomacy of a Foreign Secretary, the political awareness of a Prime Minister, the drive of a Captain of Industry, the meekness of a Mother Superior and the stamina of a Royal Marine Commando.

An ideal job, perhaps, for Prince Edward, if only he played golf.

Whoever receives the accolade of recognition from this appointment he is certain to be taking on a job where there will be more brick-bats than bouquets, more criticism than praise and appreciation more likely to come after his demise than during his tenure of office.

Contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| NEWS ROUND UP | 5-6-7-8 |
| BIRDS & WORDS | |
|by Fred Hawtree | 9 |
| ROBERT TRENT JONES Snr. Winner of the 'Old Tom Morris' Award | 10-12 |
| RUFFORD TOP DRESS SUPPLIES Acquire a Silica Sand Quarry | 13 |
| GOLF COURSE DRAINAGEnew ways to install piping | 14-16-20 |
| SECTIONAL NEWS | 18-19-20 |
| APPOINTMENTS | 22 |
| TRADE DIRECTORY | 23 |

Next Month

A Guide to the 1987 Greens Mower
Building new greens. Latest techniques and methods of construction
Report on the Phoenix Convention

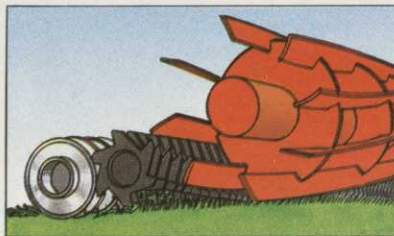


Stroke for stroke, the best in the business.

Greens King® IV Diesel.

Now, you can approach the green with the finest tournament-quality triplex greens mower and cut your fuel costs virtually in half. Because the innovative Jacobsen Greens King family introduces another industry first: *Diesel*.

The new 16½-hp. diesel Greens King IV provides more power for climbing and cutting. Plus, this diesel model has many standard features you'll only find as options elsewhere. Like full floating and pivoting reel units that steer through turns without scuffing or marking; full hydraulic drive with dynamic braking for greater control: just let up on the pedal to slow down; and, variable speed control which allows the operator to select the precise ground speed and frequency of cut for greens while still allowing full speed for transport.



By cutting horizontal runners and removing thatch, the patented Turf Groomer™ attachment creates faster, truer and healthier greens *without* lowering height of cut.

If you prefer a gas engine, both 14-hp. and 16-hp. models are available. Giving you the broadest selection of riding greens mowers in the industry. With more options, to help you meet your greens care needs more precisely.

Like the revolutionary, patented Turf Groomer™ attachment for faster, truer greens. *Without* lowering height of cut.

And, the unique *performance monitor* which digitally displays all speeds, including cutting frequency, so the operator can evaluate mowing performance, instantly.

What's more, every Greens King is backed by the most extensive support network in the industry. So, contact your Jacobsen distributor to arrange a free demonstration. And see for yourself why the Greens King family is the best in the business.

JACOBSEN
DIVISION OF TEXTRON LIMITED

Bergen Way, King's Lynn,
Norfolk PE30 2JG
Tel: King's Lynn (0553) 763333
Telex: 818861

Greens King and Turf Groomer are trademarks of Jacobsen Division of Textron.

NEWS Round-up

FIRST TRAINING COURSE HELD IN PURPOSE-DESIGNED BUILDING



Service engineers from Huxleys' nationwide network of Cushman turf-care equipment dealers receiving instruction at the inaugural service course held within the new, purpose-built training centre at Huxleys Grass Machinery's premises in New Alresford, Hampshire.

The inaugural service course held within the new training centre at Huxleys Grass Machinery's New Alresford, Hampshire premises has been voted a resounding success by all who attended the two day event either as instructors or to receive instruction.

Taking place in mid-December, the course was planned and staged specifically for engineers from Huxley's appointed Cushman Turf machinery dealers throughout the British Isles. Entitled 'A service course for experienced staff', it attracted nineteen dealer representatives to the first event held within the new 1,200 sq. ft. building, purpose-planned and built

by Huxleys at their New Alresford factory for both training and visitor reception purposes.

Training Manager, Mr. Terry Cooper, said the primary aim of the service course had been to improve the diagnostic ability of all those attending.

In addition to providing an excellent centre for the many local authority, golf course and industry visitors to their New Alresford premises, it will be used regularly for sales, service and operator training on the professional equipment ranges manufactured and distributed by Huxleys Grass Machinery.

SWAN RE-ELECTED TO NTC CHAIR

The recent annual general meeting of the National Turfgrass Council elected Howard Swan to a second term as Chairman, and with the retirement of Neil Gilmour, John Holborn of the National Playing Fields Association, was chosen as Vice-Chairman. John Shildrick was re-confirmed as Secretary.

Howard Swan, Managing Director of Golf Landscapes Ltd. said he looked forward to leading the Council for a second year, out of what have been difficult times, towards a recognised place as The united voice in the industry, acting as the umbrella to all constituent members. "We have received tremendous support from the major Associations, particularly from the Institute of Groundsmanship, in pursuing this aim, and I see that we can, within a 3 year period, move positively and successfully forward", added Swan.

FARMURA ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS

"New products and a new name are the changes at Farmura, designed to ensure that the Company continues to lead its sector of the market", commented Sales Director Jonathan Harmer. "The change of name to "Farmura Environmental Products" of the marketing company is intended to reflect the widening of our product range - a one stop shop range of organic, environmental and landscaping products that will be of practical benefit to both specifiers and users".

Building on the proven Farmura range of Liquid Organic Fertilisers, the Company has launched three new products with others launched under development.

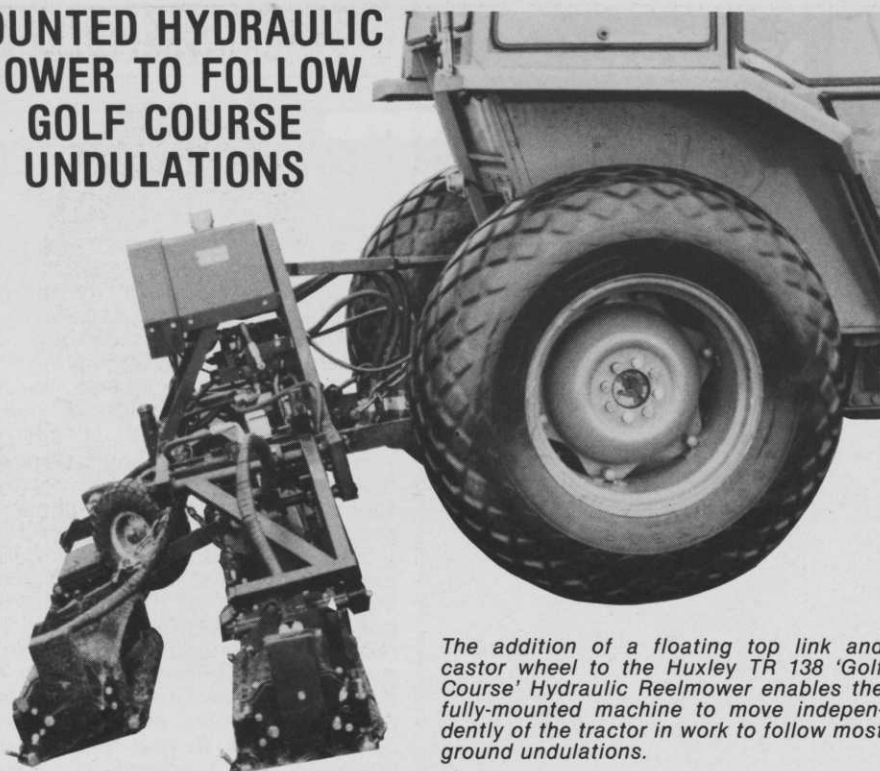
First seen at Windsor, Farmgran is a spreadable seaweed soil conditioner and improver which can be used on its own or incorporated in top dressings and has uses from fine turf to land reclamation. In fact, any area where there is a "fertility gap". Easily spreadable, Farmgran is packed in 25 kilo bags.

Pre-planting Root Dip to aid the re-establishment of trees and shrubs and to reduce losses to a minimum. Like Farmgran, Root Dip is an organic product which, when made into a creamy paste, is easy and quick to use. Root Dip is packed in easy to handle 15 kilo tubs.

Finally, Aquatain, a specialist water retaining compost containing organic nutrient for indoor landscaping, hanging baskets or where watering is a problem. Aquatain is supplied in 10, 20 and 40 litre bags or in bulk.

Farmura Environmental Products are at Stone Hill, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DU. Telephone: 023376-241

MOUNTED HYDRAULIC MOWER TO FOLLOW GOLF COURSE UNDULATIONS



A special version of their TR 138 'Golf Course' Hydraulic Reelmower has been developed by Huxleys Grass Machinery specifically for golf greenkeepers with exceptionally undulating fairways to maintain.

Based entirely on the current Huxley TR 138 'Golf Course' mower, the latest introduction features a fully-floating top link to replace the standard tractor link and has a contour-following castor wheel at the rear. These two additional components work totally in harmony when grass cutting, allowing the mower's frame to move and 'float' independently of the tractor despite the fact that the unit is still fully-mounted on the tractor's three-point linkage.

Being tractor-mounted provides a number of benefits: It enables the mower to be lifted for fast, convenient movement from site to site; it allows the complete unit to be raised instantly out of work when turning at the end of a mowing run and it produces a compact, well-balanced grass-cutting combination which minimises the risk of turf damage from rutting or scuffing.

BRITISH SEED HOUSES SUPPLY GRASS FOR ST. MELLION

British Seed Houses Ltd have supplied the grass seed for the New Championship Golf Course at St. Mellion, which was designed by Jack Nicklaus.

The course was sown down in the Spring and Autumn of 1985 when straight Penncross Creeping Bent was sown on the greens and tees and the fairways were sown with the standard BSH A12 Fairway Mixture which contains the well known variety of Chewings Fescue Frida.

The course was said to be in excellent shape for the opening ceremony last Autumn.

The addition of a floating top link and castor wheel to the Huxley TR 138 'Golf Course' Hydraulic Reelmower enables the fully-mounted machine to move independently of the tractor in work to follow most ground undulations.

Price of the Huxley TR 138 'Golf Course' Hydraulic Reelmower complete with floating top link and castor wheel is £6,825, exclusive of VAT.

Huxley Hydraulic Reelmowers are available from appointed tractor dealers nationwide and from Huxleys Grass Machinery branches at:

The Dean, New Alresford, Hants.
SO24 9BL, England.
Tel: (0962) 733222; and Hillside,
Thorpe Lea Road, Egham, Surrey,
TW20 8JG, England.
Tel: (0784) 38666. Telex: 894426.

TURFSCAPE '87

An indoor exhibition is booked to be held at the Grand Hotel, Malahide, Dublin on 4th and 5th March.

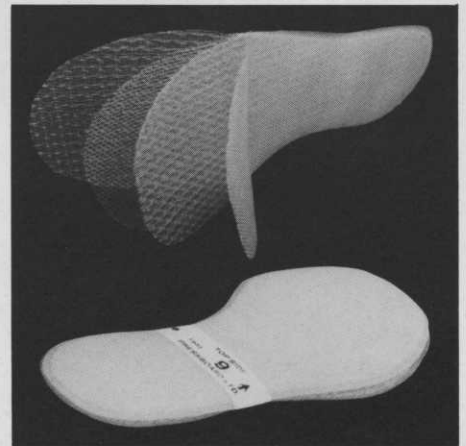
TURFSCAPE '87 is the second in the series and follows the successful launch of the Turfscape Exhibition held at the Belfry Golf and Country Club in February last year.

The dates chosen, timed to coincide with the arrival of spring - a season when the industry is considering the purchase of new machinery and supplies their current year end and planning yearly budgets.

The exhibition organised by TURF MANAGEMENT AND LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT comprise a team of professionals experienced in the organisation and promotion of specialised trade exhibitions and conferences.

TURF MANAGEMENT will also be organising a series of seminars to run concurrent with the exhibition and has the full backing of Kinsealy Research Institute at Malahide who will be providing some of the speakers for the seminars.

MILITARY INSOLES Now available for all outside activities



Supa Soles the unique "air conditioning" insoles made from layers of interwoven plastic mesh by Pressboard Limited.

Supa Soles, the civilian version of the plastic mesh insoles used by the British Army, are now available for anyone who has to spend a great deal of time outdoors in all weathers.

Because they are particularly effective for use in non-porous, synthetic and rubber boots and waders, Supa Soles are invaluable to anybody who has to spend hours in cold, wet or marshy conditions. They are ideal for leisure pursuits in the open air, such as fishing, shooting and riding.

Initially designed for military use, these tough insoles keep feet cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Thousands of tiny insulated air pockets in each Supa Sole both protect from the damp and cold and also ensure foot comfort. They are impervious to perspiration, washable and almost indestructible.

KUBOTA TAKES A LEAD ON TRACTOR SAFETY

A deep concern in the number of accidents at work has led the Kubota (UK) Ltd. to publish a new booklet on tractor safety.

At least 70 fatal accidents happen in agriculture and amenity turf each year. It is a sad fact that the vast majority of these accidents could have been avoided by attention to detail and the use of commonsense.

Available free from Kubota UK Limited - the booklet entitled 'Tractor Safety Code' covers the ten basic rules of tractor safety, showing clearly and concisely how simple commonsense will ensure safety of operation.

The booklet also covers the safety points for mowers, rotary tillers, dozer blades, trenchers, backhoes and loaders.

Clearly printed and illustrated, everybody concerned with the operation of tractors should read and take heed of this publication from Kubota.

'Tractor Safety Code' is published by Kubota (UK) Limited and is available free on request from their headquarters at Dormer Road, Thame, Oxfordshire OX9 3UN.

SECOND INTERNATIONAL GOLF SHOW

19-22 FEBRUARY, 1987 BARBICAN, CITY OF LONDON

Opening by Henry Cotton, MBE

Keynote of the Second International Golf Show, at the London Barbican from 19-22 February is visitor participation. Apart from being able to examine and try out the latest equipment from the major golf club and ancillary products manufacturers, there is a host of other activities for not only the experienced golfer but also beginners and their families.

The Show is sponsored by the Daily Mail and supported by the PGA European Tour, whose professionals will be there daily, giving free 'clinics', with the use of golf nets, video and other electronic equipment to analyse your swing and help correct faults.

Recognising that today's juniors are the Ryder Cup and Curtis Cup players of tomorrow, 'Golf World' is sponsoring a special Junior Golf section. Here, junior size clubs will be available for youngsters to take tuition and be assessed by professionals; to learn what golf offers as a career and how to start.

Long driving and putting competitions are being organised and a number of try-your-skill events will be offering golfing holidays as prizes.

The Entertainment Artistes' Benevolent Fund will be bringing in stars of stage, TV and cinema to compete against visitors in putting competitions to raise funds for their charity.

One section of the Show is devoted to a display of golf history and memorabilia and there will be a continuous showing of films on the rules of Golf and Open Championships.

Another section covers the newest fashions in golfing wear, from the latest spikeless shoes to headgear. And for those who want to get away from frozen greens and closed courses, there is a wide selection of golf resorts, hotels, villas and apartments for sale on a time-share basis in various parts of Europe.

Each day the Show features a full programme of events on stage; fashion shows, demonstrations and clinics, and the golf 'antiques roadshow'. There will also be an on-going club making workshop.

Another new feature will be Junior Club Corner, being sponsored by 'Golf World'. This will be an area designed specifically for youngsters where they can have golf instruction from professionals, have their swing analysed, see videos and take part in competitions. It is planned to have junior clubs available from various manufacturers that can be tried including putters for use on a specifically constructed putting green.

There will also be an opportunity to have valued by a leading auction house, the set of clubs your grandfather left you. Old golf clubs, balls, equipment and literature are much sought after and fetch very high prices at sales. To encourage golfers to bring along their own old keepsakes, it is planned to run the Golf Show's own 'Antiques Road Show'.

The Show is being opened by Henry Cotton, MBE. Opening hours are: 10 a.m. - 7.30 p.m. Thursday, 19th February, Friday 20th and Saturday 21st and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, 22nd February.

Admission prices are £3.50 including the Show catalogue (Children under 14 and OAP's £2.00).

APPOINTMENTS



Richard Williams, has been appointed Sales Engineer by Birds Grasscare. Richard, 31, will be based at the company's West of England Centre at Willsbridge, near Keynsham.

Richard Williams brings a wealth of experience to the position having worked as both a greenkeeper and Service Engineer within the Golfing World, before joining Birds a year ago. Acting as a mobile engineer over that period, Richard has built up a close working relationship with the customers in Gloucestershire and Gwent. Now he is looking forward to playing a wider role, advising on equipment as well as ensuring its maximum performance.

TORO'S UK GENERAL MANAGER TO HEAD BITA

Peter Roberts, General Manager at Toro Irrigation Ltd., was elected Chairman of the British Turf Irrigation Association at its recent AGM, with Robin Hume of Turf Irrigation Services Ltd. Vice-Chairman.

Roberts, one of the leading figures in the industry, with 15 years' irrigation experience throughout the world, pledged to "widen awareness of the importance of irrigation to all types of turf areas, not just golf courses; and to promote the professional approach to design and installation".

In pursuing these aims, his most immediate task will be to lead his committee - to draw up proposals for minimum standards for irrigation of all kinds of turf and landscape. The BTIA has already published minimum standards for golf course irrigation in its widely welcomed free booklet "Your Guide to the British Turf Irrigation Association", and the plans are now to extend this. It is hoped to have the enlarged Guide out by the end of 1987.

Roberts concluded the meeting by underlining his confidence and commitment to expanding the Association, now composed of 19 members actively practising in the industry, towards true recognition as the professional body in the field.

JOHNSONS NEW STYLE J RANGE BROCHURE 1987

Johnsons Seeds has just issued the 1987 J Range brochure listing the 7 standard Turfgrass mixtures and 3 Masterblends recommended for sports and amenity areas.

The new brochure has been completely re-designed to simplify mixture selection. The proportions of individual components in each mixture are clearly set out, together with recommended Sowing Rates and Mowing Heights in both metric and imperial measures.

The recommended uses of each mixture are boldly specified and are grouped under 4 main headings which describe their common characteristics.

Fine and Tough Turf include 3 species mixes which are best able to tolerate, respectively, Close Mowing and Heavy Wear/Trampling.

Flexi Turf covers 3 mixes which vary in the degree to which they can tolerate both these primary 'man made' stresses, whereas Tolerant Turf offers various combinations that are best able to withstand an extensive range of environmental stresses.

Mixture descriptions have been carefully revised providing key facts

so that users can choose the best mix for their individual needs simply, quickly and with confidence. Further guidance is available on the back cover where an A to Z List from Airfields - West Soils advises on mixture selection.

The use of Nurse species White Clover and/or Annual Ryegrass in association with standard or special mixtures is featured prominently, the benefits being clearly given together with Sowing Rates and management requirements.

Another innovation for 1987 is the detailed description of turfgrass cultivars used within the J range totalling 18 plus on Pages 7 and 8 with a resumé of Johnsons J Range service and complementary seed services claimed to be the most comprehensive and widely used in the UK - the only national seed house engaged in plant breeding and wild flower seed production.

Copies of the J Range brochure are available free on request from G. S. Taylor, Johnsons Seeds, London Road, Boston, Lincs. PE21 8AD.

GCSAA CONVENTION IN PHOENIX

As this issue goes to press, the Editor will be on his way to Phoenix in Arizona with a party of greenkeepers from Britain to attend the week-long conference and exhibition staged by our American Greenkeeping colleagues.

Included in the party are Peter Shaw from Preston Golf Club and John Stiff Course Manager at Tracey Park, near Bristol who have been invited to Phoenix by the Jacobsen Textron company and will attend the international Jacobsen Dinner in the Phoenix Hilton. This is always a memorable occasion because of its truly world wide representation. It is to be hoped both our greenkeepers have acquired sufficient fluency in Japanese and Mandarin Chinese before leaving Heathrow on the 15 hour trip.

The March issue of *Golf Greenkeeping* will carry a full report of the conference together with the latest items of equipment and technology launched at the largest indoor exhibition of turf grass equipment in the world.

SNOW BOUND

The blizzards that swept in across the North Sea last month put the Jacobsen company at King's Lynn, completely out of operation.

General Manager, Chris Smith told *Golf Greenkeeping* the snow was so deep none of the staff could get to their Bergen Estate headquarters and the business was forced to take an extra week's holiday.

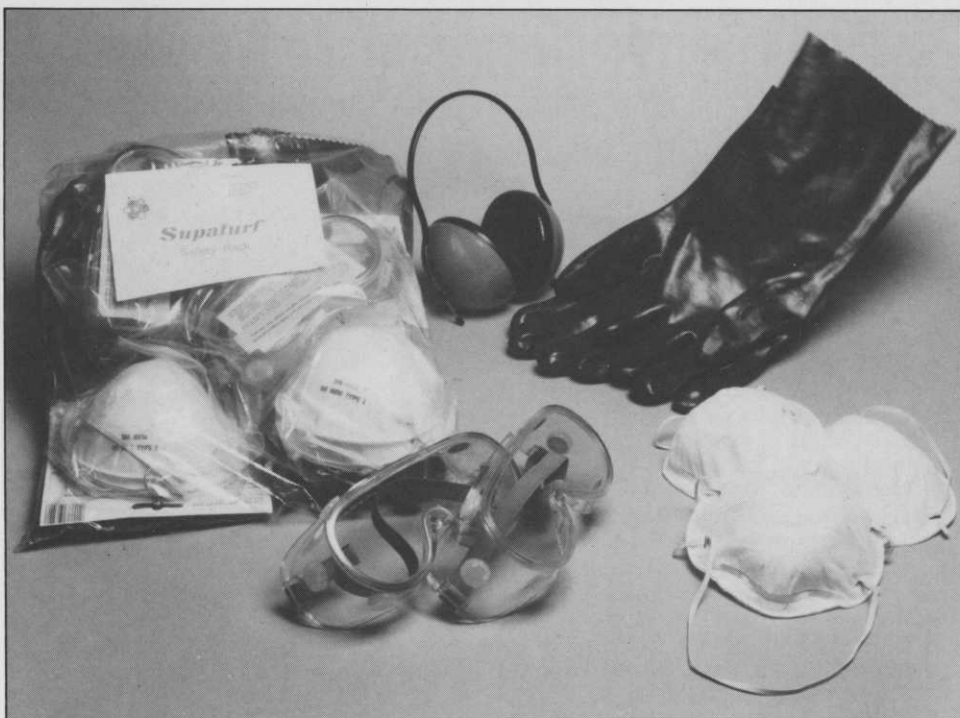
As the whole of the UK was in the grip of one of the worse winter weeks on record it is highly unlikely there was a golf course in England, Scotland or Wales open for business in any case.

If there are any greenkeepers who managed to keep the golfers moving we would be very interested in hearing from them.

TRACTOR SURVEY

As in previous years *Golf Greenkeeping* will be publishing a survey on golf course tractors in the April issue. The manufacturers have been asked to provide up to date information on their current ranges together with prices, but this year we are taking the survey a stage further by enlisting the support of Head Greenkeepers to provide the Editor with information concerning the equipment you are using on your golf course - Now.

Enclosed with this copy of the magazine is a form asking you to take a few minutes of your time to provide valuable data to make this survey meaningful. Not all copies of the journal contain the questionnaire, but readers who have been selected are asked to help the Editor by noting the information and returning as soon as possible in the stamped addressed envelope provided.



SUPATURF SAFETY PACK

With the ever increasing use of chemicals as essential tools in the management of turf and amenity landscape and the introduction of new regulations concerning the use of pesticides Supaturf Products Ltd have introduced a safety pack for the spray operator. The pack comprises of protective gloves, goggles and masks all conforming to British Safety Standards and retail at £21.50. First time purchasers will be able to obtain also a **FREE** pair of hearing protectors.

RESIGNED AND NOT RETIRED

W. H. (Bill) Heath, a Vice President of the Midlands Section has bent the Editor's ear to point out the item referring to his retirement from Supaturf Products in the October issue was inaccurate.

He said he resigned from the company to start up his own agency and consultancy for turf grass products.

Bill is now operating from his home at Laurel Cottage, Seabridge, near Newcastle under Lyme and can be contacted by telephoning 0782/627780.

NEW ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING AT YORK

Jack McMillan, the BIGGA Vice Chairman, presided over a seven member meeting of the Committee at York last month to further the progress of the amalgamation of the three Greenkeeper Associations.

Both Walter Woods and James Kidd were snow bound in Scotland.

The main business on the agenda concerned the appointment of a full-time administrator to handle the affairs of the Association. As reported in December a consultant has been appointed to advise the Committee and he met the members to put forward recommendations.

Advertisements will now appear in a number of golf and greenkeeping publications (see page 18 - Situations Vacant) for a suitable person to fill the position, at a salary stated to be around £16,000 per annum. It was also confirmed the headquarters of the Association, as predicted, will be within the offices of the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley St. Ives.

Arrangements have already been made to use the computer facilities at Bingley to record details of the existing greenkeeper and trade members of BGGGA, SIGGA and EIGGA. At the beginning of March, letters

will be sent initially to the greenkeepers and later to trade members inviting them to become members, or associates of BIGGA with a request for payment of subscriptions.

The formation of Sections or Regions was also discussed and it was agreed some flexibility was necessary and members were to be offered the opportunity to choose the area with which they wish to be associated.

Discussion also took place on a new logo and blazer badge for the Association and this matter was put into the hands of Leicester Committee member, Paddy McClaren.

Arrangements had already been made for the BGGGA National Tournament to take place from the 17th - 19th August at Verulam Golf Club at St. Albans, Hertfordshire and this will now be adopted as the venue for the 1987 BIGGA National Golf Tournament.

Walter Woods, the BIGGA Chairman told *Golf Greenkeeping* he was very pleased with the progress made to date, particularly the enthusiasm already shown by the various Sectional Committees, who by word and deed, have demonstrated their willingness to ensure the new Association succeeds.



Birds & Words

by
Fred Hawtree

While he was waiting for the golf to start in the last tournament at Sun City, one of our more stimulating golf reporters turned to the local bird life to make up an extra paragraph or two.

He started like this: 'The Bul bulls are dead spraucny, full of bunny and take diabolical liberties. Know what I mean?' And went on to explain that these thrush-like birds would even ravage the breakfast tray on his balcony unless he defended vigorously.

Well, frankly, I did not know what he meant. Unless he was making fun of the local patois, I was lost. I had heard of Bul bulls because they comprise one third of my knowledge of South Africa, on the wing; Turkey Buzzards and Lilac-breasted Rollers make up the other two-thirds. But 'spraucny'? A mixed pedigree? Perhaps:- Sprightly plus Springy times Bouncy plus Raunchy? But neither am I sure what the last word means.

Then there is the other half of the puzzle. What about a Bul bul 'full of bunny'. The turkey buzzard could handle a fair-sized rabbit but not the 7" Bul bul. Or am I being too literal again?

The same writer is both intelligible and entertaining when he is writing about golf itself although like his *confreeres* he may occasionally spice his accounts with novel terms from the leading edge of the developing golf idiom. I have learned not to wince when I read that a player 'carded' a 70' even if it causes confusion in a Yorkshire woollen mill. I also go along with the verb 'to bogey', after a certain initial resistance. Once its implications become clear, it is more precise than the old vague distinction between bogey and par. If one thinks about it, a scratch player's 18 pars will halve the match under handicap with the 24 man's 18 bogeys. That is as tidy as any calculation about handicap can ever be.

But what about 'spraucny'? Can we apply it to golfers too? Too late! Golfers do not spraucny anymore. Those with more shelf life beyond the sell-by date marked on my tin are too young to have seen Alfred Perry, professional at Leatherhead Golf Club. When Bernard Darwin described on the wireless the manner of his winning the 1935 Open, it was obvious, even without the benefit of television, that Perry *spraucned* down the 18th to take the title. Dai Rees also had a considerable spring in his gait. But there was so much less of Rees from the knees up than there was of

Perry that he hardly qualified for true spraucnehood. Perry even might have been described as paunchy though not, I am sure, raunchy.

Professional golfers have not only lost their spraucne. We no longer see in the lists of their scores, those romantic parenthetic labels after their names. '(Reddish Vale)', '(Beau Desert)', '(Luffenham Heath)', '(Whittington Barracks)', - all names to conjure with and salutary reminders that even the man who scored in other worlds still played alongside humble club players when at home. Golf clubs lost something of their lustre when hotels, knitwear and air lines took their place for a time between the brackets. Now even the brackets have disappeared.

In case you remain unmoved by the nostalgic regrets up to this point, let me remind you of just one more feature that has faded from the annals of golf - perhaps the most grievous of all. When they redesigned and condensed the text of the annual 'Golfers Handbook', while it was still a hard-back, they wiped two thousand names from the records. They retained the name of the secretary and the professional at each listed club but they dropped the name of the greenkeeper into the bin. A tradition dating back to the earliest golfing annuals, deep in the 19th century, was quietly ended without a whimper, a grumble or even, as would have been appropriate, a riot.

I have since protested to Mr. Laurence Viney who edits the smart new paperback edition of this valuable publication but what would you do, honestly, if you were asked to alter two thousand alphabetical entries already neatly parcelled to fit the space allotted. BIGGA must therefore take up the running as the first test of its new clout. If two thousand greenkeepers decide that they can do without this extremely useful annual and persuade their clubs accordingly, you may find that you too are 'full of bunny' if that's what it means metaphorically.

Your monthly ration of gourmet reading is this month being prepared in France where the appetite for change in golfing matters is less obvious. I suspect it has always been thus because the terms they employ are already novel being foreign. Consider the following:-

- The tee - *Le tee*
- The green - *Le green*
- The rough - *Le rough*
- The dog-leg - *Le dog-leg*

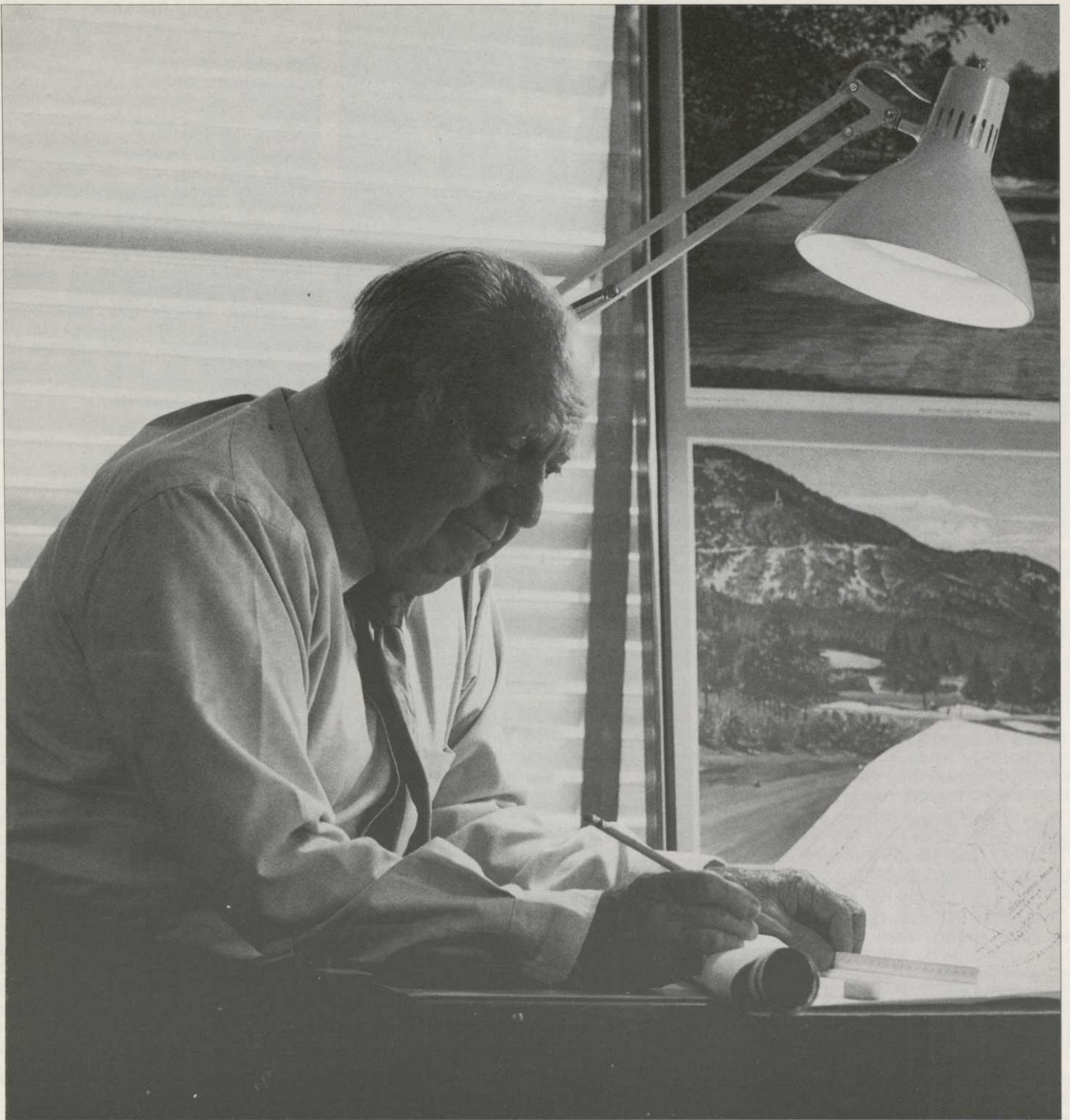
Only when it comes to the ball, *La balle*, (already a French word), does one hear the occasional frivolity such as '*Le ballon*' (balloon or football). In Britain, there were once facetious terms like sphere, orb, pill and the globe. 'Miss the globe' actually got into the glossary of golfing terms in the Badminton 'Golf' edited by Horace Hutchinson (whom you met here in past references to Westward Ho!, Pau and Biarritz). Nobody will regret their departure but there are other more honest, ancient terms which ought not to be lost.

1987 is sure to be a Conservation Year for (something) or Save the (something else) Year so we can now come to the educational content for which these articles are widely renowned. In order to see how far our golfing language has forgotten terms used a hundred years ago, I offer you a brief exercise in word power. Questions 1, 2 and 5 are obligatory for Scottish candidates. Pencils ready?

Here goes. Mark one box only against each word.

| Word | Definition |
|----------|--|
| 1 Baffy | <input type="checkbox"/> A Describes golfers playing in snow <input type="checkbox"/> B Lofted wooden club with full brass sole plate <input type="checkbox"/> C Refreshment hut at 10th tee at Tidworth Garrison Golf Club. |
| 2 Bisque | <input type="checkbox"/> A Stroke taken at option of receiver <input type="checkbox"/> B Metal counter used to mark position of ball <input type="checkbox"/> C Small oat-cake eaten by Scottish greenkeepers during Lent |
| 3 Fluff | <input type="checkbox"/> A Tufted fringe of putting surface <input type="checkbox"/> B Failure to move ball significantly <input type="checkbox"/> C Used of attractive lady members usually with prefix 'little bit of'. |
| 4 Fozzle | <input type="checkbox"/> A To remove silty material from land drains <input type="checkbox"/> B Ineffective stroke <input type="checkbox"/> C Large wading bird common in the Fens |
| 5 Sclaff | <input type="checkbox"/> A Trim cut turf to even thickness <input type="checkbox"/> B To scrape the turf before striking the ball <input type="checkbox"/> C Convulsive exclamation after 'missing the globe'. (Horse-sclaff' when uttered by opponent). |

If you have scored 5 points by marking B.A.B.B.B., congratulations!
 You are a fully qualified and spraucny greenmaster
 If not, kindly see me in my study next month.



ROBERT TRENT JONES Snr.

Winner of the 'Old Tom Morris' Award

Robert Trent Jones Snr. is the fifth person to be awarded the 'Old Tom Morris' Award by the G.C.S.A.A.

The courses designed by this talented architect represent an enormous contribution to golf and the future of the game.

Despite reaching the magical three score years and ten, this jovial bundle of energy still jets around the world designing an increasing number of golf courses, carved from such unlikely sites as desert sand in the Middle East, mountain sides in Japan and even a rubbish tip in Britain.