

APRIL 1984

Greenkeeper



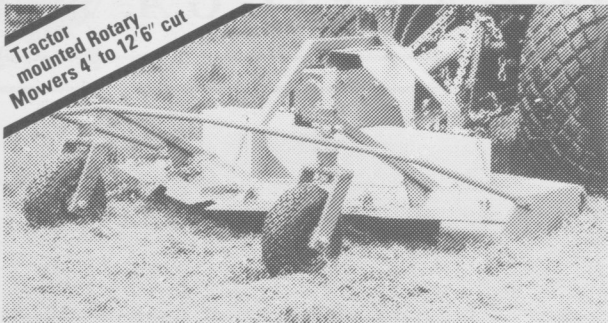
The Official Magazine of S.I.G.G.A. & E.I.G.G.A.



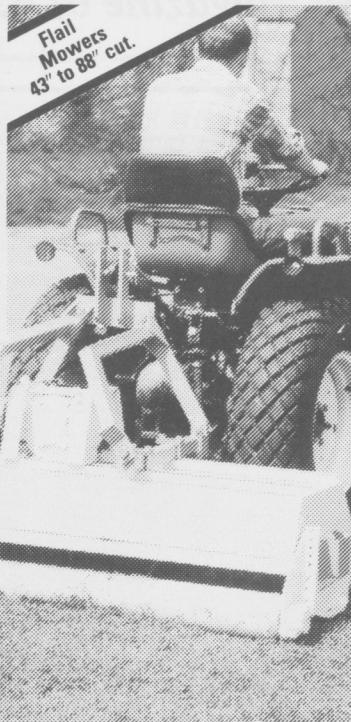
MARSHALL
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GRASS MANAGEMENT THE WESSEX WAY

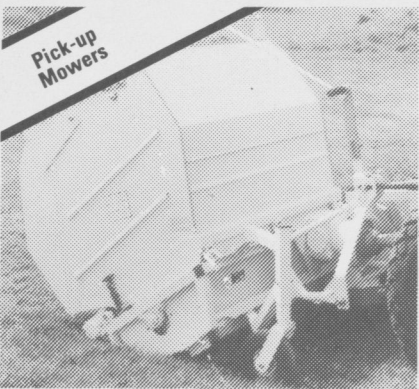
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mounted Rotary
Mowers 4' to 12'6" cut



Flail
Mowers
43" to 88" cut.



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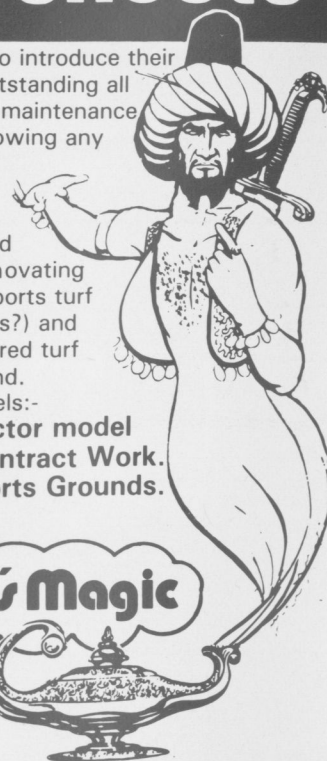


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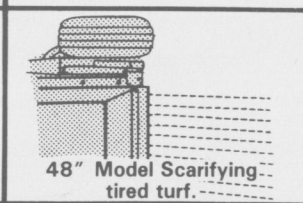
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FROM **BOB ANDREWS**

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This Issue

APRIL 1984



Front Cover: The Greens King Mark IV from Marshall Concessionaires offers articulated versatility, more cuts per yard and a versatile range of rollers, brushes, vertical mowers and spikes—all of which have helped it capture 65 per cent of the world market for greens mowers. Apart from Marshall Concessionaires' Jacobsen range, the company has exclusivity on Bunton, Ryan and JL turfcare machines.

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An aerial photograph of a golf course, viewed from a high angle. The green grass is dotted with numerous small, dark green circular patches, representing the application of fertilizer. Several holes are visible, each marked with a red flag and a number. The numbers visible on the flags are 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, and 18. A man in blue overalls and a plaid shirt is lying on his back on the grass in the lower right corner, with his arms outstretched. He is holding a white bag of fertilizer labeled 'FERTILIZER' above his head. The text 'GREENKEEPER' is printed in large white letters across the top left, 'SUPER-N' across the top right, 'FERTILIZER' across the middle, 'GO' on the left, 'THROUGH' in the center, 'THIS' on the right, 'HALF' on the left, and 'SEASON.' across the bottom right.

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A

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In·My·Opinion

Philip York

WHEN asked to write this editorial, my first reaction was to devote the entire article to recent in-fighting within the turfgrass industry.

However, having witnessed firsthand the degree of goodwill among the various British groups at the recent GCSAA conference and exhibition in Las Vegas and the emphasis in publications to re-introduce harmony in our trade, I have decided to add weight, not to the controversy, but to urging patience and restraint in publicising opposing views. I would also impress upon those involved in disagreements, of whatever type, that if we are to have a healthy industry, then we should unite, in the interests of the trade as a whole, to provide a common front to our customers.

We have a fantastic growth opportunity ahead. Increasing leisure time will necessitate the provision of more and more amenity areas and the updating of present facilities to provide for greater use. The funding of such projects, whether by private or public money, is of paramount importance. It is essential that, for the future well being of the industry, such money is wisely spent in ensuring customer and user satisfaction.

Whether an agronomist, contractor, specifier, manufacturer, greenkeeper or groundsman, we are all entitled to our own views of what is best. Nevertheless, to ensure long term customer confidence, we should be cautious not to specify or supply sub-standard. We should never

Philip York is managing director of Toro Irrigation and area sales director for Toro's international group.



discourage healthy competition and innovation. Too often there is under specifying with an attitude of 'it will all come right on the day.' Let's think a little more before committing to such a course of action.

In the irrigation trade, dissatisfaction with one project (not Toro) in one, albeit small, sector of the market caused a total ban on any similar scheme, regardless of product and the degree of expertise applied in the design—and that in spite of three similar, highly successful Toro systems!

Press releases are only made when there is guaranteed success! Very little, if anything, is publicised of problems in increasingly 'newsy' trade publications but, and it is a big but,

word travels fast between golf clubs and public authorities.

In many cases, the final decision to purchase rests with either a committee or individual possessing little or no knowledge of the product, service or application. It is, therefore, paramount that the purchaser is given clear and concise justification of the needs. And that there should not be any nagging doubts in his mind regarding the product's suitability brought on by reading the public disagreements mentioned previously.

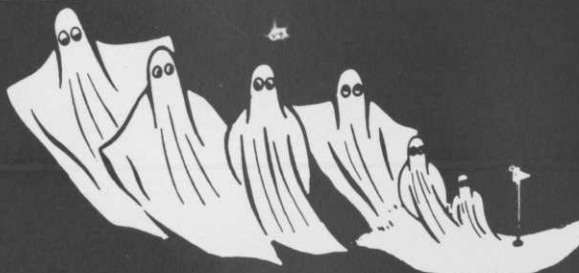
Toro, whether in the USA, UK or Europe, has always taken the view that, as a leading supplier of innovative and quality products, it should be at the forefront of educational programmes (such as six recent service courses), whether for the trade generally or for the company's direct benefit. Toro is always willing to assist in the industry's development, but the present divisions can only water down commercial involvement.

One final point—the National Turfgrass Council is an excellent vehicle to focus views on research, education, etc. There are some notable absentees who, by not joining, are going to benefit from its objectives without contributing—this surely is a selfish attitude and one to be deplored.

A united front will be a strong front, socially and economically. Ours is a trade that has an enviable reputation for co-operation and friendship—let's keep it that way!




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Out·On·The·Course

Worthing

John Campbell renews his friendship with course manager Hugh MacGillivray, who was one of his charges at St Andrews



Hugh MacGillivray—a dedicated supporter of EIGGA.

"AS I was born and bred in a great forestry area of Perthshire, I toyed with the idea of going in for timber management after leaving school, but finally opted for a job as an apprentice greenkeeper at Rosemount, Blairgowrie," Hugh MacGillivray, 38-year-old course manager of Worthing Golf Club said. Hugh and his wife Angela live with their bonny four-year-old daughter Kirsty in a charming cottage within the grounds of the club estate on the South Downs.

Like a great many Scots in greenkeeping, Hugh decided to get as much experience as possible in his chosen profession by moving around. On completion of his apprenticeship at Blairgowrie, he spent two years at St Andrews working with me when I was the links supervisor.

"St Andrews is the home of greenkeeping and it is an advantage to be able to say you were trained there when applying for a job anywhere in course management," Hugh said. "I gained invaluable experience, which I would never have received anywhere else in the world."

Hugh then moved to Skegness where he got his first job as head greenkeeper at the age of twenty.

From there, he went to Lanark GC during which time he contracted a serious illness that compelled him to give up work for two years. But you can't keep a good man down and when he regained good health he went to Rowlands Castle GC as course manager, after which he spent six months as a rep for Toro (London) before being appointed in charge of the golf courses at Sunningdale, where he remained for seven years before finally moving to Worthing.

"To look after our two 18-hole courses, we have to be highly mechanised and have all the best equipment. I have an assistant, Peter Bacon, who is also our engineer and saves us a considerable amount of money in repairs," Hugh added.

One man is in charge of each course and is responsible for all the important routine jobs, such as changing the holes and setting up tee markers, etc. The other six members of the staff are deployed as a team and carry out specific tasks allotted to them.

The present maintenance sheds are not in the best position close to the clubhouse, but a new, more central site has been chosen with better access to both courses. Building work is due

to begin on the new headquarters when the necessary planning approval has been granted by the local authority.

In this same spot, a borehole is being drilled to 300 feet, which will allow a much cheaper source of irrigation than the present water supply from the domestic mains. (It will only be a sixth of the cost.)

Hugh believes in the policy of minimum water and fertiliser to reduce the amount of poa annua in his greens and he has achieved good results. The quality of the turf is improving—it is firm and resilient to cope exceedingly well with any amount of winter play.

"I am a great believer in sulphate of iron to maintain good colour," Hugh said. "It also helps keep fungal disease at bay and acts as a deterrent for moss. This material was always a great favourite with the old school of Scottish greenkeepers. We also have an annual programme of shallow hollow tining and overseeding with a 50/50 mixture of fescue/agrostis.

"I have also used Farmura with Nitroform on the greens, which seems to promote steady vigour and a nice depth of colour to the turf. I also

Continued overleaf...

purchase from our suppliers a compost mixture with hoof and horn meal added to it—so every time the greens are topdressed, there is a little bit of nitrogen in the material to stimulate a gentle growth. I do not use seaweed extracts, but sometimes we mix a bit of Alginure with the compost and find that this is also a satisfactory treatment to keep the grass in healthy condition,” he added.

Hugh, like many greenkeepers nowadays, is compelled to use ride-on triplex greensmowers to get the work done quickly and efficiently—particularly at the weekends or when there is staff sickness and holidays. However, for tournaments and club events, he prefers to use pedestrian mowers for that bit of extra grooming and polish. “There’s something about the appearance of a green that looks good when it has been cut with a single unit machine and the experts prefer this type of finish for accurate putting,” Hugh said.

I asked him who had inspired him most in his career. “I think the gospel preached by Jim Arthur is worth listening to. I have always been influenced by his intelligent and sensible approach to all aspects of course upkeep, which are the result of his long experience as a highly qualified agronomist.

“I am also grateful to you, John, for the opportunity and training you gave me while I was at St Andrews. To have worked at such a world-famous course during an Open Championship was a unique experience for me and one I will never forget.”

Hugh recently had an opportunity to demonstrate his skill at bunker construction and some excellent examples of the art are already evident at Worthing. I admired the formidable trap he has built on the left side of the 10th green, which has improved the strategy of play.

His style of bunker building has obviously been influenced by an intimate acquaintance with the famous bunkers that adorn the Old Course. With the number of bunkers he has at Worthing, he values his Ransomes sand-trap rake, which grooms the sand on the floor of the bunkers, while the edges are tidied up by staff with hand rakes.

“Although the ride-on triplex greensmowers ushered in a new phase of golf-course maintenance, I believe the advent of the Cushman was even more significant to greenkeeping and an important advance in the introduction of mechanised techniques for turf culture,” Hugh said.

“This type of equipment and that produced by SISIS has been a



Drilling operations on a borehole are expected to yield a good supply of water for irrigation.



This unfinished bunker on the fringe of the Lower Course’s 12th green illustrates the MacGillivray style of trap building influenced by his training at St Andrews.



A new bunker by the 10th green on the Lower Course has added to the strategy of play.



Some 3,000 trees are being planted in a course improvement programme by contractor Don Wells.



Resurfacing work to a public bridle path...



Hugh with assistant and engineer Peter Baker.

godsend to greenkeepers in view of the ever-increasing amount of play. Manual operations, such as hollow tining, scarifying, topdressing and a whole range of other time-consuming jobs so often neglected, can now be carried out without undue interference to play."

A useful and inventive flexible rubber finger drag blade disperses the early morning dew before Worthing's greens are mown. It was made by splitting a ten foot length of three inch metal tube with an oxy-acetylene torch. Thick rubber fingers 16 inches wide and 14 inches long are fixed on to a strip of wood that prevents them from falling out of the tube. This simple implement is easily mounted on the back of a small Kubota tractor on an A-frame and the greens on both courses can be brushed in three hours without any friction damage to the surface. It is also ideal for brushing in compost.

Hugh has a lot of experience and is brimming with enthusiasm and good ideas. He was one of the driving forces in the establishment of EIGGA and is a trustee of the association. His ambition is to raise the status of greenkeeping by providing more and better facilities for the education and training of craftsmen greenkeepers.

**We owe it to the young men
to provide suitable educational
courses with experienced
instructors...**

"I want to see young men having the opportunity for a sound basic training in the theory and practice of golf-course upkeep. We owe it to them to provide suitable educational courses with experienced instructors and lecturers," he said.

"In some areas, advanced training courses may be difficult to find, but the ambitious man should not be deterred and is advised to try an appropriate business studies course to prepare himself for the role of head greenkeeper or course manager.

"Course maintenance budgets at some clubs may be as much as £100,000. The responsibility of running a modern golf course involves intensive planning and preparation by a competent individual, who has to be able to show his club he's capable of leading and directing the green-keeping staff and has the ability and business acumen to prepare an accurate budget to run the course efficiently and economically to the membership's satisfaction."



London

Forty members attended the first AGM, which was held at Aldenham GC recently. The meeting went very smoothly and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for re-electing me chairman. I feel honoured and will endeavour to improve the branch and, so, our standing throughout the industry.

D. Low was appointed branch administrator and he can be contacted on 01-950 4270. The committee is now: D. MacIndoe—chairman (Ø Watford 36416); T. McDonald—entertainment (Ø 01-950 7469); M. Peters—golf (Ø Northwood 28167) and Derek Mason—who makes up the full quota and who will be responsible for educational trips (Ø 01-340 6498).

The AGM was held in conjunction with an impressive demonstration and talk by Fred Reed of Lloyds Machinery of Letchworth. This was followed by an excellent buffet and then, by way of a change, Fred talked about his escapades as a Football League referee!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lloyds for a most enjoyable day and wish them, along with Fred, many prosperous years in the trade.

The spring meeting will be held courtesy of Aldenham GC on May 1. Please return your entry slips today!

D. MacIndoe.

East Anglia

It seems to have been a short winter—not too wet, not too cold, not much snow. Pretty boring, really, and the grass hasn't stopped growing! Most of the machinery is back and it doesn't seem to have been away five minutes. Top dressing is being put on the tees and greens and away we go again, each year trying to better the last.

I sometimes wonder what perfection is. Not so long ago, the average club golfer and greenkeeper thought his greens were good—a bit slow, but true. Then the boffins started

on about annual meadow grass being public enemy number one, so everybody hunted it down and starved it out. Now the greens are like putting on lino and they tell us some of the bent grasses need verticutting twice a week and green is not beautiful.

In the search for perfection, we can only end up in one place (besides the funny farm) and that's on artificial greens—dead flat, with no fertilisers, no cutting, no greenkeepers and no boffins. Until that day comes, we can all go quietly potty playing the imperfect game of golf (well, it's the way I play anyway).

The list of venues for 1984 is: April 25—Stoke by Nayland with the AGM at 11am sharp; June 29—Bishop's Stortford; September 6—Bury St Edmunds; October 23—Frinton for a match against the captains. The last event will be staged in Norfolk on a date to be arranged.

Finally, we all wish John Moyce every success in his new venture, Town & Country Horticultural Suppliers. Give him as much support as he has given us over the past few years.

Mick Lathrope.

North West

The branch recently hosted an educational seminar at the Welsh College of Horticulture for the whole of the turf industry. Over 80 attended and there were representatives from more than 30 golf clubs and local authorities. It was particularly refreshing to see many greens chairmen and secretaries present including, in one club's case, the finance committee, chairman and professional.

Lectures were delivered by Jim Arthur, A. Patterson and W. Fisher of Lely Iseki. Our sincere thanks to these gentlemen for their assistance and providing us with an interesting day. Thanks are always due to G.M. Wright and the officials of the college for helping us to prepare for this event.

Will members please note that the South Wales match has been arranged for May 14 at Chester GC. Information will be given in the quarterly newsletter sent to all members.

Andrew Campbell.

Sussex

It is with sadness that I report the death of Jack Holland, who was assistant greenkeeper at Willingdon GC. Peter Negus, the head greenkeeper, said: "Not only was Jack a good worker, but a gentleman and a very nice bloke." Peter and all his staff will miss him very much.

As the winter lectures draw to a close thanks go to Richard Bishop from Ransomes for the January lecture and Brian Richardson from May & Baker (February).

The Student Of The Year Award went to Tony Patching from Hill Barn Golf Course, Worthing for successfully completing the two-year course Phase II Greenkeeping And Sports Turf Maintenance at Plumpton Agricultural College. Well done, Tony.

In Sussex, we are very fortunate in having a college specializing in greenkeeping/turf culture. Our thanks to Nick Rigden, the head of horticulture, for organising and encouraging clubs to send their trainees. Those greenkeepers and secretaries who are not aware of the training available can contact Nick on 0273 890454 for any information concerning greenkeeper training and education.

Also thanks to Bob Surridge of J.D. Ward. All members will have received a booklet outlining pension schemes available—very useful for those members not fortunate enough to have a club pension.

Golf Events for 1984: May 24—a match versus the secretaries; June 19—Holtye, 3pm start; July 11—Tilgate Forest, 3pm start; August 16—Mannings Heath, 3.30pm start and September 25—36-hole autumn tournament, Rowlands Castle.

The Sussex branch would like to welcome all new members especially those who have worked so hard to form new branches in all parts of the country. We look forward to seeing you all at Cambridge for *Golf Course '84*. Well, good golfing and remember that spring is just around the corner!

Further information about the branch can be obtained by phoning me on Crawley 25301.

C. Dryden.

**Turn to page 14 for
Surrey and Kent news...**

GET KUBOTA ON COURSE. ON YOUR COURSE.

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Surrey

The branch annual dinner and dance takes place at the Drift Golf and Country Club on April 28. Tickets are £8.50.

Golf fixtures include a spring meeting at Old Thorns Golf and Country Club on Tuesday, May 29, starting at 8.30am. Numbers are limited to 51 and the price is £12. The Cresta Cup will be played over the New Zealand Golf Course on Monday, June 11, commencing 3.30pm. The McMillan Tankard is an afternoon fixture at Sunningdale on Friday, August 3.

The Surrey branch meets Sussex at Tyrrells Wood GC on August 21 and The MacGillivray Shield will be played over Banstead Downs Golf Course on Monday, September 10 in the afternoon.

Finally, the autumn invitation meeting is at Guildford GC on October 11, starting at 8am with numbers restricted to 60.

The Surrey branch held its AGM recently at the New Zealand club and these officers were elected: president—J.Parker; vice president—D.Craig; chairman—A.Bradshaw (Malden GC); vice chairman—

D.Lenham (Sunningdale GC); secretary—K.MacNiven (Effingham GC, ☎ Bookham 54312 for entry forms); treasurer—A.Watson (Tyrrells Wood GC); committee—A.Armitage (Richmond Park GC), B.Moreton (Berkshire GC), M.Pearson (Royal Wimbledon GC), I.McMillan (Datchet GC) and R.Denning (Guildford GC).

FIRST CLAIM ONE I.G.G.A.'s INSURANCE SCHEME

When E.I.G.G.A. was formed, it was felt that, for their subscriptions, the members should have some sort of accident insurance cover, and the good sense of this decision has recently been born out by one of our members being the first to benefit from the insurance scheme.

Last year Mr John Roots, of the Mid-Kent Golf Club, sustained an injury to his leg whilst playing football, and was subsequently off work for some time.

He believed that his E.I.G.G.A. insurance cover extended only to accidents sustained at work, but decided to make enquiries anyway. The result was, that he made a successful claim on his insurance, and was extremely satisfied with the amount he received.

His E.I.G.G.A. insurance cover gave him that extra security when he most needed it. Our very best wishes to Mr Roots for a total recovery.

Kent

The joint EIGGA/STRI seminar held at Broome Park Golf And Country Club last month was a great success. Over 80 delegates attended, some coming from as far afield as Ipswich, Crawley and Worthing. Also present was Nick Rigden from Plumpton Agricultural College, who brought along a group of his students.

The splendour of the Broome Park mansion provided a perfect setting for an interesting day of lectures. Chairman Peter Wisbey introduced Gordon Macadam who started the day with an interesting talk on the complex subject of drainage. This was followed by Jeff Perris whose subject was golf green construction. Jeff talked us through the various stages of preparation and construction with the help of slides. I feel sure that some of the younger members of the audience will feel more confident about construction work on their courses having listened to these gentlemen.

After a short question and answer session, Dr Peter Hayes took the floor to talk on grasses with special reference to Poa Annua—the old

Continued on page 22...

"FENDRESS" TOP DRESSING

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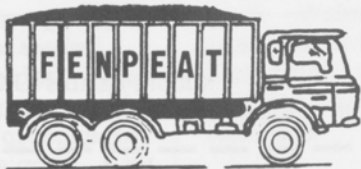
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Viva Las Vegas!

Jack McMillan, Sunningdale course manager and EIGGA president, reports his trip to the spectacular GCSAA annual show and conference...

With my wife, I joined a party of delegates at London's Heathrow Airport bound for the Golf Course Superintendents' Association Of America's 55th International Turfgrass Conference And Show in Las Vegas. There was a sizeable British contingent when the various groups assembled in Las Vegas from several tours organised for greenkeepers, groundsmen and members of the turfgrass industry.

I had looked forward to the trip—my first visit to the United States. I must confess I am not keen on flying, but the flight via New York was very comfortable. After 16 hours travel, we were delighted to get to our hotel and a well-earned rest.

Las Vegas, Nevada is designed for the gambler and holidaymaker and is fast becoming one of America's main convention centres with 450 conventions a year. Las Vegas has a wide variety of entertainment and we were taken to several shows, including an amazing magic show that had disappearing lions and tigers! We also enjoyed a spectacular

review and evening at Caesar's Palace, where the cabaret was headed by singer Diana Ross.

Thanks are due to all our generous hosts including Philip York, Archie Paterson and David Jenkins. We could not resist a visit to the gaming machines and although our fortunes fluctuated, I think we broke even by the end of the day.

We also drove out to the Hoover Dam, where we enjoyed a breathtaking flight over the lovely Lake Mead and the dam itself. This was definitely one of the highlights of the trip. The scenery was quite spectacular and unlike anything we had seen before, although it did seem that the pilot thought he was



This view of the Hoover Dam was captured during a tour by helicopter.



A 'swish' entrance to the Flamingo Hilton, Las Vegas.



Activity in the hall.

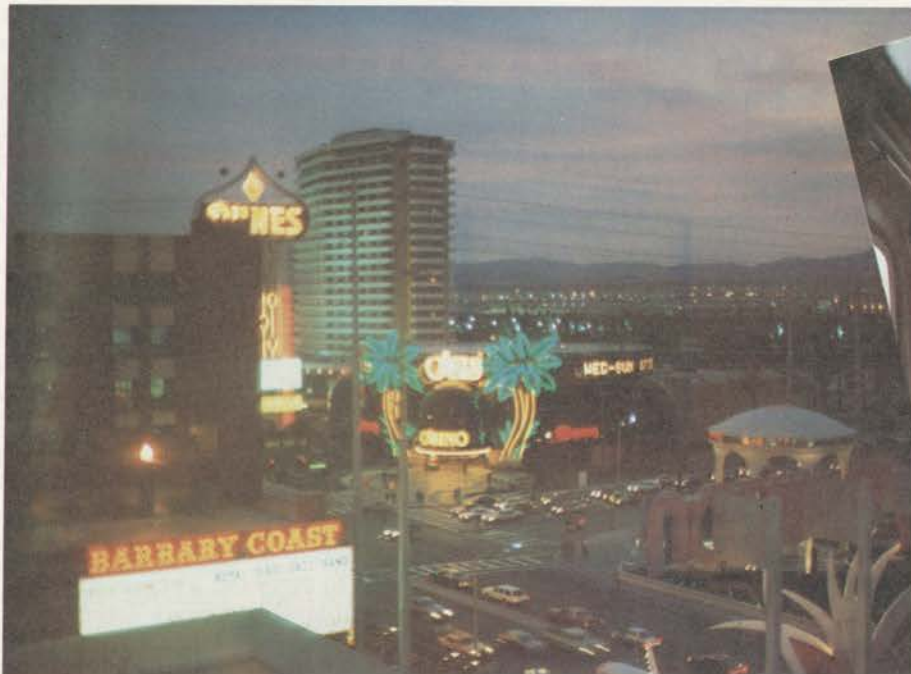
auditioning for a James Bond film!

I was very impressed by the sheer professionalism of the GCSAA who promote this annual event, which is specifically designed to meet the educational and professional requirements of the golf course manager and turfgrass maintenance industry.

The GCSAA strive to cover a wide variety of subjects by inviting the best speakers available for this important occasion. There were 122 individual presentations, a total of 325 hours of continuous educational sessions and if delegates missed any, they can still hear the presentations as the week's programme is available on tape.

I was pleasantly surprised when attending the first lecture, by Geoffrey Cornish on the master architects. He talked about Willie Park and up flashed Sunningdale—it made me feel quite at home!

The show is not as extensive as



Las Vegas By Night! An insomniac's delight, the place hardly stops...



One for the family album
by Rita McMillan.



Windsor, but being indoors and aimed exclusively at the golf-course market makes it unique. It was nice to see the British stand with the Union Jack and EIGGA flags. It created great interest with American and Canadian visitors—wherever greenkeepers meet, they always have so much to share and talk about. I understand this is the first time a British stand has been included in the

show and hopefully it won't be the last.

In just 20 minutes, I found myself talking to superintendents who had left ten foot snow drifts at home and others from the desert regions and the Southern States who had all-year-round vigour in growth and winter temperatures that never drop below 60 degrees.



A toast to the show by Bob Osterman, GCSAA immediate past president.

The show attracted all the manufacturers we would normally see at Windsor and while I did not find anything revolutionary among the machinery, there were a number of improvements and additional facilities that will be available to us in this country in the near future.

I left the show with the impression that we are going to hear more from the Japanese in the manufacture of machinery quite soon.

For any greenkeeper on a visit abroad, a trip to a golf course is a must. Gary Myers, course superintendent at the Desert Inn Golf and Country Club, kindly arranged a visit to his course for Gerry Coley and myself. The course measures 7,089 yards from the blue tees and with its many large lakes and lush green presentation, I could hardly believe I was in the middle of the Nevada desert.

The greens are of a sand structure and the grasses are bermudagrass oversown with ryegrass, which gives them constant colour and vigour. The ryegrass is dominant in winter and summer. When temperatures exceed 100 degrees, the bermudagrass comes into its own. Gary said he had used about 40 tons of ryegrass seed the previous year.

Some interesting facts for comparison are: aeration—four passes per year; staff—22 full-time; rounds of golf—65,000 a year and a budget of \$1,000,000. At the time of our visit, greens were being cut at three sixteenths of an inch and the pace as read on a stimpmeter was six foot. Desert Inn is on the USPGA tour and during an event, the height of cut is dropped to a tight eighth and the pace of the greens moves up to eight feet on the meter.

On the question of pace, it was most interesting to talk to William Bengeyfield, western director of the USGA Greens Section, who expressed the view that seven to

Continued on page 20...



Trust your own eyes...

The theme of this concluding article, triggered by questions posed by younger greenkeepers, is based on what is often the first thing tackled in greenkeeping training—namely, the soil itself. Sadly, many lecturers who admit to limited ability on grass identification feel they know all there is to know about soils, basing their teaching on standards applicable to growing agricultural or horticultural crops.

One of the biggest sources of trouble in greenkeeping is reliance on soil analysis as an end in itself. Even in my agricultural advisory days, I used to preach that the quickest way to lose money in cropping was to chase a theoretical standard for phosphate, potash (and lime), instead of feeding for the crop. Some farmers loved to have soil analyses carried out on every field every year and related their manurial programme to the annual results. An awful lot of fertiliser went straight to the drains, partly because the crop concerned did not need it and partly because it was leached out, before it could be absorbed.

The same thing applies in greenkeeping, with chemical and physical analyses of soils. I do not decry them totally, but they really only confirm what visual observation should indicate to any reasonably experienced eye and, if an abnormal result shows up, my first instinct is to assume the sampling was wrong!

Where the theorists go wrong is in failing to realise two things. First, we want 'poor' soil conditions chemically, though not physically, and, second, there is no such thing as an ideal pH, phosphate or potash figure.

To deal with the chemical side first, there is now general acceptance by users and suppliers that fine turf needs no phosphate or potash—in fertiliser form, anyway—and that, on the whole, acid soil conditions are desirable. Some of us knew it nearly 40 years ago and it has taken a long time for facts so well supplied by research, as well as experience, to be agreed. I expect before long some pundit will emerge who will decry it all just to be different for difference sake but, at the moment, there is no argument.



By Jim Arthur

Of course, as with all black and white statements, this needs to be modified in detail, but if we want to encourage the finer-textured fescues and bents and discourage annual meadow grass, we must find out what one likes and the other dislikes.

Though these fine grasses grow happily in such widely different environments as arid dunes and tidally-flooded salt marshes, alkaline downs and limestone heaths, as well as acid sandy heathland or moorland and on all soils from pure sands to heavy clays, there are, however, two basic factors common to all these widely different ecologies. These are an uncompacted, well-structured, free-draining soil and a very low level of plant foods, especially phosphate.

The pH does not matter and, in any case, altering it from its natural level can be expensive or have undesirable side effects. Acidity locks up phosphates especially, but it also improves the physical structure of heavy soils by flocculating the finest particles. It can, of course, be induced quickly by applying sulphur or more slowly by the use of acidic reacting fertilisers, but this is of primary importance in order to restore conditions reversed by some stupid action, such as liming acid land just because it is acid and thus destroying one of that course's invaluable assets—fine, wiry, worm-free turf. It

is, however, possible to grow fine turf on very alkaline soils—for instance, sandy links—if there are no earthworms because there isn't food for them.

If, however, we alter any aspect of the chemical or physical characteristics of a soil, then we alter its grass cover, for good or bad. (It is usually quicker and easier to alter it for the worse!)

It seems to me to be rather a waste of time to carry out a repeated series of soil analyses on every green when we can well guess that the phosphate level will be too high anyway and the potash is unimportant—high levels being known to depress fine fescues as high phosphate levels favour annual meadow grass. It is for this reason that, in my view, autumn fertilisers are a big mistake. They only encourage disease, not fine grasses.

My experience is confirmed by Bingley's surveys of its analysis results—in less than five per cent of all soil analyses was the phosphate low enough (below 60 ppm) not to actively encourage annual meadow grass. Fine grasses are happy at 10 ppm! I have found greens at over 600 ppm!

What we must always do is to relate the quality of, say, a green with its soil analyses. All too often, the best greens show the worst manurial 'deficiencies'—but we are, of course, comparing several variables, physical as well as chemical, so we must beware of rash deductions.

Over-stressing the importance of chemical soil analyses in the past has, in fact, been a prime cause of annual meadow grass invasion. It is sometimes as difficult for the seller as the buyer to accept that a fertiliser with an analysis of 8:0:0 is both more expensive and far better for fine turf than, say, one of 10:15:10. But, what matters, of course, is that such a pure nitrogen fertiliser must be compounded with a high proportion of slow release organic nitrogen in the form of dried blood and fine hoof and horn meal, where the release is dependent on the activities of soil micro-organisms rather than slow solubility.

Obsession with fractional analyses—that is, the percentages of any soil divided into particle size groups—can lead to some false assumptions. In any case, such

analyses only confirm what an experienced man can assess by running the soil between fingers and thumb! That remark will, I know, arouse the ire of soil chemists but, in my book, they are equivalent to accountants, useful servants, but disastrous masters.

There is an old business axiom which advises that an accountant should never be put in charge of running any business—all he will do is concentrate on balancing the books and will forget about making profits. Some chemists are so obsessed with comparisons against some quite theoretical stands, that they never look at the grass itself. What is the point of having well structured soils if other management—for instance, manurial—produces 100 per cent annual meadow grass greens and thatch?

This, really, is the first lesson in greenkeeping—that everything divides between those who fight, with every method at their disposal, the invasion or even presence of annual meadow grass and those who, at best, tolerate this wretched weed grass or feel they can do nothing about it or, worse still, who actively encourage it, consciously or unconsciously, by feeding and watering to produce tarted-up greens for tournaments, caring little about (or perhaps being incapable of altering) the disastrous state of such greens once growth ceases.

They earn a short-lived reputation among unthinking young professionals and whoever heard one of them plead for 365-days-a-year excellence, especially if they are presented with holding, easy paced, very true greens for the week of their tournament.

The game is won on the green and it should be the best putters, with the skill to read fast contoured greens, who come out on top. With slow

greens, all you need is strength and direction and nuances about borrows are subtleties that never come into contention.

It is understandably confusing to young thinking greenkeepers, who listen to the contrasting remarks of television commentaries, misguided tournament professionals, the agriculturally-biased teachings of too many college lecturers teaching to a bad syllabus and the pleas of those striving to retain and improve the old standards all saying different things. They must choose, but if they choose

**They may pay for four months
praise with eight months
of complaints...**

annual meadow grass, they will never sleep easily at night and may pay for four months praise with eight months of complaints. They must be prepared for a migratory life since, sooner or later, disaster will strike and they will inevitably be blamed.

Of course, we need well-structured, free-draining soils, but we are not going to make them so by analyses, nor by miracle cures, which claim to produce free-draining soils without the aid of mechanical aeration. With present intensive levels of play causing gross surface compaction, routine remedial mechanical measures will be needed, whatever the soil and however well it meets some theoretical standards of fractional analyses. Even 'perfect' sands will pack down with traffic and hold water. They need structuring with humus. Silts and clays in which sand is mixed can go down like concrete.

Perhaps the message that may sum up what greenkeeping is all about is to think deeply before acting; to avoid that all too common error 'correct observations but wrong deduction'

and to realise that, while methods may vary, principles never do and never have and if we want the traditional grasses that produced our traditionally best courses, then we must treat them on traditional lines.

Greenkeeping has become a highly specialised technical subject, with the development of a specific cure for every weed, disease or pest problem. These are excellent aids to management, but sound, basic management will almost certainly make routine corrective measures unnecessary.

Chronic disease is certainly a sign of managerial errors. Highly expensive and repeated deworming will have to be carried out for years after rash liming or slugging of fairways.

Badly designed and grossly over-used pop-up systems were a major cause of thatch in the past decade—admittedly primarily because poor golfers demanded holding greens and managements were not strong enough to refuse them. Equally, many other problems could be laid at the door of management so weak that it gave in to every demand by players. "Can't you leave the greens alone for five minutes?" is still an all-too-common complaint, to which the only answer is: "Yes, certainly, if you stop playing on them!"

All this opposed advice and opinion cannot but be confusing to those starting on their road to top greenkeeping positions, but all I can plead is for them to think things out from first principles, to work with, not against, nature, and to realise that the biggest enemy of golf greenkeeping is the golfer and his ill-effects are predictably going to increase every year, not only in terms of extra play, but because necessarily there will be far more poor golfers about and they will all demand greens and fairways to flatter their game, instead of trying to improve it.



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eight feet was the general average across the country.

I left Desert Inn thinking Gary does a first-class job. It is, of course, difficult to explain to American golf-course superintendents about our lovely links and acid heaths, where grass is dormant for six months of the year and we play golf 365 days of the year. Whoever said greenkeeping is the same the world over?

John Schilling and James Prusa, executive and associate directors of the GCSAA, invited us to the show banquet and, as president of EIGGA, I was afforded a seat on the dias with the honoured guests. Stars of the show were Arnold Palmer and Bob Hope. Palmer presented The Old Tom Morris Award to Hope for services to the game. Palmer made an excellent speech and Hope told some wonderful, if irreverent, stories in reply.

This was followed by officers of the GCSAA toasting themselves and the association with the SIGGA whisky the last team of visiting Scots presented. I promised to tell Walter Woods that the stock was running low—a promise I have duly carried out! The evening ended with the '50s and '60s cabaret, which was enjoyed by the 1,200 guests.

Viva Las Vegas! Continued...



'Marshall' McMillan with his side-kick Howard Swan.



The show's British Booth attracted a great deal of interest. Here, David Jenkins of Charterhouse Turf Machinery and Jack McMillan man the stand.

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News & Views

The SIGGA Leader

Congratulations to Duncan Gray, head greenkeeper at Prestwick St Nicholas on his appointment to Lahinch, Co. Clare as head greenkeeper. Duncan, secretary of the Ayrshire Section, will be missed by SIGGA. He and his chairman Jim Grainger have both worked extremely hard on behalf of the association. We wish him every success.

On February 16, the STRI visited Glasgow and gave a day-long seminar at Haggs Castle GC. It was an excellent day and Dr Peter Hayes and his team from Bingley got a good feedback from the audience of 70. Poa annua will never be the same again!

A week later, a turf conference was held in Glasgow and, guess what, annual meadow grass got another mention! Alan McDougall, West Section secretary and head greenkeeper at Eastwood GC, delivered a first-class lecture on his thoughts as a young head greenkeeper. Alan gave a tremendous boost to SIGGA with his outstanding contribution to a worthwhile day.

I am sure many more of you will be anxious to have a go at public speaking. We need a bigger contribution from expert practical greenkeepers and less from the agronomists.

Some interesting points came out of the turf conference. First, the training of greenkeepers at apprentice level as we know it now will change dramatically. Entry to greenkeeping and many other skilled trades will be via the Youth Training Scheme. The Scotec qualification will eventually disappear from the scene and we should be thinking right now of devising a scheme ourselves of great practical content, which we can offer to a college for them to conduct. The practical aspect should be stressed, for

Continued overleaf...

Members of the East Section were disappointed that the trip to St Andrews on January 24 had to be cancelled due to the weather, but it is hoped to hold the visit at a future date.

A mini symposium was held at Duddingston Golf Club on Tuesday February 21, where four excellent speakers delighted the 42 members present. The speakers were A. Paterson of Watermaton, K. Vertigan of SISIS, M. Eddington of S.T.S. and golf professional Ronnie Shade. Our thanks go to them for an excellent afternoon.

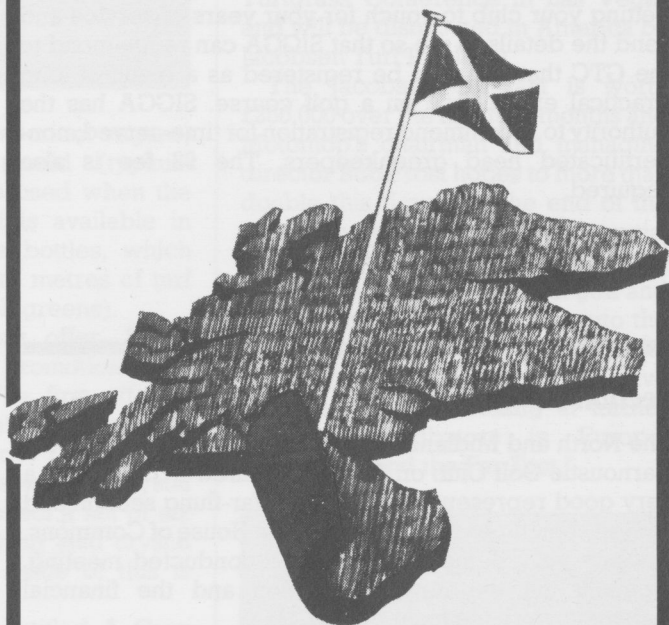
Prior to the symposium, the section held its AGM. The committee was re-elected *en bloc*.

The Spring Tournament will be held on Tuesday April 10 at Glencorse Golf Club and the Autumn Tournament at Broomknowe on September 4.

Membership cards for 1984 will be sent out shortly to all paid-up members. Subs should be paid as soon as possible or you risk being deleted from the mailing list for the magazine, etc.

It has been proposed to hold a raffle again this year and the chairman and committee hope that all members will support this as well as they have done in the past. Last year, tickets were returned unsold without a name saying who they were from. It is hoped this does not happen again and that members will do their best to sell the tickets.

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News & Views Continued...

getting a job or task done is much more important than having only the theoretical background as to how it is done.

A word on registration. Those of you wishing to be a registered greenkeeper, a most important asset, should write to W.N.S. Bissett, 66 Old Orchard, Haxby, York YO3 8DT, giving him all relevant details of qualifications, a photocopy of any certificates (*never* the originals) and a £2 registration fee.

Those of you who are uncertificated are reminded that you also can obtain registration on the basis of the length of service (ten years), practical greenkeeping. Do this by getting your club to vouch for your years of service and send the details to me so that SIGGA can recommend to the GTC that you also be registered as a result of long practical experience on a golf course. SIGGA has the authority to recommend registration for time-served, non-certificated head greenkeepers. The £2 fee is also required.

J.D. McKean, General Secretary.

Section News

The North and Midlands Section held its Special AGM at Carnoustie Golf Club on Thursday March 1. There was a very good representation from our far-flung section and though sometimes it sounded like the House of Commons, it was a very democratic and well-conducted meeting. Opinions on the new constitution and the financial statement were the main points.

Members who could not attend will be informed by letter about decisions taken and notices of the section's

forthcoming activities will also be sent out.

It was at this meeting that we were informed of the impending retirement of Bill Beveridge of Ransomes. As far as we in the north are concerned, he was Mr Ransomes. I, as one of the oldest members of this section, well remember Bill coming up here in the early fifties. There was no flash talk when he sold us our first overgreen or Antelope—off with the jacket and Bill spoke with his hands. His talks on machinery and also on past ideas and methods were always fascinating and maybe in his retirement we can convince him to do these old talks again.

We will always think of you, Bill, as a good friend, president and assistant at outings and we hope you will continue to drop in to see us whenever possible.

Steve Donnachie.

February was very busy for the Central Section. The month began with a lecture by Colin Murphy of Steeley Minerals. His theme was *Fertilisers From Their Humble Beginnings Up To The Present Day* and Colin managed to throw a different light on a subject that has been well covered over the years—27 members enjoyed his talk. Immediately afterwards, a Special General Meeting was held.

The next meeting was an annual games night against the members of Grangemouth Golf Club at Grangemouth on February 15. This was a most enjoyable evening, even though we were well beaten—*again!*

It was most unfortunate for Dick Scotcher of Nickerson Turfmaster that the attendance for his lecture on February 29 consisted of only eight greenkeepers. Everyone said the weather was too good to miss the chance to get on with urgent tasks. All credit, then, to Dick who added to our knowledge with his lecture on the development and growth of the Nickerson machinery range.

Any members who have not paid their subscriptions must do so immediately otherwise their names will be removed from the mailing list.



News & Views

enemy! We then adjourned for an excellent lunch, which was served in the cellar bistro.

Roy Woolhouse opened the afternoon session talking about the various diseases affecting fine turf accompanied by some horrific slides to show what can happen if correct diagnosis and treatment are not forthcoming. I have heard Roy talk on several occasions and his knowledge of this subject and his memory for Latin names still amazes me!

The last session of the day, by David Sansfield, was given over to problems of maintenance. He covered all aspects of golf course management, from common problems to the role of the green

committee, finishing off with some examples of the kind of silly and unnecessary mistakes that get our profession a bad name. David emphasised that the paper he presented was his personal opinion. As he pointed out from the outset, most things relating to both golf and golf courses are, after all, opinions.

A general discussion then took place with some interesting points being raised. The chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Dr Hayes and his colleagues and also to George Brown and the staff of Broome Park for their hospitality. Dr Hayes, in reply, thanked the chairman and Kent administrator John Atkins for their work in organising the seminar.

Incidentally, congratulations to John and his wife, who presented him with a baby daughter the night before the meeting. Her timing was perfect. We wouldn't have been able to cope without John on the day!

One final word of thanks to EIGGA trustees David Jones and Michael Coffey for making the long journey to support us.

We shall be arranging similar seminars at the same venue in the future. Details will appear in the coming months. See you all at *Golf Course '84*.

Peter Wisbey.

More From Mascot

As reported in Notebook last month, (*Rigby Taylor Tie-Up With German Giant*, page 36), Rigby Taylor is now marketing BASF's Contact turf fungicide and Systemic turf fungicide in Britain under its Mascot label.

Richard Lawrence, Rigby Taylor's marketing manager, said: "A year after launching the Mascot range of Top Turf Care Chemicals, the company is delighted to announce that sales are in the tens of thousands of litres. It is most encouraging that repeat sales are substantial. All Mascot chemicals are now attractively packaged in pre-printed, colour-coded containers."

The giant chemical company BASF decided to enter the British amenity market after extensive market research. Brian Beech, pesticides manager of BASF, said there were several reasons for the association with Rigby Taylor, including Rigby Taylor's market penetration, the company's product development capabilities, the lack of product conflict and provision of a complete service to the user nationally.

Mascot Contact turf fungicide is a non-mercurial fungicide that is particularly effective against fusarium patch (*fusarium nivale*), dollar spot (*sclerotinia*), red thread (*corticium*),



leaf spot (*helminthosporium vagans*) and grey snow mould (*typhula incarnata*). It can be used when the turf is dormant and is available in convenient one litre bottles, which will treat 1,000 square metres of turf (two average-size golf greens).

As an introductory offer, Rigby Taylor is running a promotion titled Home Or Away. "The first offer is called Two For One! Order ten one litre bottles of Mascot Contact turf fungicide and receive two lead crystal whisky tumblers. Collect a set of six and we give a matching lead crystal decanter. The total value of this is £168.

"The alternative—entitled A Case For A Case!—is to place an order for the same amount of Mascot Contact and, in return, we will send the purchaser an Antler suitcase. If he collects the set of three cases, we will then give a matching ladies vanity case—all of which has a total value of £178.

"The only stipulations are that the customer has to buy the Mascot Contact turf fungicide at list price and the offer closes on August 31.

"To find out if your order qualifies, contact your local rep or John Binns or Neil Mackenzie at our Bolton office on 0204 389888 or Geoff Yelland at Guildford on 0483 35657."

Mascot Systemic turf fungicide, one of the new generation of non-mercurial fungicides, is effective against fusarium, red thread and dollar spot. "It must be used while the turf is in active growth and is most effective as both a curative and preventative treatment. An additional benefit is that it helps suppress casting worms," Richard added. Again, it is packaged in one litre bottles.

Export Contract For Motomop

A projected £500,000 US export contract has been won by Motomop, which is also supplying its water-clearing machines to the R&A and the PGA in 1984.

A British invention, the Motomop is a self-propelled machine with a sponge-type roller that can rapidly clear water off any flat area without harming the surface.

The Motomop was displayed recently at the 55th International Turfgrass Conference in Las Vegas and will be distributed in America by Jacobsen Turf Products.

The Jacobsen contract is worth £250,000 over the first four months and Motomop's chairman and managing director Bob Frost hopes to more than double this figure by the end of the year. "There is tremendous potential in the USA leisure industry for the Motomop and particularly in golf and tennis," he said. "This break into the American market marks the beginning of an active export drive and we are now looking at further potential distributors in Europe, Australasia and the Far East."



The Jacobsen Motomop on show at Las Vegas.

It's A Fact...

BASF was established in 1865 and manufactured artificial dyes to match those derived from natural products. From the work of those early pioneers has come the sophisticated chemistry of today, which has made BASF one of the world's great chemical companies and currently involved in the manufacture of industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals, paints, nutritional products, plastics, fertilisers and pesticides.

BASF employs some 126,000 worldwide, has an annual turnover in excess of £8,000m and spends more than £1m each working day on research and development. BASF's Magnetic Tape has recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

In the UK, the company has a turnover of more than £200m and employs 750.

Change Of Name

Bramshott Hill Golf Course, Dibden, Southampton, Hampshire has changed its name to Dibden Golf Course. The public course is situated on the edge of the New Forest.

Major Suppliers Join Forces

'Mr Bowls' David Bryant CBE was the special guest at an informal Press gathering recently to announce Cameron Irrigation's expansion of its sports turf, parks and gardens division.

Improved customer service was the recurring theme of the day and, to this end, Cameron has joined the Wright Rain operation to offer full installation and service support for a complete range of products, the company claims, unmatched by any other supplier.

At a stroke, Wright Rain/Cameron has increased the number of centres where specialist technical, design and maintenance back-up will be available. The complete list is: Ringwood and Whitchurch, Hampshire; Littlehampton, West Sussex; Evesham, Hereford and Worcester; Ongar, Essex; Spalding, Lincolnshire; Bridgnorth, Salop and Wetherby, West Yorkshire.

There are plans for two further branches in the north and north-west and two new technical salesmen are currently being recruited for the Midlands and the north.

Cameron's technical and design team stays at Littlehampton and will support each branch with the expertise gained over 14 years. During that time, Cameron has successfully installed irrigation



Bruce Hanham, divisional manager of Cameron Irrigation (left), discusses a Rain Bird sprinkler with David Bryant and Roger Sanders, the company's sports turf specialist.

schemes in over 230 golf courses, some as far afield as Iran and Gan in the Indian Ocean, 33 bowling greens and in many other applications, such as tennis courts, sports pitches, racecourses and landscaped areas.

To herald the revolutionary Wright Rain/Cameron move, two major manufacturers have agreed to co-operate with Cameron.

Rain Bird Europe S.A.R.L. has appointed Cameron its exclusive UK and Ireland distributor for the full range of Rain Bird sports turf and landscaping, irrigation and control

equipment. Also, Grundfos Pumps plans to work with Cameron under a special agreement, giving existing and potential users the benefit of a combined network of 11 sales, service, parts and technical advice centres.

• *British, Commonwealth and World champion David Bryant has agreed to support the company by appearing at shows and exhibition matches where Cameron systems are installed or planned.*

Three Years On...

In 1981, Patisson launched the Golf Beaver—basic, tough, easy-to-maintain, drive and use.



"Our initial build programme was aimed at the local authority market," sales manager Peter Dell said. "It's a tough market, both to sell into and for the unit, but we feel we have got it right—very simple, very strong and

basically made in Britain, although we do use a Honda engine!"

Only one feature has needed looking at and a non-maintenance, non-adjustment car cam drive-belt is now used. "This has given us a lot of faith in the initial policy of using basic car parts from current production units," Peter added.

The Golf Beaver is the same basic unit plus live hydraulics operating both a tipping body and a three-point hitch. This gives a 'prime mover' that will carry half a tonne in its short-back form as a Golf Beaver lift and lower most three-point hitch-towed tools, Cushman units, SISIS units and so on.

"We do not have a pto drive. Therefore, some of the well-designed American tools specially built for the Cushman cannot be used. However, we offer British equivalents, such as a three-point hitch spray unit from Team Spray of Ely and the Patisson top-dressing spreader."

Contact Patisson, Stanmore Hill Works, Stanmore, Middlesex. ☎ 01-954 4171.

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People, Places, Products

Bill Hawthorn, managing director of Watermatic, received a Golden Circle Award from Weather-matic at its annual sales conference in Denver recently. Watermatic was one of six top distributors in the world awarded. It is a record seventh time this award has been made to Watermatic since 1975. Weather-matic manufactures lawn and turf irrigation products marketed worldwide.



Bill Hawthorn (middle) shows his delight in Denver.

British Seed Houses has issued its 1984 *Amenity Grass Seed Sportsground Fertiliser And Wild Flora Catalogue*. The content of each grass seed mixture is specified by percentage together with details of recommended selling rates and mowing heights.

A leaflet has also been prepared giving details of its new wild flora conservation mixtures suitable for sowing on a wide range of soil types from calcareous and limestone areas, heavy clay soils to free-draining sandy areas. The number of wild flora species in each mixture has been increased and the leaflet covers management techniques when sowing wild flora.

For overseeding reclamation sites, BSH offers Reubens Poa compressa—a grass for impoverished soils with a low fertility. Recent work carried out on Reubens by the Derelict Land Reclamation Research Unit at the University of York has shown its effectiveness for sowing on reclamation sites.

Free copies of the BSH catalogue and literature can be obtained from British Seed Houses, Bewsey Industrial Estate, Pitt Street, Warrington, Cheshire, or British Seed Houses, Portview Road, Avonmouth, Bristol.

The 1987 Open Championship will be at The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers (Muirfield) from July 16-19.

Maxwell Hart has published the third issue of its product magazine *Grandstand*. The full-colour, 32-page publication opens with an article on *The Role Of Chemicals In Effective Turf Care*. There's a four-page Hart News section, which illustrates all the latest products, from a nifty boot and shoe cleaner and glass trophies up to goal posts and what is claimed to be the most 'natural' synthetic grass yet—New Poligras Multisport SEP. An informative and attractively presented read, copies of *Grandstand* can be obtained from the Marketing Director, Maxwell M. Hart (London), Winnersh, Wokingham RG11 5HF. ☎ Wokingham (0734) 785655.

National Turfgrass Council publications currently available are *Proceedings Of The 1st National Turfgrass Conference* (edited by J.P. Shildrick and held at Solihull in 1982), £1.50; *Workshop Report No 1—Grassing Of Temporary Vacant Sites* (edited by S. Robinson, 1983), £1.25; *Worksheet—Grassing Of Temporary Vacant Sites Without Importing Topsoil*, 25p; *Workshop Report No 2—The Provision For Children's Play* (edited by M. Chance, 1983), £1.25 and *Special Report No 1—Synthetic Surfaces* (V. Watson and G. Tipp, 1983), £2.25.

Available from the Secretary, NTC, 3 Ferrands Park Way, Harden, Bingley, West Yorkshire BD16 1HZ. Prices include postage.

Trevor Holmes has been appointed field sales manager for the Steetley Horticulture Vitax department and will be responsible for the sales development of all horticultural and amenity trade activities. Trevor, 46, will continue to be based in Lincolnshire, from where he will control Steetley's nine area sales reps.

Town And Country Horticultural Suppliers has been appointed Key distributors by Steetley Minerals' horticultural division. Town And Country has been established by Ken Jones and John Moyce and is based at 201 Maltings Lane, Witham, Essex. ☎ Witham (0376) 517601 or 61864.

The firm will be responsible in the home counties and north London for sales development of the Key range of fertilisers. The new service will be supported by C.H. Binder, which will undertake distribution from its stores at Moreton, Ongar, Essex.

Ian Small, 27, has been appointed area sales rep in Scotland for Steetley's Key range. A trained greenkeeper, Ian has experience of grass-care machinery and equipment. He is based at 53 Broomlee Crescent, West Linton, Peebleshire. ☎ West Linton (09686) 0746.



Trevor Holmes.

J.A. Mixture

Rigby Taylor has marketed J.A. Mixture fertiliser for a number of years. The product was so named to assist those who wanted to identify organic nitrogen fertiliser as recommended by Jim Arthur. As an agronomist of the highest integrity, Jim has neither received, nor requested, any inducement—financial or otherwise. His recommendations are based purely on the quality of the product and customers' needs.

Members of the IOG attended the showing of a new British film at the National Film Theatre in London recently. *Arthur's Hallowed Ground* is part of Channel 4's popular First Love series and will be seen later in the year.

It stars Jimmy Jewel as a club groundsman whose determination to make his cricket wicket as smooth and firm as a billiard table baize brings him into conflict with the club's management committee.

It is the first film as a director for Freddie Young—who has more than 60 years experience behind the camera and three Oscars for his work with David Lean. His film credits include *Lawrence Of Arabia*, *Dr Zhivago*, *Ryan's Daughter* and *Nicholas And Alexandra*.

The Golf Course Superintendents' Association Of America has named James Prusa as associate executive director. Prusa was named GCSAA director of education in 1982. He retains that title and will function in a dual capacity, working closely with executive director John Schilling.

The IOG wants to establish a dialogue with organisations of sports normally played on grass in order to develop a series of specialist courses for amateur, semi-professional and professional groundsman. Write to the Education Secretary, Institute Of Groundsmanship, The Pavilion, Woughton on the Green, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK6 3EA.

The IOG is to publish two new training volumes in 1984. Each book will contain a series of articles by leading specialists in membership of the institute and will be edited by Peter Gillard. The first volume is expected to be published in time for the annual conference (from April 2 - 5) with the second volume following in the late summer.



Golf course contractor Brian D. Pierson is sponsoring his son and a friend in a four-stroke motorcycle scramble this year. "It makes a change to be able to encourage them rather than chase them off the greens!" Brian said.

Cutting the pressure

Keep on top of your job with the cost-cutting Cushman 3- and 4-Wheel Turf-Trucksters. A rugged 18hp engine provides the power for all those transport and course maintenance duties while low weight and wide turf tyres take the pressure off work on greens, tees and fairways. A wide range of British-built attachments can be quickly and easily

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Super Supaturf

Supaturf Products has extended its range of fertilisers, turf care and sports equipment and turf maintenance tools.

This year's price list shows Supaturf extending its sports equipment business, which has been a recent growth area for the company. It is backing a new marketing initiative with colour brochures, advertising, incentives and more products—especially golf equipment where Supaturf has traditionally been strongest.

Supaturf's new fertiliser and turf care range includes its own specially-formulated SS/SR (9-3-6) containing iso-butyridene diurea (IBDU), a slow-release nitrogen. SS/SR is particularly suitable for fine turf areas where the phosphate level is high and its long-lasting effectiveness has obvious labour saving advantages for greenkeepers.

Also new to the range is Supaturf SS/LP (12-0-9), a low phosphate minigranular fertiliser, and Supagro Foliar Feed, an extra concentrated seaweed-based plant growth promoter containing natural and added mineral nutrients and soil conditioning agents. Supagro Foliar Feed is twice as strong as similar products on the market.

The revolutionary wetting agent, Aqua-Gro, launched by Supaturf last year, is now also available in spreadable form.

Contact Supaturf Products, Oxney Road, Peterborough. ☎ 0733 68384.

See you at Golf Course '84
April 12-15, Trinity Hall,
Cambridge

One Surprise After Another

Chris Watmore of Turfland Professional Equipment had a double surprise when attending an annual international dealers' meeting in Canada recently. First, Gerry Brouwer, president of Brouwer Turf Equipment, announced that Chris had won the Number One Brouwer Dealer Award, having sold more Brouwer products than any other dealer worldwide and, as a result, was presented with an engraved plaque. Chris was then called back to the rostrum and handed The Award Of Excellence. For this, Gerry presented Chris with an engraved plaque and gold watch.



Chris Watmore (left) at the Brouwer Turf Equipment international dealers' meeting.

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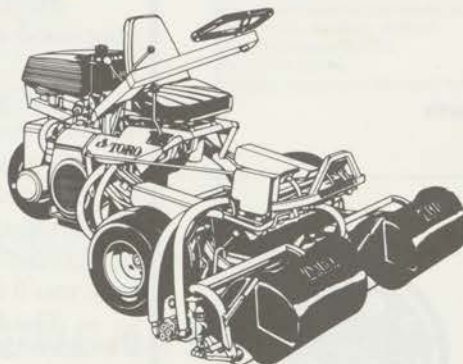
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