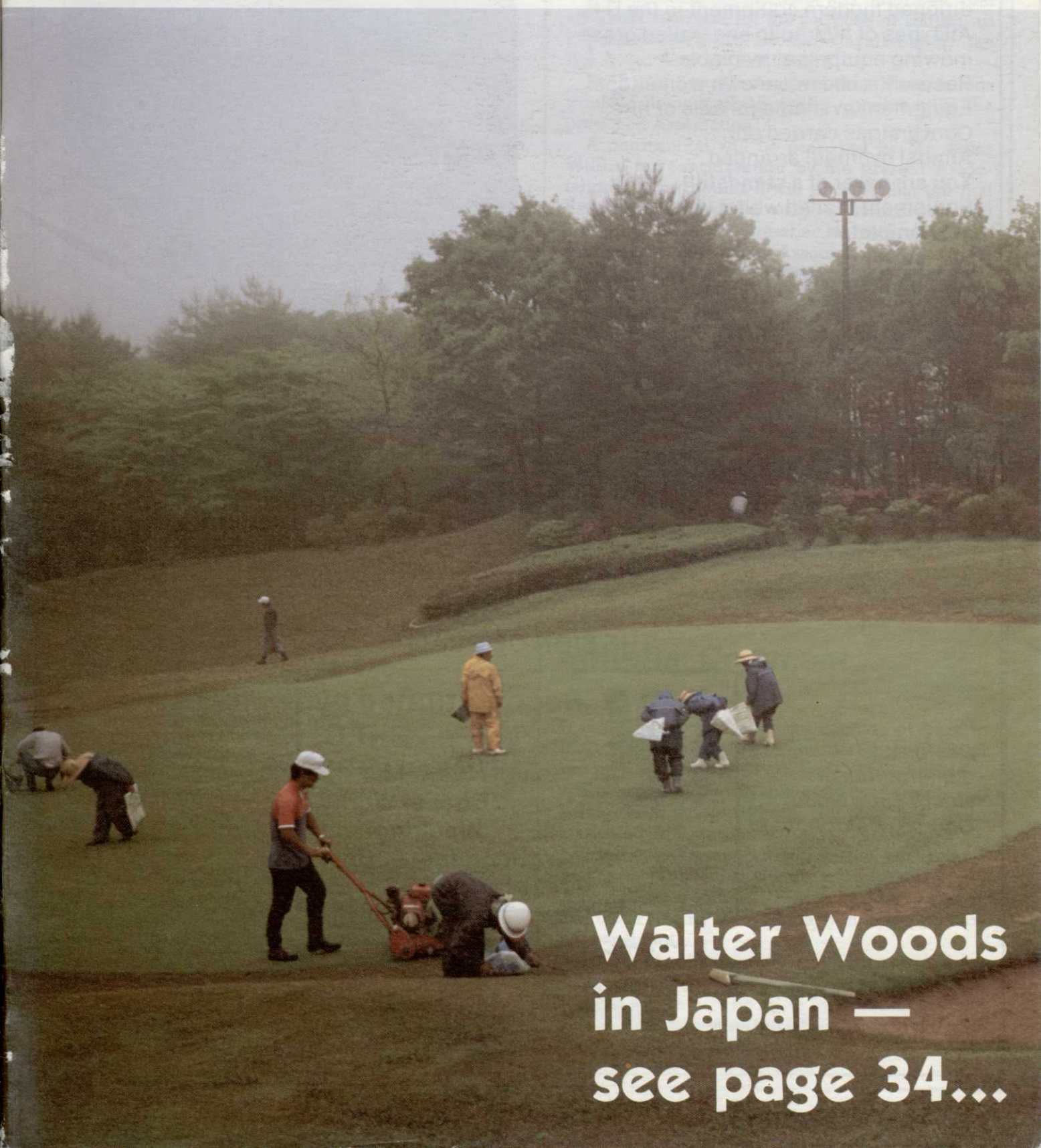


MARCH 1986

Greenkeeper



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



**Walter Woods
in Japan —
see page 34...**

A COMPANY WELL PROVED WITH TWENTY NINE YEARS EXPERIENCE IN TURF CULTURE AND MANAGEMENT — LAND MAINTENANCE — DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF GOLF COURSES AND AMENITY AREAS.

For all commercial users

The largest stock of used and reconditioned modern equipment in the U.K. All types of hydraulic and trailed grass mowing equipment available. Reconditioned in our own workshops. Equipment available for sale or hire. Conversions carried out. Annual overhaul arranged. **You are never at a standstill!** Equipment loaned whilst your repairs are completed.



Landscaping, design and construction, tree planting and maintenance projects carried out. Extension and alterations to golf courses. Verti-draining.

Contractors to H.M. Government in U.K. and West Germany.

THE SIGN OF QUALITY

Design and construction of Heath Farm Golf Course, Waldringfield.



**Reconditioned by
C.D.C.
WORKSHOPS**
Chapel Works,
Waldringfield,
Woodbridge, Suffolk.
Tel: 0473-36-791-2-3

Design and construction of Priory Park Golf Course, Nacton, Ipswich.

“The Specialists”

CDC LANDSCAPE LIMITED, CHAPEL WORKS, WALDRINGFIELD, WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.

A MEMBER OF THE CLARKE DEMOLITION AND CONSTRUCTION GROUP.

This issue

MARCH 1986

TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT (?)	6
by Jim Arthur	
APPRENTICE CORNER	10
Education courtesy of the STRI	
EIGGA NEWS & VIEWS	11
The association's annual conference, at Warwick University, beckons	
SIGGA NEWS & VIEWS	16
OUT ON THE COURSE	18



Carnoustie (above), forgotten as an Open Championship venue, but not for long, John Campbell believes. He talks to John Philp, who is now tending the famous links

NOTEBOOK	24
LAST WORD	32
From <i>Greenkeeper's</i> roving reporter...	
WOODS IN JAPAN	34
Walter's been telling them how in Tokyo	
APPOINTMENTS	39

Publisher: A. Quick & Co Ltd
Managing Director: Michael Coffey
Editor: Robin Stewart
Contributors: Jim Arthur, John Campbell, David Jones, Jack McMillan, Eddie Park, Donald Steel, Peter Wisbey and Walter Woods

All advertising matter, editorial copy and correspondence should be sent to: *Greenkeeper*, 121-123 High Street, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex CO12 3AP. Tel: 0255 507526

Subscription rates:
UK—£14 Continent and USA—£20 Eire—IR £17.50

Greenkeeper is published ten times a year. Printed in England by J.B. Offset, Marks Tey, Colchester, Essex.
Copyright: A. Quick & Co Ltd 1986

The New Association

A FURTHER meeting of the Steering Committee of the three Greenkeepers Associations with the English Golf Union and the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews was held at York on Monday the 17th of February 1986. The following points were then agreed.

The Steering Committee was informed that all funds required for the purpose of setting up a headquarters can be made available by the R & A and English Golf Union.

Each member of the present three Associations would automatically become a member of the proposed Association.

A constitution will be prepared by Mr. Peter Wilson for consideration by the present Associations. In particular it will provide that the first Executive Committee of the Association will comprise an equal number of representatives from each of the present Associations.

The creation of the new Association and the dissolution of the present Associations should be simultaneous.

That any surplus funds available after the provision of an appropriate contribution to the new Association should be placed in an Educational Trust for the benefit of greenkeeping.

It was agreed to recommend for adoption the name "British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association".

A further meeting to consider the draft constitution has been arranged for Saturday 15th March in York.

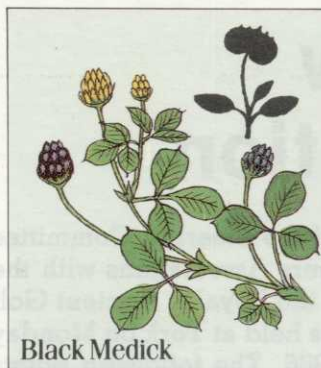
Editorial Comment

It is to be hoped that at the meeting at York in March matters can be finalised and that further progress on greenkeeping education can be made.

There are obviously other matters which will need clarification. Where will the new Association's headquarters be? what will happen regarding a magazine to represent the Association? and what will membership offer the existing Associations members? It is to be hoped that in all these matters amalgamation will provide improvement.

No doubt with strongly held views around the table total agreement will not be easy and compromises will have to be made by all sides.

Greenkeeper wishes the talks well — in the hope that a new Association will at long last really put greenkeepers on the professional map.



Black Medick



Bulbous Buttercup



Cat's Ear



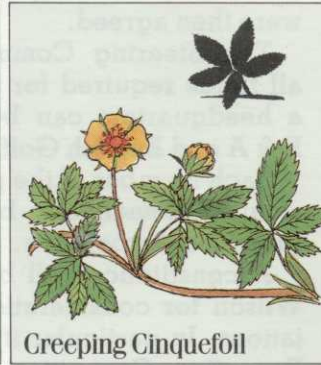
Chickweed



Common



Creeping Buttercup



Creeping Cinquefoil



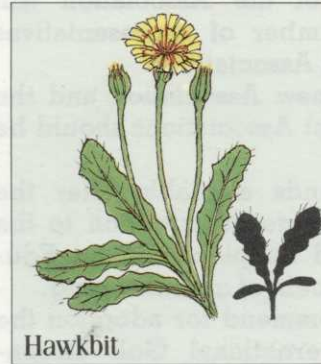
Curled Dock



Daisy



Dandelion



Hawkbit



Heath Bedstraw



Knotgrass



Lesser Celandine



Mouse-ear



Sea Stork's-bill



Selfheal



Silverweed



Smooth Hawksbeard



Speedwell

Can't tell your Anagallis

Well it doesn't really matter. Not with Super Verdone.

Sprayed onto mature active growing turf, Super Verdone will pick out the broad leaved weeds and leave the grass to grow free from competition.

Super Verdone controls all the

weeds shown above, and more. It is particularly effective against difficult weeds like Speedwell and Parsley-piert.

So whatever your weed problem in turf look to Super Verdone. The best-known name in selective herbicides.



from your elbow?

Super Verdone.



Professional Products

ICI Professional Products, Woolmead House East, Woolmead Walk, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7UB. Tel: (0252) 724525.

TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT(?)

WE ARE always being told – especially by those who do not know anything about greenkeeping methods – that there are alternative schools of thought in greenkeeping. This, in fact, has been a problem from which greenkeeping has suffered since its earliest days. In the sense that there are opposed theories, or that there is good and bad greenkeeping, there may be an element of truth in the contention, fostered especially by those who have little knowledge of the physical principles of the game and equally by those trying to find new markets for products, that, in most cases, have little or no relevance to true greenkeeping practice.

What has altered, of course, is that golf is no longer a game played by a handful of enthusiasts outside Scotland and by the majority of Scots, however far from their native heath. Equally, it has also become a spectator sport with massive commercial overtones. You wonder when watching the Open Championship, let alone a major tournament, and listening to the comments of nearby spectators, whether they have ever been on a course before, let alone held a golf club. One man was heard to say at a major event that he thought it was “the prettiest course he had ever seen.” He enquired which green he was looking at and was not in the least abashed when told that the admired turf was, in fact, the fairway and ryegrass at that! And this was from one of those who had *paid* to watch. What of those who watch only on TV?

Greenkeeping has had to alter drastically to accommodate far more intensive winter play and techniques that were standard practice only a decade or so earlier are now impossible to implement, partly because of the lack of time and partly because, with busy courses, you cannot get at the greens for golfers.

Top-dressing is a typical example. Not so many years ago, greens were closed in late autumn and very early spring and heavily top-dressed – often with far from finely screened material, which was brushed in as and

By Jim Arthur

when the greens dried out. In those days, there was no winter play to talk of and so the pin could be placed on the apron without serious inconvenience or subsequent damage and even if it took three weeks before the top-dressing was absorbed, few grumbled.

Today, to top-dress when there is no growth is fatal because, even if there is no growth to aid absorption, there will still be plenty of traffic, smearing and smothering the turf and disease is inevitable. Midseasonal, little and often, applications of necessarily finely-screened materials has had to replace this pattern.

In passing, I must comment that fusarium is widely reported as being an increasingly serious disease. This is a classic example of the first error of logic, namely correct observation, but wrong deduction. I am reminded of the young medical student being taught that he must both observe accurately and deduce correctly if he wished to make accurate diagnoses. Strictly in accordance with his tutor's instructions to go out and observe the human race, he found himself in London's Windmill Theatre and observed correctly that the first few rows were occupied exclusively by balding old gentlemen. He, incorrectly, deduced that watching nudes induced baldness! So with fusarium!

Fusarium

Indeed, there is a great deal more fusarium about and the damage to some greens throughout autumn and winter has been so great that they are virtually unputtable. There are a number of reasons for this. First, our EEC masters in Brussels have decreed that the use of the super-efficient mercurials should be banned (despite the very low rates used in greenkeeping). So, we have to apply less efficient fungicides more frequently. The main reason, however, is

management and if greens are heavily fed with fertilisers in late summer and heavily top-dressed when there is no growth, disease is inevitable and often almost uncontrollable – especially as such treatment creates annual meadow grass dominant greens and this grass is especially susceptible to disease.

I still find errors of greenkeeping being perpetrated – ammonia and iron applied in autumn instead of straight iron; top-dressing applied after growth has ceased or greens not mown or brushed regularly, inducing high humidity levels and thus disease.

It is all the more regrettable and a serious retrogressive step that we hear of some fertiliser companies (not those, I hasten to add, that have supplied the majority of clubs with their modest needs for nitrogen only, which is all our courses need) pressing the sale of autumn fertilisers. Surely, no one, save those with a commercial axe to grind (or fungicide to sell!) now advises NPK fertilisers in autumn. Few, *if any*, advise anything other than light nitrogen applications in spring and summer. This is no new fad. Ian Forbes of Stewarts of Edinburgh confirms in his letter (reproduced here) that the use of nitrogen only – as soot – goes back as long as greenkeeping history.

Another factor that encourages a greater incidence of disease is linked with the fact that trees grow! Unless sensible tree management is enforced, thinning out too closely planted trees and clearing scrub and undergrowth near greens and tees (which shade and increase humidity), light and ventilation are reduced and disease is encouraged.

We are constantly bombarded with news of this and that ‘marvellous new product’ – the result, we are told, of years of research. Such research as has been done is almost always concerned with topics totally unrelated to greenkeeping, or even to UK farming. At one research station, some years ago, I was very impressed with the depth (and cost) of weed-killing research. I was, however, equally

surprised to find that almost all the research was, at that time, concentrated on one weed - Morning Glory (*Ipomoea*), which I was assured was the worst weed and most difficult to control of all tropical crop production.

Naturally, in the course of true (multi-million pound) research, products discarded for the purpose of that specific research may have spin-off value, which can be investigated in other aspects of cultivation, but the truth is that virtually no *fundamental* research is done (or has ever been done) into specific greenkeeping problems.

In greenkeeping, we use only products that have a major agricultural use. This should not be construed, in any way, as denigrating the *investigatory* work - i.e. checking products and the claims made for them - but this is not, in the strictest sense, research.

The pathetically small sums that golf generally still contributes to the work of the Sports Turf Research Institute can never be expected to produce results for golf. In no way is the substantial contribution now being made by the R & A to the STRI not acknow-

ledged gratefully by those of us who want to see Bingley fully regain its place as the centre of such investigatory work, if only to provide an authentic, independent counter to extravagant claims or mad theories, but it is not, and never can be, research.

Current propaganda about the benefits of research into fertilisers in greenkeeping, made by firms serving largely the agricultural market, is nonsense. We do not want phosphates and very little, if any, potash in greenkeeping. The use of nitrogen on any well-managed course must be minimal. Few clubs with good courses spend more than £100 to £200 a year on fertilisers as such - compared with 25 per cent of American clubs which, we are told, buy the equivalent of £35,000 a year.

My message to the new entrants into the fertiliser game is that the market is so small that it is not worth exploiting! Their reputations, as well as the courses, will suffer serious harm by adopting agricultural standards and practices. Keep your ideas for agriculture.

I know of no adviser without commercial attachments advising

NPK fertilisers for golf courses today. I am sure that any who do will not fail to tell us why, if they still are!

Firms extolling their soil analysis service should quietly forget about it. Such analyses tell the experienced greenkeeper or adviser nothing that he should not be able to deduce from the character of the vegetative cover of that soil. If the pH turns out high - i.e. over pH 5.5-6.0 - what can we do about it? Precious little, save increase the sulphate of iron dressings or think of applying sulphur to wet, badly draining clay fairways. If it is very high (pH 6.5 or over), this need not be a nuisance *if* the soil is sandy - e.g. links turf, due to its receiving heavy applications of shell (and thus lime) in blown sand, but no clay in the 'soil'. If it is low, give thanks - certainly, *never* apply lime!

I still hear of nitro-chalk being applied to acid fairways - irreversibly altering the acid-tolerant grasses to alkaline-loving ones (and creating lush lies) but, of course, 'nice and green' fairways. Usually, all such turf ever wanted is air!

The main difference today in presenting courses for a tournament or an R & A championship can be simply described by the fact that the R & A has no wish to alter course character (and course design only where it is necessary to improve course handling). They would not select courses where massive upheaval is necessary.

Furthermore, the R & A - and I - know where the championships are to be hosted years before the event and long-term planning is possible.

With professional tournaments, the accent is on 'tarting' up the course often at short notice for the week of the tournament, so that everything appears lush and green under the eagle eye of the television camera. Often substantial commercial interests are at stake in associated hotel complexes and, since the hotel will be dealing with largely unskilled golfers who measure quality by colour, who can wholly blame them?

In case I am accused of being patronising, let me make it clear that the biggest problems facing those like me who strive to retain old standards and thus the

Continued on page 9...

Dear Jim

As a regular reader of your articles, which I enjoy immensely, I just felt that I had to write as you recently mentioned that soot was a slow-acting nitrogen fertiliser. It brought back memories of long ago.

I have vivid memories of which bags of soot arriving from the various chimney sweeps with which the company maintained connections. The soot came in hessian sacks with about as much soot on the outside as there was inside and it was an absolutely filthy job handling them.

However, the real snag arose when we had to put the soot through a riddle in order to remove lumps of stone and cement that had been disturbed from the old city chimneys during the sweeping process.

Not only was the soot sought after by greenkeepers, but also professional gardeners used it as a repellent to carrot and onion

fly. They dressed it along the drills.

The view was also expressed that the continual application of soot particularly to light soils helped them to warm up as the dark colour absorbed more of the sun's rays. This sounds reasonable and it was certainly an act of faith with many of the older gardening brigade.

Unfortunately, most of our records were burnt during the war, but it might interest you, in view of the eternal argument about fertilisers, if I give details of the oldest mixture I can find, which was Stronghold Grass Manure in 1901.

The mixture was 8cwt bone meal (very finely ground), 4 per cent nitrogen, 3cwt Liebeg's Guano 6 per cent, 3cwt dried blood 12 per cent, 3cwt super phosphate 35 per cent, 2 cwt potash and 1cwt sulphate of ammonia making 20cwt in all.

*Ian Forbes, Stewart & Co
Seedsmen, Dalkeith.*

Now the TRIPLEX 171 gives you an even better finish on the green

Ask your Ransomes dealer to show you the **New Triplex 171 Mark 2**, you'll immediately see changes we know you'll appreciate.

The new **Greens Cutting Units** give you an even finer finish—whatever the conditions. The smooth flow of grass from the cylinder, makes the Triplex cleaner in operation—cleaner than any greens machine you have ever handled. The grasscatchers are just that bit wider to give you excellent collection. Even the adjustments are more simple and more positive to set.

With its low centre of gravity, the Triplex has always performed well on slopes. Now increased ground clearance at the rear of the chassis makes manoeuvring on bank bordered greens easier than ever before.

With just one machine, you can cut 18 greens in under four hours, giving you the kind of

finish your golf course deserves—the very best. Yet the Triplex 171 is one of the most competitively priced greens cutting machines on the market.

It all adds up to make the Triplex a better investment than ever.

Optional accessories available to mow tees and green surrounds, verticut and spike—all fitted in just a matter of seconds.



Ransomes Grass Machinery
Ransomes Sims & Jefferies PLC, Ipswich IP3 9QG
Telephone: Ipswich (0473) 712222. Telex: 98174

Ransomes build mowers as carefully as you choose them.

Jim Arthur – Continued...

character of the game, is that most golfers are *not* category one players, by definition. Too many high-handicap golfers seem to get their kicks by getting on green committees and endeavouring, thereby, to impose their ideals – soft target greens and lush leafy lies – on everyone. When I have remonstrated with them that this inevitably means long periods on temporary greens in winter, they inform me that this is no concern of theirs because they play little or no regular golf in winter.

Perhaps we should yearn for the days when, as Bernard Darwin used to say, golf was a game played by all Scots and some gentlemen and no gentlemen dreamed of playing golf before May 1st! At least then course management was left to the con-

trol of the fanatic few who opted for all-the-year-round golf – quite apart from the fact that there was no money to waste on fertilisers, etc., and so few mistakes were made. Those that were, were made on a modest trial basis to save expense.

Today, those in charge of presenting courses for a one-week tournament seem to go overboard with money, spent on a scale that is breathtaking in its extravagance, with little thought for the repercussions in the state of the course for the other 51 weeks of the year, not to mention massive expenditure on fungicides, deworming, weed control or doomed attempts at reversing the lush meadow-like character that such over-generous treatments bring with them.

Golf, thankfully, is still a game controlled by amateurs for amateurs and the ugly face of commercialism has been limited, if only because few clients have the money, even if they lack the sense, to implement gross expenditure on the American scale, which seems to me to be the aim of too many tournament profes-

sionals, though, thankfully, not all. I should, perhaps, qualify my remarks by observing that I count many *club* professionals among my personal friends, especially when they are such devoted servants to their club.

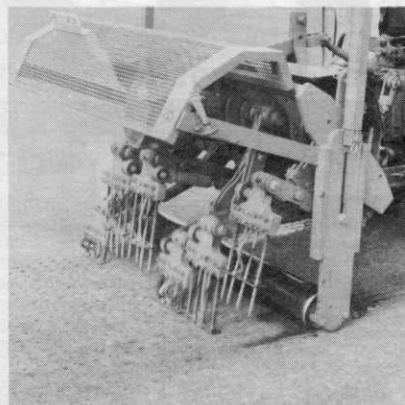
Equally, I am well aware that there is still something very much wrong with the management of many of our courses. I tend to see those not without problems, but those that have taken the first step to solving them by admitting that there are problems. There must be hundreds of courses in Britain that never see an independent adviser. At best, they only see a series of trade reps, some, but by no means all of whom, put sales before science. Members at those clubs accept three inches of soggy thatch as inevitable 'because their course is on clay not sand.' Yet, many of our best courses are on clay. There is not much sand at Walton Heath, but there is no thatch on its excellent all-weather greens and fairways. Everything hinges on proper management and that, in turn, means proper greenkeeping education, but that is another story!

JOIN THE GROWING LIST OF THOSE WHO HAVE USED THE PROFESSIONALS



MAJOR

+



CAPTAIN

British Association
Landscape Industries



Engage SCC's land army for all your maintenance, course improvements, construction, landscaping and hiring needs.

All types of turf care equipment for hire.

S|C|C Lands Maintenance Ltd

12 Foxburrow Close, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 9JJ.

Tel.: Haverhill 62369



Take - All Patch (*Gaeumannomyces Graminis*)
Rings of yellow or orange grass 0.1 to 1.0m
in diameter. The disease kills off the bents
(*Agrostis spp*), leaving the centre of the ring



populated with weeds and non-susceptible
grasses.

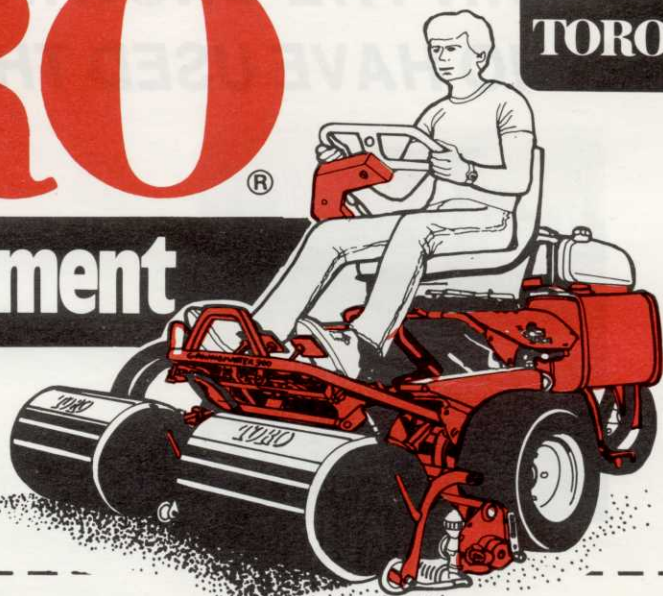
The disease can occur on all types of turf
and is often induced by the application of
lime to neutralise an acid soil. It is also
favoured by poor drainage.



TORO®

TORO

management equipment



If you want the best equipment that will ensure the finest finish whatever the climate or ground conditions it can only be TORO. The GREENSMaster 300 with new cutting unit is in a class of its own and is recognised throughout the world as the No 1. If you are looking to improve your greens, fairways and any other grass areas there's a model to suit the task. For example, the 'big boy' illustrated left is the REELMASTER 350D, tough, reliable 50hp, 4 cyl, diesel engine, 5 cutting units to effectively get through 10.5 acres an hour, day in day out! Why not have a word with Graham Dale who will be delighted for you or your operative to get behind the controls... the only trouble will be, getting you off!

Please send details as ticked box/s

Literature Nearest Dealer Trial/Demo

Name _____

Address _____

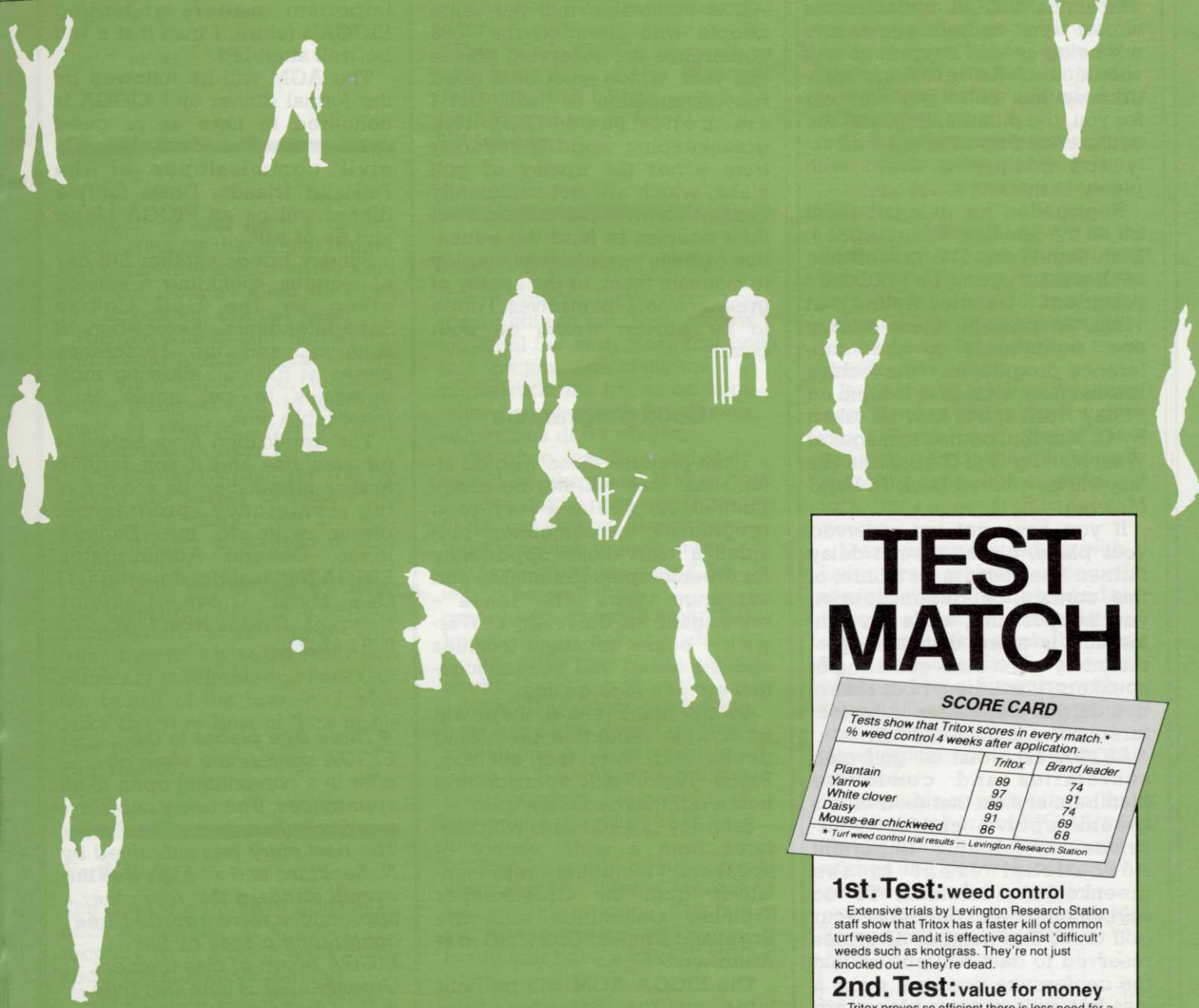
Tel No _____

LELY (UK) LTD STATION ROAD, ST NEOTS, CAMBS PE19 1QH
TEL (0480) 76971 TELEX 32523

G/3/86



TRITOX Turf Herbicide TRITOX Turf Herbicide TRITOX Turf Herbicide TRITOX Turf Herb



TEST MATCH

SCORE CARD

Tests show that Tritox scores in every match. *
% weed control 4 weeks after application.

	Tritox	Brand leader
Plantain	89	74
Yarrow	97	91
White clover	89	74
Daisy	91	69
Mouse-ear chickweed	86	68

* Turf weed control trial results — Levington Research Station

1st. Test: weed control

Extensive trials by Levington Research Station staff show that Tritox has a faster kill of common turf weeds — and it is effective against 'difficult' weeds such as knotgrass. They're not just knocked out — they're dead.

2nd. Test: value for money

Tritox proves so efficient there is less need for a second application. You use less product, less time, less labour — and save money.

3rd. Test: formulation

Tritox has been approved under the Agricultural Chemical Approvals Scheme, an independent endorsement of product efficacy. The active ingredients are MCPA, Mecoprop and Dicamba.

4th. Test: packaging

Tritox is easy to handle and apply. It comes in sturdy 5-litre and 20-litre polythene containers. We even attach the instruction leaflet so that it's always at hand.

5th. Test: distribution

Tritox is widely available through Fisons national network of stockists.

This is the breakthrough in weed control you've been waiting for.

Put it to the test!

FISONS

Horticulture



TRITOX is a trade mark of Fisons plc.
Fisons plc, Horticulture Division,
Paper Mill Lane, Bramford, Ipswich IP8 4BZ

TRITOX

SELECTIVE TURF HERBICIDE
Proved better in the field

EIGGA Conference - Warwick University, April 4-6

The annual EIGGA conference is almost upon us and, again, it is not being as well supported as it should be. An excellent programme has been put together for you, the membership, and the conference promises to be a lively and informative event with plenty to interest everyone.

Registration for delegates will be on the first day, Friday April 4, from 9am-11am. The conference itself will be opened by EIGGA's president, Dennis Ayling, at 11am. At present, there is only one amendment to the conference programme - the lecture session from 4.45pm to 5.30pm on Friday April 4, will now be taken by C. Mardon, course manager at West Malling Golf Club, Kent. His talk will be entitled *Back To Hand Mowing*.

If you have not yet reserved your place, please do not delay further. The success, or failure, of this conference depends upon your support and, while the conference is more than ably promoted by a first-class gathering of speakers, it will be a poor reflection on this association if the lecture theatre is only half full.

EIGGA asks that all golf club secretaries and committee members ensure that their club's greenkeeper/s and/or yourselves attend this important educational event in the greenkeeping calendar. To do so, can only be of benefit to your golf club. The number of places reserved to date will ensure that the conference does not make a loss but, unless more places are taken up, the future of the annual conference will be in jeopardy.

It is noticeable that the same people who attended the 1985 conference are reserving places this year, which must be a good recommendation in itself, but I am concerned that the greenkeeping world is suffering from either the apathy of golf clubs, which are not sufficiently concerned with the condition of their courses to fund the education of those persons they employ to maintain them, or the apathy of greenkeepers themselves. I hope to be proven wrong on both counts.

Good programme

I can promise those who do attend that they will not be disappointed. As well as a very good programme, the conference provides a marvellous opportunity for greenkeepers to socialise and exchange views. The venue - once again, the University of Warwick - boasts excellent facilities and the meals and accommodation are of a high quality.

On the first evening, there will be a wine reception preceding dinner and, later that evening, Rigby Taylor will sponsor and host a lighthearted team quiz.

Saturday is a full day, with lectures from a wide variety of speakers, including representatives from the Greenkeeper Training Committee and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.

The EIGGA AGM will be held later on the Saturday from 6.00-7.30pm and, as the meeting will be dealing with some very

important matters regarding EIGGA's future, I trust that it will be well attended.

The AGM will be followed by the formal dinner and EIGGA is honoured to have as its guest speaker Sir Rex Hunt, formerly civil commissioner of the Falkland Islands. Dress for the dinner will be an EIGGA blazer and tie or suit.

Sunday brings another full day of lectures, including a session given by the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America, and the conference closes at 5.00pm, allowing most delegates to get home at a reasonable time.

The application form below is for your use and if you require further information or a copy of the conference programme, please write to me, Danielle Jones, General Administrator, EIGGA National Headquarters, 11 Cae Mawr Grove, Caldicot, Newport, Gwent NP6 4EW. Tel: 0291 424235.

● *Three free places to the EIGGA conference were on offer in a competition open to all apprentices. The essay subject was Greenkeeping - The Future. The best entry was submitted by N. Beckford and so high was the overall standard that four other apprentices were awarded free conference places by the EIGGA board of management. Greenkeeper is sure that they will all find a great deal to interest them in the three days at Warwick University.*

I wish to reserve a place at the EIGGA Annual Conference and enclose a deposit of £20 made payable to the English and International Golf Greenkeepers' Association.
Post to Danielle Jones, General Administrator, EIGGA National HQ, 11 Cae Mawr Grove, Caldicot, Newport, Gwent NP6 4EW.

Name Club.....

Address.....

Residential
Daily Attendance

Members £112
Wives £90
Non-Members £125

Daily Attendance £25
GTC Registered Apprentices £90
Log Book No.....



Surrey

Members should have received entry forms for the annual dinner and dance to be held at the Drift Golf and Country Club on April 19 - tickets are £12 per head.

Anyone who has not had a form and would like to attend should send their remittance, together with a stamped SAE, to A. Bradshaw, 61 Windsor Avenue, New Malden before April 2.

The spring tournament will be played at Hankley Common GC on May 13. Entry costs £12 and forms will be forwarded in due course.

It is with regret that we have said 'goodbye' to branch general administrator Mike Hayle, who has been appointed club secretary at Wimbledon Park GC. On behalf of the branch, I wish Mike the very best of luck in his new post.

Paul Pearse.

North-West

The Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs held a meeting at Chester GC recently to tell north-west clubs about greenkeeper training.

The meeting was well-attended and those present included G. Ashton, CUGC president, who opened the proceedings, Roger Robinson for the R & A, Peter Wilson for the EGU, Dr Frank Hawkins, CUGC liaison officer, and Dr Dennis Mottram, senior lecturer at Reaseheath College. The branch thanks the club and its secretary Vic Wood for their help.

Dennis Mottram has graduated two more very successful students - Alan Frost (Astbury) and Alan Huxley, head greenkeeper at Astbury GC. Well done, lads!

A presentation was made at a committee meeting to Raymond Hunt, who is leaving the area to

join Bruce Jamieson as assistant head greenkeeper at Royal Porthcawl.

SISIS' sales director Arthur Harrison is now recovering from illness and I'm sure that the best wishes of all EIGGA members go to him.

This year's EIGGA conference runs from April 4-6 at Warwick University and I hope to see the north-west there in force!

Bill Lawson.

From A Greenkeeper's Wife

When I married, greenkeeping meant little to me. Now I know about all the hard work that goes into the job, especially the paperwork that has to be done 'after hours', which employers sometimes don't realise.

We often wondered what it would be like when John retired and we could pass a golf course in the car without him saying: "Just stopping to look at the greens - won't be long." All would be well if the greenkeeper wasn't around; if he was, there was little else to do but settle down with a good book!

Now, after minor operations, John has been forced to give up his job and he doesn't know when he'll be able to return to greenkeeping. We now know how much we were both involved.

Often he would come home at night and say: "Sorry, I forgot to ask you this morning. The ladies are having a match tomorrow, could you bake a cake?" While

father and son settled down by the fire, I would be in the kitchen.

On another occasion, one of the men was off work, so I was brought in to rake the bunkers and change the flags! So, it was up at six and off to work and just as we were ready to leave for home, "Will you have time to type this report? It's needed for a meeting tonight."

At one of my husband's clubs, I was picking up stones in the morning and pulling pints at night!

We spend our holidays on the north Norfolk coast and we must have visited every course in the area. Now he has our son on his side and I think that golf might be the game for me when he is able to play again.

Back at home, we have a small lawn that has to be cut the right way. "Brush it first, then cut it," I'm instructed. I even have to spike the lawn with a garden fork, but I agree it does look good.

If any wives are fed up with being grass widows, especially at night when their husbands have to check the watering system or tackle a job that can't be done while the members are playing, I would say: go with him! He'll enjoy the company and, remember, a job can be done quicker with an extra pair of hands.

I take this opportunity to thank all the members of EIGGA's East Anglia branch for their good wishes and get-well cards. It's nice to know John is still remembered and he hopes to see you all again in 1986.

Mrs John Young

**Support your association
at EIGGA's annual
conference -
Warwick University,
April 4-6**

Put on a fine spread.



5 completely new fine turf fertilizers.

The new Greenmaster range from Fisons gives more accurate control of fine turf growth than ever before.

Between them, these five new formulations provide a year round fertilizer programme for all situations.

They are produced in medium density, dust-free granules to a uniform size for easy and accurate spreading.

Greenmaster will resist disturbance by wind and rain and because of its light colour can be seen when spreading to avoid over or under application.

All this means that you are able to apply it more evenly and so much more cost-effectively, whilst minimising patchy growth.

It has taken a great deal of development work at Levington Research Station and many user trials to produce Greenmaster.

Here then are the results.

Greenmaster Autumn 6:4:12 + 6% Fe

Specially designed for autumn-long moss control combined with good colour response from the iron and nitrogen. Improved sward resilience from the potash.

Greenmaster Spring/Summer 14:2:4

Balanced nutrient treatment for a fast, even colour response. Only 2% phosphate.

Greenmaster Mosskiller 14:0:0 + 8.9% Fe

A unique 'high iron' formulation for excellent moss control with a nitrogen level designed to stimulate rapid grass regrowth.

Greenmaster Extra 14:2:4 + Selective Herbicides

Two powerful herbicides - MCPA and mecoprop - give excellent weed control

combined with a fertilizer ratio calculated to give a fast, even colour.

Greenmaster Super N 24:0:0 + 2% Fe

A full 12 week growth and colour response achieved by incorporating 50% of the nitrogen content as slow release IBDU. Added iron ensures a better colour response.

That is the Greenmaster range. Scientifically balanced for superb results. In fact, all you would expect of Fisons.

Isn't it time you put on a fine spread? New Greenmaster fertilizers from Fisons.



By Appointment to HM The Queen
Manufacturers of Horticultural Products
Fisons plc Ipswich

FISONS
Horticulture


Fisons plc Horticulture Division
Paper Mill Lane Bramford
Ipswich IP8 4BZ

GREENMASTER is a Trade Mark
of Fisons plc

©Fisons plc 1986

GREENMASTER
FINE TURF CARE

The



KUBOTA

Challenge

YOU WON'T FIND A MORE VERSATILE RANGE ON COURSE.

Keeping a course in condition all year round requires all the greenkeeper's dedication, experience and skill.

It also requires the versatility of the Kubota range of tractors and attachments that enable you to do more than just mow. With the Kubota, you can dig, load, haul, spray and spread.

Take up the Kubota challenge, and compare the Kubota range with the competition. Take into account Kubota's attractive finance packages—up to 100% at just 1¼% for 12 months or longer at very competitive rates, subject to acceptance.

You won't find a more versatile range anywhere on course.



L4150—two or four wheel drive, with a smooth 5 cylinder 45hp engine and finger tip hydraulic shuttle shift. Also two wheel drive available with mechanical shuttle transmission and dual clutch. Perfect for gang mowing.



G3HST—with hydrostatic transmission and 44" mid-mounted mower, that makes short work of light rough. Highly manoeuvrable, with miserly fuel consumption and minimal maintenance.



B7100HST—4 wheel drive has a powerful 16hp diesel engine, controlled by hydrostatic transmission, which includes creep speeds as standard.



B8200—with a 3 cylinder, 19hp engine (and the option of hydrostatic transmission), this is the perfect machine for heavy duty work.

**No-one
offers more.**

Please send me full details of your range of tractors.

G.3/86

Name _____

Address _____

Tel: _____

Kubota (UK) Limited, Dormer Road, Thame, Oxon OX9 3UN. Telephone: 084 421 4500.



West

Since the last executive, a series of winter lectures has been undertaken by the section. Presented by D. Coleman, A. Connell and J. Kidd, they were also given to third-year students at Woodburn House.

The section wishes every success to D. McLellan on his appointment as head greenkeeper at Eastwood GC in succession to A. McDougall, who has become course manager at Stirling GC.

Finally, the committee wishes Bob Fitzpatrick (Whitecraigs GC), section vice-chairman, a speedy recovery to full fitness after his recent operation.

A. McDougall.

Ayrshire

Proposals by J. McKean were discussed at length during a recent committee meeting. The wording of a letter from P. Wilson caused concern and the committee wished clarification on the points raised.

It was felt that there should be an increase, on a sliding scale, in subscriptions for the new association.

Ayrshire finished 1985 with 70 fully paid-up members, an increase of some 20 on the previous year.

The spring outing is to Thornhill on April 17, while the autumn outing goes to Barassie on September 11.

Since the New Year, the chairman and secretary have been busy at meetings, the first of which was with Raddix Training, organisers of the Youth Training Scheme in Ayrshire. They are keen to make sure that students have the best possible training and, with this in mind, the chairman and secretary have been invited to sit on the programme revised team. At a further

meeting, the general secretary of SIGGA will also attend.

The same two representatives travelled on to Turnberry to welcome the new course manager George Brown. Arrangements for bunker rakers at the Open were discussed and plans formulated for discussion at the next executive.

The chairman and secretary then met the Ayrshire Golf Union to discuss methods for greenstaff and golf clubs to develop better lines of communication. It emerged that the clubs were unaware of the aims and aspirations of our association and it was felt that some detailed correspondence on this matter would assist them.

It was also stated that it would be possible for articles to be published in the Scottish Golf Union's magazine.

We have been in touch with the Northern Irish greenkeepers since they showed interest in joining SIGGA. They have been invited to our spring outing at Thornhill to play golf and discuss the subject.

We welcome new members G. Irvine, H. Logue and S. Rooney and hope they will take a full part in section activities.

Jim Grainger.

Central

Section events organised for the coming year include a spring outing courtesy of Lundin GC on Tuesday April 22 and an autumn outing courtesy of Muckhart GC on Thursday September 18.

Congratulations go to these members upon their new appointments: Craig Stewart, who moves from Stirling GC to become assistant links supervisor at St Andrews, and Douglas Mackinson, promoted from assistant greenkeeper to head greenkeeper at Braehead GC.

Agronomist Martyn Jones gave a talk to the section recently. Sixty members were treated to three hours of interesting, informative and, in his own words, at times controversial aspects of greenkeeping.

We are indebted to Martyn who, despite his father being

seriously ill, travelled up from Preston. Our thanks to Dunfermline Golf Club for the use of its clubhouse.

We are pleased to welcome five new members from Carnoustie GC, one from Crieff GC, one from Falkirk Tryst, one from Grangemouth GC and one from Souters of Stirling to the section.

Tulliallan Golf Club staged the section AGM, at which Sandy Brown retired as chairman and Elliott Small took his place. Jim Cameron (Callander GC) was unanimously accepted as vice-chairman.

John Crawford.

North

After a committee meeting at the Bon Accord club, a carriage clock was presented to Doug Grassick in recognition of his hard work and service to the section. Best wishes for his future were expressed on behalf of all north section members and Doug replied by saying how honoured he was to have served the section over the years.

We welcome N. Metcalf, K. Wood, K. McGrath, D. Wilson and M. Pearson as new members to the section.

I. Hamilton

East

The date of the spring tournament has been brought forward from Tuesday April 15 to April 8. Royal Musselburgh is the venue for the autumn tournament on Wednesday September 24.

It was gratifying to see a large turnout of the membership for an extraordinary general meeting recently.

W. Blair

Executive Report

The AGM of SIGGA will be held on Thursday March 27 at the Golden Lion Hotel, Stirling at 2pm. A comprehensive agenda was set at an all-day executive meeting recently.

BEWARE of Imitations

“FENDRESS”[®]

High Quality Golf Green Top Dressing (FENDRESS) available in bulk loads of 10, 15, 20 and 25 tonnes delivered anywhere U.K. Mainland, N. Ireland.

A Superior Top Dressing, using soils with a low clay & silt content, carefully blended with Fenland Peat and Lime Free Free Silica Sand, shredded and sieved. Ready for immediate application to golf/bowling greens.

Save purchasing expensive equipment which stands idle for much of the year, also high labour costs and problems of finding suitable ingredients of constant quality.

PLEASE REMEMBER THERE IS ONLY ONE TRUE FENDRESS REGISTERED TRADEMARK

Pre-Packed supplies also available.

SPECIAL MIXES TO YOUR SPECIFICATION ALSO PREPARED

ALSO Sedge Peat (“FENPEAT”) in bulk.

Lime Free Sands, White or Yellow. Screened Loam etc.

Please telephone T. I. Banks for quotations. You will be surprised by our competitive prices.

Please Contact:



Fen Turf Dressings Ltd., 36 High Street, Market Harborough, Leics. LE16 7NL. Tel.: Market Harborough (0858) 64346.

Professional Equipment.. -for Professionals!



the
DABRO
Twin Turf
Drainer

Is used where poor grass growth indicates severe compaction problems or where casual water is a continuous problem. The Twin Turf Drainer produces continuous slits up to 9ins deep.

The hydraulic damped rollers restore the surface to its previous level, allowing play to continue immediately after treatment.

An ideal machine for such areas as golf tees, approaches to greens and golf fairways.

N.B. Spacing between slits can be adjusted to suit own requirements.

DABRO
INTERNATIONAL



Mill House, Mill Street, Prees,
Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2DL
United Kingdom
Phone (0948) 840162

DESIGNED TO IMPROVE YOUR GAME



Reducing the handicap of poor tees, fairways and greens, a Cameron irrigation system can make a dramatic improvement to the enjoyment of the game.

Installed with minimum disruption, automatic in operation and unobtrusive in appearance, Cameron systems are supplied complete and serviced by the U.K.'s only national branch network.

Full details are available from the address below.

**Golf course
irrigation systems from:**

Cameron

Harwood Industrial Estate, Littlehampton
W. Sussex BN17 7BA. Tel: (0903) 713985

**THE LARGEST COMPANY NETWORK
SERVICING THE SPORTS TURF MARKET**

Out on the course



John Philp.

John Philp, links superintendent at Carnoustie, recently met *Greenkeeper's* regular correspondent John Campbell.

THE town of Carnoustie is a small unpretentious resort on the Angus coast – a popular spot for family holidays. Its main claim to fame is a championship golf course, well-known all over the world. Carnoustie has carried the game to most corners of the golfing world and, since the early days, has produced many teaching professionals.

To Americans, Carnoustie is holy, for it was in copying the swing of Stewart Maiden that Bobby Jones learned to play. The famous links has been the scene of many epic events including the Open Championship, which was last played there in 1975 when Tom Watson triumphed. The quality of the test of golf is reflected in the names of other Open winners there – Player, Cotton, Armour and Ben Hogan.

The man recently appointed to manage the links is John Philp, formerly assistant links supervisor at St Andrews. John is an energetic and enthusiastic student of golf-course upkeep with a knowledgeable viewpoint on many aspects of his chosen profession.

"I was attracted to greenkeeping when I used to play a lot of golf at Pitreavie Golf Club in Dunfermline, my home town," he

said. "During school holidays, I worked on the course and found the style of life and involvement in the game appealed. On leaving school, I was offered a job with the club as apprentice greenkeeper and my career has gradually blossomed from there.

"I was a fairly good player and toyed with the prospect of taking up professional golf and, in fact, I was appointed head greenkeeper/professional at Pitreavie in 1970. After marrying in 1971, the following two or three years were very hectic with my dual role at the club and it became apparent that a choice had to be made.

"The golf professional position was a 'sideline' really and my heart was in course maintenance, so I opted for greenkeeping and have no regrets. It is a way of life I enjoy and you generally find that the vast majority of good greenkeepers or superintendents are dedicated to their vocation.

"In 1974, I moved to Newmarket Golf Club on the Suffolk-Cambridgeshire border, where I had my first experience of triplex greens mowers and automatic irrigation systems. I enjoyed five years in the employ of a friendly and generous club, looking after an attractive heathland/parkland

course. From there, I was fortunate enough to be appointed to the new position of assistant links supervisor at St Andrews in 1979.

"Going to St Andrews was a big step up. To be involved with the home of golf and the famous links was getting close to the peak of my ambition. I was tackling a much bigger challenge where there are four and a half golf courses to look after – all public links – which also meant broadening the scope of my experience and getting used to dealing with a much bigger staff.

"I enjoyed working with Walter Woods at St Andrews and learned a great deal from him, as well as from the links engineer George McLaren, for which I am deeply indebted. Now I have the responsibility of managing the Carnoustie links, my ambition has been realised."

John and Helen Philp have three children – two boys and a girl. "At the moment, I am commuting daily to Carnoustie until I sell my house in St Andrews – it's about 40 minutes by road, not always convenient with regular early starts and late finishes."

Open venue

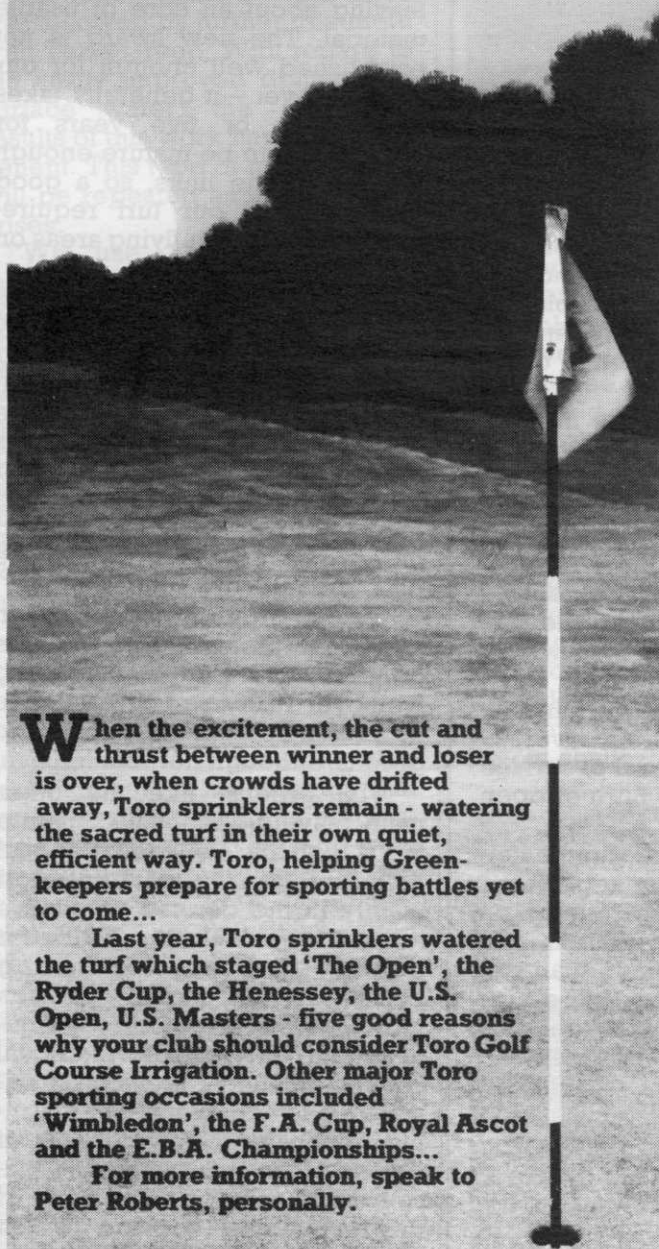
"It is my goal and the wish of the links management to stage the Open Championship again at Carnoustie, but we have to convince the powers that be of our suitability. Of course, there are several aspects to be considered by the R & A, apart from the course itself. However, we feel these can be accommodated and the aim is to get the course into a condition that merits their unequivocal support.

"My brief is to raise the standards by improving the efficiency and quality of the maintenance programme, encouraging the return of true links conditions. We are working in close collaboration with Jim Arthur and the intention is that everything possible be done to achieve our objective.

"We have a big job ahead of us and there is a great deal of work to be done. Bad flooding last autumn from the Barry Burn overflow set progress back and is something that will have to be dealt with in the long term. Although our priority is getting the championship course into first-class condition, we cannot af-

Continued on page 20...

**Crowds come,
Crowds go,
We remain!**



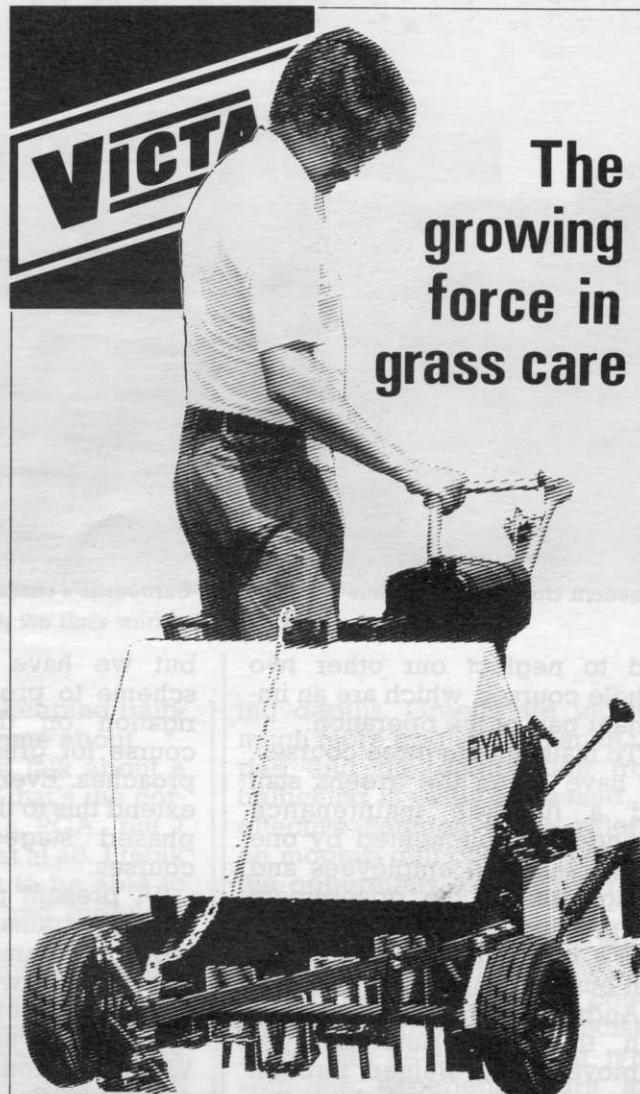
When the excitement, the cut and thrust between winner and loser is over, when crowds have drifted away, Toro sprinklers remain - watering the sacred turf in their own quiet, efficient way. Toro, helping Greenkeepers prepare for sporting battles yet to come...

Last year, Toro sprinklers watered the turf which staged 'The Open', the Ryder Cup, the Henessey, the U.S. Open, U.S. Masters - five good reasons why your club should consider Toro Golf Course Irrigation. Other major Toro sporting occasions included 'Wimbledon', the F.A. Cup, Royal Ascot and the E.B.A. Championships...

For more information, speak to Peter Roberts, personally.



**TORO IRRIGATION
LIMITED
UNIT 7, MILLSTREAM
TRADING ESTATE,
RINGWOOD, HANTS
RH24 3SD
TEL: 04254 6262**



**The
growing
force in
grass care**

RYAN

AERATORS & CORE PROCESSORS

When it comes to turf maintenance, one name is universally associated with the highest quality equipment - RYAN.

Look at their really comprehensive range of Aerators. From the small Lawnaire to the tractor-towed models. Including the Renovaire - specially designed for contoured areas. Then there are the popular Greensaire models - acknowledged to have set the standards in golf course maintenance throughout the world. Look at the core processor attachment too.

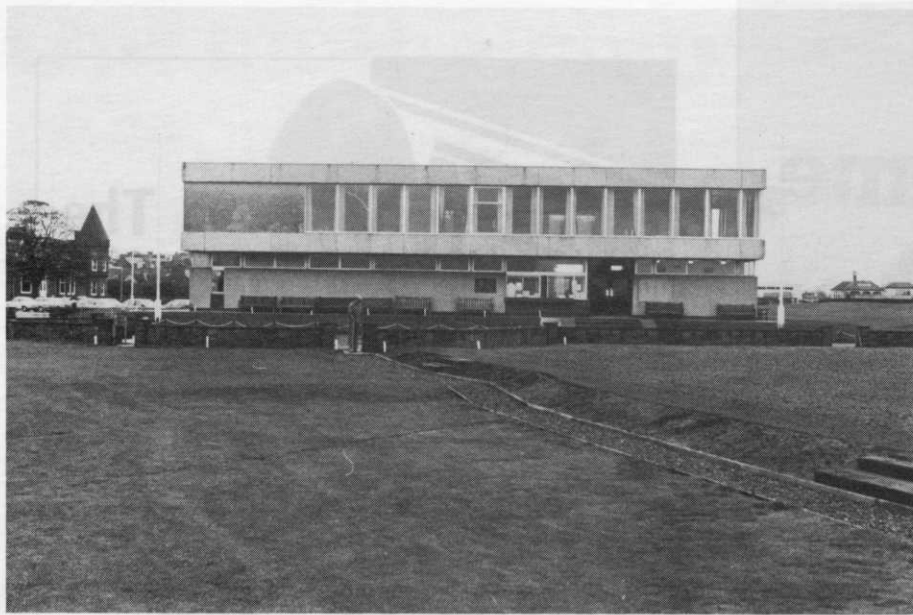
Quality-built through and through - that's RYAN. Now backed by VICTA in the UK.

Available from Victa (UK) Limited

Professional Rotary
Grasscutters
Power Turf Edgers
Ryan Aerators

Ryan Power Rakes
Ryan Turf Cutters
Petrol Cylinder Mowers
Domestic Rotary Mowers

Victa (UK) Limited, Rutherford Road, Daneshill West
Basingstoke, Hants. RG24 0QY Tel: 0256 50301 Telex 858282



A modern clubhouse overlooks the 1st tee on Carnoustie's championship course.

ford to neglect our other two 18-hole courses, which are an important part of the operation.

"To maintain the three courses, we have 11 on the greens staff and a full-time maintenance engineer, supplemented by one or two seasonal employees and young lads on the government YTS programme.

"We really have to persevere with our system, similar to that at St Andrews, where young men with the right potential, are employed, fully trained through college courses and built up through on-the-job training. We have three young apprentices who recently completed educational courses at the Kingsway Technical College in Dundee and one in training at present.

"We have two major events here this year, the British Youths' and the Scottish Amateur Stroke-play Championships, in addition to a whole host of foreign visitors and golf society bookings, not forgetting local clubs' calendars. About 40 per cent of our income comes from visiting golfers, of which a high percentage are American - they boost the revenue and allow us to invest more money on the upkeep of the courses.

"Our maintenance programme is along the lines of proven green-keeping practices. The high volume of play creates major compaction problems and much wear and tear, so regular aeration is an important part of the regime, particularly during autumn and winter. We don't have an extensive automatic irrigation system,

but we have embarked on a scheme to provide automatic irrigation on the championship course for greens, tees and approaches. Eventually, we plan to extend this to the fairways and, in phased stages, to the other courses.

"A present priority is improving the drainage on the championship course. We have about five or six fairways where work is needed to get rid of casual water in low 'lying' areas more rapidly. We have done a considerable amount of this work on the 6th, 17th and 18th fairways, where some sunken spot levels have been raised and pipework installed with boxes and drain covers to ensure quick dispersal of surface water into the Barry Burn or open drainage ditches.

"The fairways are dominated by poa annua, which aggravated the surface water problem last year. We intend to reduce this infestation by appropriate management encouraging the indigenous bents and fescues to gradually re-populate the sward. We will be looking closely at reducing seed-head production and will be over-seeding as and when the situation dictates. Routing fairway aeration is accomplished with two SISIS D.P.48s, varying the knife depth. All fairways have been hollow-tined with a fine turf aerator.

"The links management has recently purchased SISIS Triple Veemo units and a Litamisa Sweeper, as well as an Atkinson spreader.

"Approaches to the greens in

certain places are dominated by ryegrass, which was probably introduced many years ago by seed or the use of poor-quality turf for repairs. It creates an unsightly appearance, with dense colonies of rye standing proud of the surrounding areas of finer grasses. It is particularly noticeable in the winter and has no place on any links.

"Obviously, the quickest way to deal with this problem is by reurfing, but this would require several acres of good nursery turf and we don't have a sufficient supply. Most of our nursery area has been reseeded recently, leaving about an acre of usable material. The new sward is not established well enough for our purposes yet - it generally takes about four or five years for nursery turf to be mature enough for use on the links, so a good proportion of our turf requirement is cut from outlying areas on the Buddon course.

"The unused nursery area is dominated, to some extent, by finer grasses, but it has a fair amount of *Nardus Stricta*, or mat grass, which does not form a good dense sward at low heights of cut. I am reluctant to use it, for it does not blend well due to its habit of growth - it has been used on several tee extensions in the past, but not very successfully.

"Teeing-ground, especially on the championship course, is generous with many holes having well over 1,000sq yds in total. Tee maintenance will be similar to greens, although not so intensive.

"The greens, like the other main playing surfaces, contain a fairly high percentage of annual meadow grass, concentrated mainly in the centres creating a marked contrast with the better quality grasses dominating perimeters and higher spots on most greens. The correct firmness and turf resiliency, critical playing qualities, are almost impossible to achieve while poa annua dominates the sward. This, of course, is not an uncommon situation and the promotion of desirable bent species, which constitute about 20 per cent along with the poa annua on many green centres, will be the initial objective as the small percentage of fine fescues is unable to compete effectively at present in these heavily compacted areas.

"I am not convinced that over-seeding in this situation is the

answer and it is a costly exercise that often produces minimal long-term improvements in sward quality. Intensive and timely aeration at suitable depths with appropriate tines, regular verticutting and the use of wetting agents and processed seaweed products will figure prominently in the greens maintenance programme, as will frequent light applications of sandy top-dressings.

"Greens on the championship and Burnside courses were verti-drained for the first time last autumn and the soil ameliorant Terra-Green brushed into the holes in local wet areas. Subsequent hollow-tining in these areas was followed by further treatment with Terra-Green. With regard to the vastly improved drainage of surface water, the combined results of this work have been excellent. This type of maintenance will be repeated as the occasion arises.

"We use Ransomes triplex mowers for greens mowing in conjunction with the Auto-Certes and have recently purchased a new Toro Greensmaster 3 with verti-cutting reels to assist in thatch control. We have six Ransomes Auto-Certes, which are used whenever possible, particularly for major events and other periods when soft surface conditions preclude the use of triplex mowers."

Maximum support

How, I wondered, does John view the future of greenkeeping associations? "It is essential that we have strong national associations with maximum support from greenkeepers employed in the trade. I would like to see a situation similar to that in Sweden where membership of the national association is obligatory for all greenkeeping employees. This type of commitment can only improve the greenkeeper's employment situation and general well-being.

"At the moment, there seems to be dissension in the ranks of greenkeepers, but I am convinced that it is only a matter of time before we get together with a united national body. We can still have separate identities, but it is important that we should all get under one UK banner to gain both credibility in the eyes of the golfing world and the recognition we deserve. Only in this way, can



A heavy-duty spiker with 9in tines works the fairways.

uniformity in greenkeeping training, for instance, come about.

"There was some talk about a possible merger, if that's the correct word, with the PGA, but I don't agree with that at all. I think we should be seen to be able to stand as a united and independent group."

John closed by discussing the advancement of greenkeeping methods and equipment. "All turf managers are interested in any machinery developments. Much has been done in the field of aeration to relieve compaction at lower levels and to break through any existing pan immediately below shallower (3in to 6in) spik-

ing depths. Greens are mowed much more frequently than in the past and the compaction from trafficking is vastly increased, so effective aeration is the priority on modern golf courses to afford the opportunity for healthy plant development."

John would be the first to admit that he has a major task ahead of him to restore true links conditions to Carnoustie. His associates know that he is the right type, with the experience, grit and determination, to accomplish the job.

I predict the Open Championship will return to this famous links in the not-too-distant future.



Expansive equipment sheds.

Watermation

FOR ALL SPORTS TURF IRRIGATION

You can't beat us when it comes to first class irrigation. With over 15 years experience behind us, we have installed irrigation systems all over Britain, in all the best places, and our sprinklers pop-up in Ireland, in Europe and in Africa.

But you probably know about our past. In the future we will continue to offer the best automatic irrigation installations but now we are ALSO OFFERING A NEW RANGE OF SPRINKLERS, CONTROLLERS AND OTHER SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT, ALL DESIGNED AND BUILT BY WATERMATION IN ENGLAND.

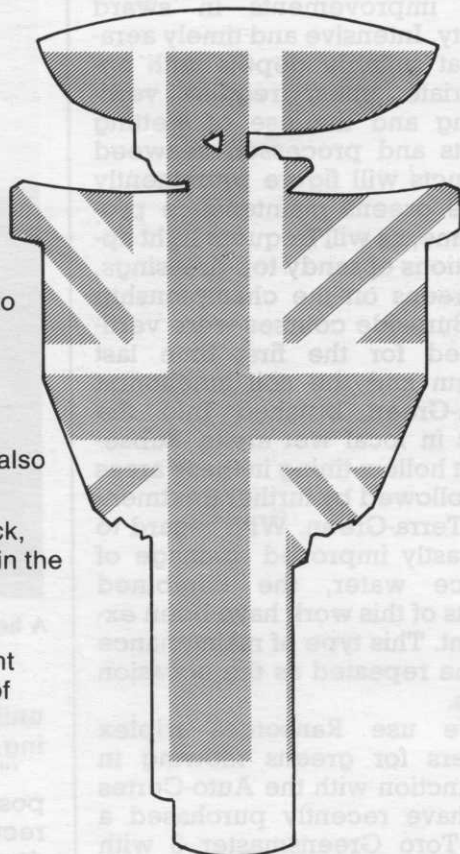
It isn't all "just grass" to us — sometimes it isn't even grass at all. We also design sprinkler systems for artificial surfaces.

So if you have a golf course, tennis court, bowling green, running track, football pitch . . . or even a whole town to be irrigated and monitored in the Middle East, we can offer you irrigation equipment which is specially designed and suitable for the needs of those areas.

Naturally, we can still supply you with all our usual range of equipment and spares and in fact we now have the most comprehensive range of irrigation equipment in the Country. **THE CHOICE IS YOURS.**

WATERMATION LTD.
Monument Way E.,
Woking, Surrey. GU21 5LY.
Woking (04862) 70303

also at:
Stirling (0786) 70252
Dublin 760964



RANGER GANGS
TRAILED
AND MOUNTED
GROUND DRIVEN
GANG SETS
from 30" to 20'6"



Distributed in England
by Claymore Grass Machinery.
Tel. 021 326 7171.



GREEN'S

In the battle to maintain fine grassed areas, there is no better weapon than a GREEN'S mower. Every machine is built to cut in even the worst conditions and built to last.

Every machine is designed for minimum maintenance and when that seasonal maintenance is required our watchword is accessibility.

When a spare part is needed our central stores pride themselves on being able to deliver that part within 24 hours (often for machines much older than their operators!).

We can help make your task easier, and more cost effective.

Call us for information and advice, and the address of your nearest stockist.

ARBROATH, SCOTLAND, DD11 3DR, U.K.

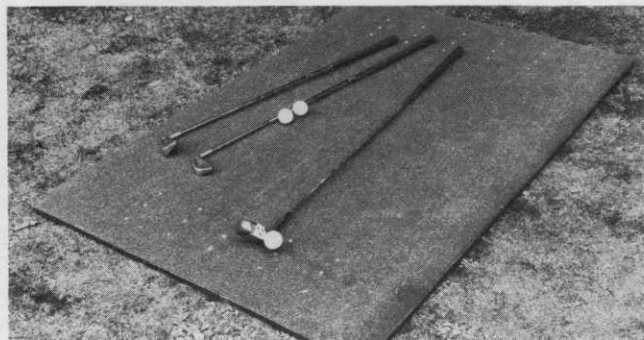
Telephone (0241) 73841

Telex: 76559

CARPETITION LTD.

THE 'TUFTURF' TEE MAT —
Like a piece of firm, well sprung fairway

FOR TEE SHOTS



AND FAIRWAY SHOTS



"A British made porous hardwearing all weather tee 1.5m x 1m. Synthetic grass, bonded to reconstituted rubber underlay shock pad with 60 tee inserts, combine to give a superb playing surface. Its use is highly beneficial as a WINTER TEE, or when re-turfing tees in the playing season. Also ideal for DRIVING RANGES and PRACTICE GROUNDS both indoor and outdoor."

Further details from:-

CARPETITION LTD.,
6 KAFFIR ROAD, EDGERTON,
HUDDERSFIELD. HD2 2AN.
Tel: 0484-28777"

New National Sales Manager makes history at Supaturf!

For the first time in the 25 year history of Supaturf Products Limited, they have appointed a National Sales Manager for England and Wales following the nationwide expansion of the depots. The man appointed to the post is Frank Crookson, previously Supaturf's Northern Area Manager, who has worked for the company for the past 6 years.

Frank, who is 52 and has a 23 year old daughter, lives with his wife Joan in Birdwell, not far from the Normanton depot for which he is responsible. He is interested in football and motor sports — particularly Grand Prix and says, "I am looking forward to working with the Supaturf sales staff — I feel we represent an excellent mixture of youth and experience, and it will be my responsibility to blend these qualities into a first class team".



It's all in the good book!

Supaturf have now produced a product guide, setting out in sections all the products supplied by Supaturf, from fertilisers and chemicals to sports equipment — together with prices and details of delivery etc.

For your copy contact your nearest Supaturf depot:

Northern Area
Unit 2, Ripley Close, Normanton, Wakefield, W. Yorks WF6 1TB.
Tel: (0924) 891000.

Southern Area
Dromenagh Farm, Seven Hills Road, Iver Heath, Bucks.
Tel: (0895) 832626/834198.

South West Area
D. O. Hunt Limited, 14 Fairfax Road, Heathfield, Newton Abbot TQ12 6UD.
Tel: (0626) 834499.

West Midlands & South Wales Area
Unit 104B, Hartlebury Trading Estate, Kidderminster, Wores.
Tel: (0299) 250087.

Head Office Oxney Rd, Peterborough, PE1 5YZ. Tel: (0733) 68384.



Supaturf help pave the way in weed control

New cda (controlled droplet application) CLEARWAY from May & Baker can be used anywhere that total long-lasting weed control is required — e.g. footpaths, along fence lines and around the base of established trees. Clearway controls most annual and perennial broad-leaved and grass weeds in amenity and industrial non-cropped land.

cda VERDONE from ICI controls all common broad-leaved weeds in turf within two to four weeks. Verdone is absorbed by leaves and roots and interferes with the normal growth regulation process — as a result, weed growth becomes abnormally stimulated and distorted before the weeds die.

These products now available from Supaturf.

Spring Fertilisers

Supaturf fertilisers are made from a mixture of carefully selected organic materials and mineral fertilisers in such a way that the plant food is released in a controlled pattern similar to the normal growth pattern of plants to ensure that the plant has food available during the whole seasons' growth.

Unlike some chemical fertilisers, Supaturf's are safe to sow with seeds and do not inhibit germination. Supaturf SS/A, SS/D, SS/P and all pelleted fertilisers such as PS/OP are available from your local depot.

NEW BASF SLOW RELEASE FERTILISER

The recently introduced range of BASF Compo Floranid slow release fertilisers is meeting with approval and good results are being obtained throughout the UK.

Available in 25 kilogram bags — contact your local depot, today.



Supaturf

Supaturf Products Limited,
Oxney Road,
Peterborough, PE1 5YZ.
Tel: (0733) 68384.

The Latest From Lely

Lely Beaver's two new hydraulic gang mowers are light and versatile for operation in almost any conditions.

The Lely Beaver TM380 combines the simplicity of tow-behind gang mowers with the all-weather performance of hydraulic drive. The pto-driven hydraulic system includes filtration and overload protection, with automatic cut-off for all units when raised. Six-blade cylinders are fitted as standard, with full width rear rollers and skids, which are adjustable for cutting height.

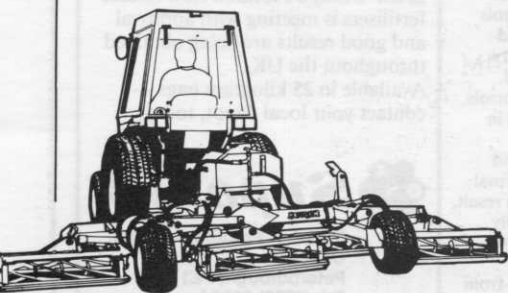
The working width is 84in, height of cut is from $\frac{1}{2}$ in to $2\frac{3}{8}$ in and the transport width is 76in. Options include external service spool valves, four-blade or eight-blade cylinders and floating cutterheads.

The drive system to the Lely Beaver TM508 hydraulic gang mower incorporates overload protection and full-flow filtration. There is independent cut-off for the wing units when raised and the three centre units have a master cut-off valve, giving a choice of cutting widths.

Six-blade cylinders are standard, with full width rear rollers and skids, also adjustable. Full articulation allows each cutterhead to follow undulations.

The working width of the TM508 is 142in. It has the same height of cut options as the TM380, while its transport width is 91in. Extras include external service spool valves, four-blade or eight-blade cylinders and floating cutterheads.

Full details of both models can be obtained from Lely Iseki Tractors, Station Road, St Neots, Cambridgeshire.



Fuel For Thought

Another source of power at King's Norton Golf Club.



King's Norton Golf Club in Worcestershire has achieved savings on fuel costs for its mowers by switching from petrol to propane.

With 250 acres of grass to maintain, course manager Peter Bailey decided to convert his six biggest mowers to propane last March. As he keeps accurate fuel records, he was able to calculate the exact benefits of the changeover.

"When we switched to propane, the cost of two-star petrol was 36.5p per litre. We had been buying a total of 11,000 litres each year, of which 8,000 litres, costing £2,920, went on the six mowers - 8,000 litres of propane cost £1,288, a big saving, even taking into account the cost of converting the machines plus the tank rental."

The mower conversions were carried out by Turfgoods, which operates in conjunction with propane supplier Flogas. "Turfgoods took just a day to convert each mower, with a mechanic working in our workshop," Peter added.

A one tonne storage tank, equipped with a hand pump, was installed by Flogas. This is topped up when necessary.

Peter was advised that he would probably use more pro-

pane than petrol. So far, he has not found this to be the case - perhaps because the mowers are kept in tip-top condition.

"The performance of the mowers following the conversion has been excellent with no loss of power. In fact, they now seem much smoother, which may be due to the fact that propane is lead free."

As propane is an unvaporised fuel, it cannot be introduced into the engine, so there is less wear and tear. This means that spark plug and oil filter life are increased and oil can be used up to 400 per cent more.

"I am also impressed by the environmental benefits of propane. There are practically no fumes, filling the mowers' tanks is easier and cleaner and if a leak did occur, the grass would not be damaged, as with petrol." Peter also pointed out that pilfering was impossible.

For further information, contact Glynn Harby at Flogas. Tel: 053021 352/416.

● *At the time of going to Press, petrol prices were falling. Peter Bailey's story was told prior to this trend, therefore the examples quoted should only be treated as such. Ed.*

A UK First

Golf Landscapes designed and installed a new Toro irrigation system for the greens, tees and approaches at Royal Berkshire last year.

A feature of the system, which uses Grundfos CR vertical multi-stage in-line pumps, is that each of the 36 greens is watered by four pop-up sprinklers, controlled individually to maximise efficiency.

Most irrigation systems in the UK are of a block design, where all sprinklers on a green are activated at the same time and, so, apply equal amounts of water to each part of the green. The single head system at the Royal Berkshire club adds flexibility to

the irrigation programme.

Tees and approaches on the two courses are watered by Toro sprinklers, which give full circle, adjustable part circle and two speed heads as each location demands. Certain fairways are watered with quick coupling hose points and Toro's new travelling sprinkler.

Three Grundfos CR 16-18 and one CR 4-120 vertical multi-stage in-line centrifugal pumps provide the boosted water for the pop-up sprinklers. The CR 4 acts as a jockey pump, monitoring the system requirements. When flow is insufficient, one or more of the CR 16s is activated by a solenoid.

The system installed at Royal Berkshire includes computerised control, as well as some 800 individual sprinkler stations.

The concept could pave the way for single head control irrigation systems at many more British golf courses and full details can be obtained from Grundfos Pumps, Grovebury Road, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. Tel: 0525 374876.

Help With Planting Time Traumas

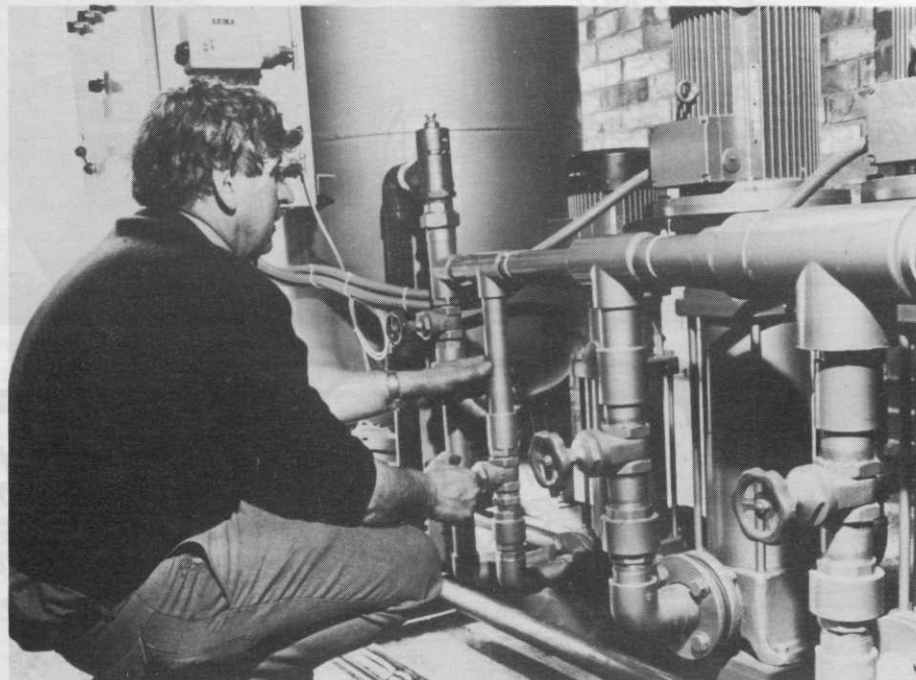
Since Maxwell Hart launched the Broadleaf P4 polymer soil additive in 1984, the benefits of moisture retentive materials have been put to widespread use. But the company emphasises that users should ensure such materials are functional, too.

Maxwell Hart has no doubts about the abilities of Broadleaf P4. It was given immediate acceptance and has since proven its worth - particularly in the planting of trees and shrubs. Afterwards, in the battle to establish root systems, P4 releases moisture 'reservoirs' to the root system as required.

Broadleaf P4 can absorb up to 400 times its weight in water and, with unlimited dry-out and rehydration capacity during its lifespan of about five years, it is a long-term solution to soil conditioning.

The additive reduces evaporation, inhibits leaching and limits the build-up of harmful salts and also upgrades the structure, hydration capacity and aeration of any soil, sand or compost.

Full details from Richard Tigwell, Maxwell Hart, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 5HF. Tel: 0734 785655.

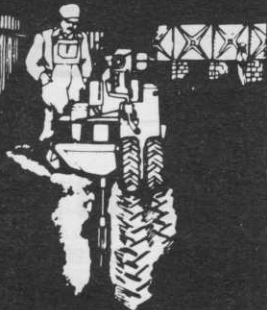


Royal Berkshire's Grundfos CR vertical multi-stage pumps.

SAND SLITTING?

AFT trenchers are good—
very good

... because we have been manufacturing and developing trenching machines for sportsfields over a 15 year period. Whether you want to buy or hire, our machines are first class. Find out more about the range. Write or telephone for details, demonstration etc



AF Trenchers Ltd
Gosbecks Road
Colchester CO2 9JS
Tel. 0206 44411

FOR SALE

1 Jacobsen MK 4 Green King
Ex Demonstration Unit 20 Hours on Clock

PRICE £5,000.00

1 Toro GM 3 Greens Machine
Fully Overhauled

PRICE £1,300.00

ELLESMERE AG
SALOP ROAD
OSWESTRY
SHROPSHIRE
TELEPHONE: OSWESTRY 657232

ONE MORNING AT
OVERPAR GOLF COURSE

HOW'S IT
GOING, GEORGE?



TERRIBLE. THIS FERTILISER
HAS SCORCHED THE
GREENS, THE FAIRWAYS
ARE GROWING LIKE MAD...
AND I'M RUN OFF
MY FEET.

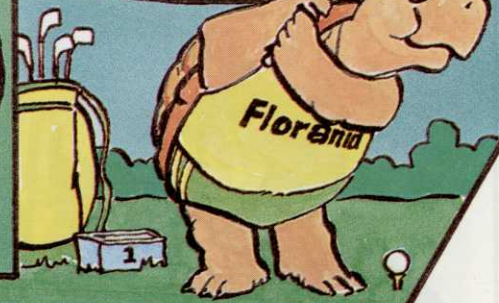


THAT
FLORANID'S
FANTASTIC!



YES, IT'S GOT
MORE SLOW RELEASE
NITROGEN THAN ANY
OTHER FERTILISER, AND
IT ONLY RELEASES WHEN
YOU'VE GOT THE RIGHT
WEATHER CONDITIONS
FOR GROWTH

AND THAT
CUTS OUT SUDDEN
FLUSHES OF GROWTH,
YELLOWING, PATCHINESS,
AND SAVES ON
MOWING



AND YOU
GET LESS
WITHERING
IN DROUGHT
CONDITIONS TOO



WITH AN
THE IMPRO
MIGHT EVEN
YOUR



The complete Floranid range is available from:



NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION & TECHNICAL ADVICE

George A. Palmer Ltd.
Horticultural and Amenity Division,
Oxney Road, Peterborough, PE1 5YZ
Telephone: 0733 61222

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

D.O. Hunt Ltd.
Unit 23, Crossgrange Trading Estate,
Fairfax Road/Cavalier Road, Heathfield,
Nr Newton Abbot, South Devon
Telephone: 0626 834499

T. Parker & Sons Ltd.
Station Approach, Worcester Park
Surrey, KT4 7NF
Telephone: 01 337 0861

Sports Turf Services Ltd.
Newbridge Industrial Estate,
Newbridge, Midlothian, EH28 8LE
Telephone: 031 333 2345

John K. King & Sons Ltd.
Coggeshall, Colchester,
Essex, CO6 1NL
Telephone: 0376 61543

YOU SHOULD TRY THIS NEW FLORANID SLOW RELEASE FERTILISER

Floranid
N31+0+0
Slow release

IT'S PERFECTLY SAFE - YOU CAN EVEN USE IT WHEN IT'S FROSTY. IT WON'T SCORCH OR LEACH OUT LATER.

A FEW WEEKS LATER

LOOK AT THE DIFFERENCE FLORRI.

IT'S EVEN PUT SOME GREEN ON THE BARE PATCHES!

THERE'S LESS WEAR WITH FLORANID

THAT'S BECAUSE IT IMPROVES ROOT DEVELOPMENT

LUCKY GREENS IMPROVE PUTTING!

- BETTER COLOUR
- LESS MOWING
- QUICKER RECOVERY
- STRONGER, HEALTHIER GROWTH
- BETTER VALUE FOR MONEY

S. Kenworthy Ltd.
Bollington Old Mill, Little Bollington,
Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 4TJ
Telephone: 061 928 2397

Richard Aitken Ltd.
123 Harmony Row, Govan,
Glasgow, G51 3NB
Telephone: 041 440 0033

Nursery Supplies (Bourne) Ltd.
Exeter Street, Bourne,
Lincolnshire, PE10 9NH
Telephone: 0778 424141

Supaturf Products Ltd.
Unit 2, Ripley Close, Normanton,
Wakefield, W. Yorks. WF6 1TB
Telephone: 0924 891000

Supaturf Products Ltd.
Dromenagh Farm,
Seven Hills Road, Iver Heath,
Buckinghamshire
Telephone: 089 583 2626

Supaturf Products Ltd.
Oxney Road, Peterborough, PE1 5YZ
Telephone: 0733 68384

Supaturf Products Ltd.
Hartlebury Trading Estate,
Kidderminster, Worcestershire
Telephone: 0299 250 087

Gwyn Cadogan
Woodside, Usk, Gwent, NP5 1XF
Telephone: 02913 2026

Floranid is a BASF trade mark.

BASF

People, Places, Products

The summer of 1984 nearly caused disaster at the Liverpool Garden Festival – the ornamental turf dried out and consultant Jim Arthur recommended spraying with Farmura Green, which proved successful. So, Farmura approached the organisers of the 1986 Stoke Garden Festival and James Wilson, the horticultural co-ordinator, agreed that treatment with Farmura would benefit the fine turf areas. As the seeded areas were too 'young' to have developed the normal load-bearing characteristics, a SISIS Hydromain Seventeen with a sprayer unit was used to apply Farmura Sportsturf. The organisers are pleased with the results so far and confident of long-term benefits.

A revamped range of amenity grass seed mixtures has been introduced by Hunters of Chester. Supreme lawn seed, suitable for golf and bowling greens and cricket squares, now contains 70 per cent Waldorf chewings fescue and 30 per cent Highland brown top bent.

Sports lawn seed, for tennis courts, hockey fields, golf tees and cricket outfields, is now made up of 40 per cent smooth stalk meadow grass, 25 per cent Waldorf chewings fescue, 25 per cent Ensylva creeping red fescue and ten per cent Highland brown top bent.

Other reformulated mixtures include Outfields, a general purpose playing fields mixture, and Sportsfield renovation mixture.

The only mixture to remain unchanged is Sovereign lawn seed, which can be used for the same purposes as Supreme, but is claimed to be more cost effective.

For further information, contact Peter Hunter on Chester (0244) 47574 or Brian Hunter on Halifax (0422) 823787.

The SISIS Auto-Rotorake heavy duty, powered scarifier now has an adjustable front flap, which can be lowered for safety when being used without the grassbox. Depth controls are located on the righthand side of the machine



The SISIS Hydromain Seventeen spraying Farmura Green at the Stoke site.

and operate through a shrouded universal joint. It is also now fitted with a 5.2hp Villiers-MAG petrol engine.

Cameron has named Mark Stanley retail sales manager for the south east.

With over ten years experience in horticultural irrigation, Mark joined the company via Glen Heat and Irrigation, TTS Baggaley and Wilco Industries, all of which are Cameron distributors and agents. During this time, he gained experience in the latest techniques of water application, such as rockwool culture NFT, mist and fog propagation, glasshouse gantry use and flood bench watering.

John Penny, a Cameron rep for 14 years, has been promoted to product manager.

Dabro International recently acquired the Eurotec product range and has embarked upon an intensive development programme.

The company's original approach to new concepts can be seen in an effective control over tines, blades and knives in the turf slitter range – the degree of penetration being controlled by the operator from the driver's seat.

For further information on the new Dabro machinery, contact the company at Mill House, Mill Street, Prees, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2DL. Tel: 0948 840162.



Innovation from Dabro International.



Frank Crookson.

Supaturf has appointed Frank Crookson its first national sales manager.

Frank, 52, joined Supaturf six years ago as northern area manager.

●
Palmers horticultural and amenity division has made Ivan Hubbard, 38, sales rep for Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincolnshire, Essex, Nottinghamshire and Hertfordshire. Palmers' products include the

new BASF Compo Floranid, Aqua-Gro, Supagro and the compost ranges.



Ivan Hubbard.

CDC Landscapes of the Chapel Works, Waldringfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4PT (Tel: 047 336 733/4) has designed and is now constructing a nine-hole course at Priory Park, Nacton, Essex for Peter Little, who owns the site, part of a caravan park on the banks of the River Orwell.

Greens and fairways have been seeded and the course is due to open early next year at the latest.

It will be run on similar lines to the Heath Farm course at Waldringfield, which is owned by the chairman of CDC Landscapes, Mr A. Clarke, and was designed and built by his company.

A clubhouse is already established in the Old Priory, where changing rooms will be provided. Membership for between 250 and 300 will be created, while visitors will be welcome to play the compact course well-populated with mature trees.

●
Last summer, Richard Adam left Melton Mowbray Golf Club in Leicestershire to join Maldon GC, Essex as head greenkeeper. His wife Diane (24 handicap) was already a playing member at the new club when Richard (18 handicap) partnered her while making his competitive debut on New Year's Day. The couple won the competition thanks, in part, to Richard's ace at the 166-yard 14th. A jubilant Richard said: "What a start! The first day of 1986, my first competition and my first hole in one. Not bad, eh?" Not bad at all!

farmmura

1976-1986 Ten years of Research and Service to turf

farmmura Sportsturf

Used from initial reseeded through to maintenance. Farmmura encourages quicker establishment of grass seed, root development, tillering and a thick sward without a flush of growth. Encourages fine grasses and can be used in ecologically sensitive areas. Farmmura increases soil bacteria count (Archer Report 1984) and makes locked up nutrients in the soil available to the plant. Other proven benefits include increasing drought and disease resistance.

Uses-Reseeding, Golf Courses, Sports Pitches, Racecourses, Bowling Greens, Cricket Wickets, land reclamation, ecologically sensitive areas.

farmmura Green

Farmmura with the addition of iron and wetting agent. Designed especially for areas where a high standard of presentation is required producing a deep green colour within a few days. Added benefits are increased resistance to disease, hardening of the grass, increased stimulation of fine grasses — all with no flush of growth.

Uses-Golf Greens, Bowling Greens, Tennis Courts, Lawns etc. Formulated for fine turf, Farmmura Green is also available in a formulation for more extensive areas to special order — for example Golf Fairways, Racecourses.

farmmura N

Where a specification or programme calls for low inputs of major nutrients, these can be supplied ready mixed with Farmmura to produce a semi-organic liquid fertiliser. Available to your specific requirements by quotation, only one application need to be made, so saving time and equipment. For example, Farmmura with six units of nitrogen per acre or 1 cwt. 5-6-6 per acre, **Uses-Low input management programmes, land reclamation.**

The benefits of Farmyard Manure, which have been known for thousands of years, are now available in a convenient, easy to use form. Proven in use by turf managers, 1986 marks the Tenth Anniversary of Farmmura products in amenity use. Farmmura has achieved its growing reputation based on results and is recommended by the leading turf consultants and used by most of the top venues in the U.K. and increasingly overseas.

USE OF FARMMURA PRODUCTS LEADS TO LASTING IMPROVEMENT AND COST BENEFITS

For detailed information, contact your distributor or

Farmmura Ltd, Stone Hill, Egerton, Kent. Tel: Egerton (023376) 241

BADGEMORE PARK GOLF CLUB

invite applications for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of modern greenkeeping, machinery maintenance, staff supervision and turf management techniques.

Salary negotiable, accommodation available if required.

Please apply by telephone or in writing, giving age, course experience and qualifications to:

The Secretary
Badgemore Park Golf Club
Henley-on-Thames
Oxon RG9 4NR
Tel: Henley-on-Thames 572206

Irrigation Distributorships Available

Weather-matic, a leading U.S. manufacturer of irrigation systems is currently interviewing candidates to become full-line distributors in England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Northern Italy. We're looking for aggressive, well-managed companies that can help us expand European sales of our complete line of irrigation controllers, valves and sprinklers.

Interested parties should contact **Mr. E. Gregory Deegan, European Sales Manager, 34 Avenue Victor Hugo, L-1750, Luxembourg. Phone 27455 or Telex address 60123 MACOM.**

Weather matic®
LAWN AND TURF IRRIGATION

Sprinkler Division/Telsco Industries
P.O. Box 18205 • Dallas, Texas 75218
214/278-6131

ISEKI

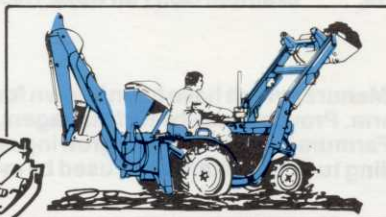
The authority in compact tractors

* Why not have a trial under your own conditions, phone or post coupon to Colin Gregory without delay!



The versatility of any model from 16 to 72hp 4WD is second to none, particularly when you have the choice of such a vast selection of all British-Built attachments which includes the much acclaimed LELY BEAVER GM 386 Triple Mower plus the new 3 and 5 Gang Mowers.

If you want to dig, what better than the exceptional D224 Backhoe/Loader combination. The choice goes on and on and with Sales and Service Distributors in your area isn't it time you found out more about the best in the business.



Please send details as ticked box
Literature
Nearest Dealer
Trial/Demo

Name

Address

Tel No

ISEKI (UK) LTD Bydand Lane,
Little Paxton, Huntingdon, Cambs
Tel (0480) 218100 Telex 32528

Introducing the 7-Year Limited Warranty

For years we've had an open and shut case for quality in irrigation system valves. Now we're putting a promise behind our words.

The 8000BCR Series of contamination-resistant, 1" to 3" bronze valves is so tough and dependable that Weather-matic is backing them up with a new 7-year limited warranty!

But there's even more. Our direct burial, remote control valves are available in other models, too. The new 7000E Series offers competitively priced bronze valves in 3/4" to 2" sizes. The 11000 Series features 1" to 2" sizes of high-strength, glass-filled plastic construction. Both carry 1-year limited warranties.

All Weather-matic valves are the normally-



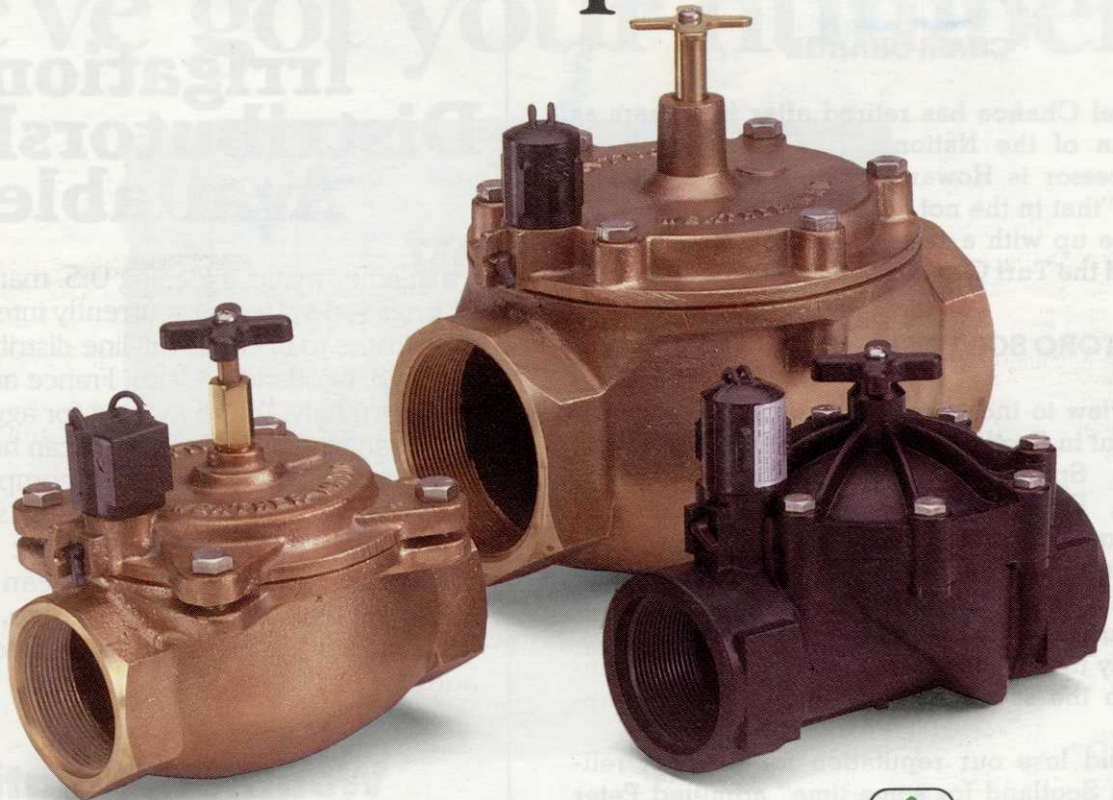
closed type. Design features include a unique dual ported flexing diaphragm that minimizes clogging and malfunctions without traditional bleed tubes or channels. An easy-to-use manual bleed lever bleeds valves to downstream. And every valve is water pressure-tested before leaving the factory.

Weather-matic valves have been providing top performance around the country for years. Teamed up with our controllers, sprinkler heads and Rain-Stat®, they work and work and work.

That's why more and more irrigation professionals say you can't beat the system — when the one you choose is Weather-matic.

For complete information, write or call today.

What an opener!



Sprinkler Division, Telsco Industries
P.O. Box 18205 • Dallas, Texas 75218
214/278-6131

Weather  **matic**
LAWN AND TURF IRRIGATION

BONUS ISSUE

Greenkeeper is pleased to be able to include with the issue a reprint of Nicholas Parks series of articles on the "Management of British golf courses" which appeared last year in Golf Monthly. The series received such wide acclaim and created such interest that the Royal & Ancient through the Greenkeeper Training Committee commissioned the reprint in booklet form. For those who have not read the articles they will be fascinating and for those who have seen them before the booklet will become an invaluable addition to their reference library.

CONFERENCE CALL

EIGGA's annual Conference still has places available for all greenkeepers, secretaries, chairman of Green Committee's, etc. During the three days there are over twenty-five speakers covering a wide range of topics, they include some fourteen greenkeepers as well as Peter Wilson of the English Golf Union, Jim Arthur on behalf of the R & A and Sir Rex Hunt guest speaker at the dinner. The cost for members is £112 including full board and accommodation and daily attendance is possible at a cost of £25 per day, so if you have not yet booked a place phone Danielle Jones on 0291 424235.

CHAIR CHANGE

Michael Chance has retired after five years as Chairman of the National Turf Grass Council. His successor is Howard Swan whose main aim is to see "that in the not too distant future the NTC will come up with a research programme for the benefit of the Turf Grass Industry as a whole".

TORO SCOTTISH CONNECTION

With a view to increasing their sales of irrigation equipment in Scotland, a second Scottish Dealer — Stewarts Sportsground Construction Limited, Dalkeith, Edinburgh, have been appointed by Toro Irrigation Limited.

From a commercial point of view, this development will increase the penetration of Toro Irrigation equipment in Scottish markets, where many systems, especially those using impact-drive sprinklers, installed in the seventies, are now in need of updating.

"We did lose our reputation for product reliability in Scotland for some time" admitted Peter Roberts. "But we know from experience gained over the past decade in other parts of the UK, that Toro gear-driven sprinklers and Toro designed Irrigation systems are now probably the best available."

GREENKEEPING PANEL

The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews has announced the formation of four advisory panels to monitor the use and distribution of its external funds. The panel on Greenkeeping comprises of D. H. Loudon, K. Almond, R. T. Robinson, J. H. Arthur and P. Wilson, the R & A advise that the panel's role is an advisory one, although they will oversee how the funds donated for research, education and the new amalgamated Greenkeepers Association are spent, they will not act in these areas, but report back to the club.

IRISH ADVICE

The fifty or so golf clubs in Ireland that have received advice over the years from Jim Arthur are now to be visited by the STRI. Dr. Peter Hayes who was based in Ulster will cover the north, whilst Stuart Ormondroyd will visit clubs in the south, reports and advice will be given on a joint basis. Mr. Arthur will continue to act as the R & A's consultant agronomist to the Championship committee as well as advising many private clubs in England, Scotland and the Continent.

Irrigation Distributorships Available

Weather-matic, a leading U.S. manufacturer of irrigation systems is currently interviewing candidates to become full-line distributors in England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Northern Italy. We're looking for aggressive, well-managed companies that can help us expand European sales of our complete line of irrigation controllers, valves and sprinklers.

Interested parties should contact **Mr. E. Gregory Deegan, European Sales Manager, 34 Avenue Victor Hugo, L-1750, Luxembourg. Phone 27455 or Telex address 60123 MACOM.**

Weather matic®
LAWN AND TURF IRRIGATION

Sprinkler Division/Telsco Industries
P.O. Box 18205 • Dallas, Texas 75218
214/278-6131

Five simple ways to take control.

Whether you need a 6, 8, 12, 16 or 24 station irrigation controller, you can't beat the micro-computer Mark Series from Weather-matic. All models are available in three types of housings — U.L.-listed rainproof aluminum; economical plastic for indoors or heavy-gauge, industrial-grade steel — so they can fit every application.

The Mark Series is easy to program, too. A function selector switch and large pushbuttons reduce operator confusion and help cut training time, all but eliminating installer call-backs.

Among the advantages are two watering schedules, four daily start times on each program and 0-99 minute timing at one-minute increments. Plus the new Day-Bright™ LED display —



filtered and recessed for daylight visibility.

Special features include a self-charging battery back-up system. This retains the program and clock time in the event of a power failure. And it eliminates periodic battery replacement. The controllers will also detect and skip a shorted valve.

Teamed up with Weather-matic's proven valves, sprinklers, Rain-Stat® and other products, Mark Series controllers work and work and work.

They're five reasons why so many irrigation professionals

say you can't beat the system — when the one you choose is Weather-matic.

To learn more, write or call tollfree: 1/800/835-2246. (In Kansas: 1/800/362-2421)

We've got your number!



Sprinkler Division, Telsco Industries
P.O. Box 18205 • Dallas, Texas 75218
214/278-6131

Weather  **matic**
LAWN AND TURF IRRIGATION

WOODS IN JAPAN

Walter Woods – links supervisor at St Andrews – recently completed a mission to recreate his beloved linksland on a Tokyo hillside. Greenkeeper carries his report and photos exclusively.

IT'S a long way from St Andrews Scotland to the New St Andrews Golf Club Japan. A flight that takes you over seemingly endless ice-covered land involves a refuelling stop in Anchorage and breathtaking views of Mount McKinlay and Mount Fuji.

On arrival at Tokyo, you are greeted by an intense heat and high humidity that makes your lungs draw deep in search of oxygen.

Tokyo is vast with a population of about 12 million. It sprawls for miles and huge skyscrapers give an appearance more typical of New York.

Motorways go off in all directions, but even these cannot compete against the density of traffic and all vehicle movement draws virtually to a crawl during morning and evening peak periods. The modern subways and trains are more convenient and well-organised taxis offer an alternative to the inconvenience of driving yourself.

One thing that immediately captures your notice is how clean everything is – the shops

are beautiful and the people well-mannered and courteous. You can also walk in any part of the city during the night or day without fear of being accosted.

As you travel out, the countryside looks similar to parts of Scotland, Wales or the Lake District and it is not until you see the different architecture and vast rice fields, that you realise you're on the other side of the world.

It was some 12 years ago that a number of golfing enthusiasts embarked on a scheme to build a golf course similar to the Old Course at St Andrews. They ran into difficulty with government land restrictions and legislation. An alternative was sought and Jack Nicklaus invited to design another 18-hole golf course on a hillside. The result resembles a typical American course with lakes and tightly bunkered greens.

The course is now well-established and receives many visitors, who provide a valuable source of income. Unfortunately, it is well out of the reach of many. To play a round, with the caddie fee and use of clubhouse facilities, can cost £100, excluding any meals. It is also possible to play at night with nine of the holes completely floodlit!

Directors and officials of the New St Andrews Golf Club visit St Andrews periodically to cement a bond of friendship between the two golfing

communities and because of an upsurge in the popularity of golf in Japan, they recently decided to build another nine holes. They hired a young Japanese golf course designer, who has studied British golf course architecture and, in particular, many of the famous golf courses in Scotland. It was mainly for this reason that my services were required.

At the golf club, I was informed of my duties and what was expected of me. I was then introduced to the designer and, between us, using an interpreter, we discussed and implemented the undulations of greens and fairways and the siting of tees and bunkers.

All the golfing holes have different intended character – two holes resemble Carnoustie, some are like Gleneagles or even Sunningdale and one looks like a particular hole at St Andrews. All were individually built to resemble British golf course architecture.

The Japanese government will not allow any golf courses to be constructed on flat or agricultural land, so any new projects have to be built on wasteground or hillsides, but this is no problem to the enthusiastic Japanese. They will move any amount of earth to achieve their aims.

Money is no object and you learn quickly never to commit yourself to your first suggestion. If you did, they would have the task completed by the following day! I overcame this by determining and earmarking bunker locations, deciding what green undulations were necessary or suitable and only then did I mark them out by using chalk, wooden stakes and string. I then checked them myself, usually in the evening.

This eliminated any mistakes and, once completed, their surveyors would put the final decisions to paper. Everybody concerned in the project was asked to attend a meeting every second day and everything, down to the smallest detail, was discussed.

A large workforce, including women, worked from eight until five, six days a week. Each morning, the supervisors would have every detail written on a blackboard and the entire task of that day would be explained



Typically impressive Japanese scenery.



Heavy machinery contouring fairways.



Traffic on the move, almost, in Tokyo.

before work commenced.

Everybody tackled the manual labour conscientiously. Such work included building bunkers, planting trees or bushes, or turfing fairways – no seeding took place, except to the greens.

On the fairways, the turf used was korai, a native grass that provides a dense surface something similar to that you would find on any British inland course. The greens construction was to the specification adopted by the USGA.

Plastic drainage was confined into a gravel and grit carpet, then covered and contoured with a sand and peat mixture.

This was then seeded with Penncross bent, which appeared to be well-suited to the climate.

While the green and tee construction was going on, installation of the irrigation system took place. Not only were pop-up watering heads installed, but also a demisting system. This was organised by the installation of pop-ups at 12 metre intervals on separate pipes right round the greens. These were then linked into valves and could be operated individually or through the irrigation controller.

The fine jets could fire water to create a mist for one-minute intervals and this, in turn, cooled

the air for three to four hours, preventing the grass from wilting in the heat and high humidity.

During my stay, I visited many golf clubs and the pattern was similar at each. Clubhouses were as near perfect as they could be and service was exemplary. Courses were groomed to perfection in settings of azaleas, Japanese flowering cherries or many other beautiful flowering trees or bushes – a lesson learned from Augusta National.

The greens superintendent would have about 20 staff and

Continued overleaf...



Greens drainage follows the USGA specification.



The same the world over!



Night and day, they play – thanks to floodlighting shown in the background.



'Communications' to lorry drivers bringing material.

ten or so ladies to hand weed fairways or rake bunkers. Greens, fairways and tees were cut daily, including Saturday and Sunday, which were the busiest days. Putting surfaces were fast and true and fairways firm. Bad lies were difficult to find.

Most courses had Pennncross bent on the greens, but I did see some with a mixture of rye and *Poa annua* – even these were exceptionally good. Machinery was usually maintained by two mechanics and every modern device was available.

Staff rooms were spotless and contained a dining room, changing rooms, wash and shower rooms – shoes had to be removed before entering and slippers were provided. I saw these conditions at every golf club and the ultimate at one club was sleeping rooms for

those who had worked extra overtime.

Japan has four main islands – Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu and Shikoku – split into prefectures similar to counties or regions. Tokyo, Yokohama and Osaka are the largest cities. Golf was first introduced to the country in 1903 by Arthur Hesketh Groom, an English merchant trader. With some fellow compatriots, he organised a nine-hole, par-three course. It no longer exists, but an 18-hole golf course has since been constructed nearby.

The sport's popularity has increased tremendously over the last ten years, due totally to the success of Isao Aoki and Tommy Nakajima and as soon as the latter's name is mentioned, people will immediately reflect on the poor fellow's disaster at the Road Hole bunker during the 1978 Open Championship –

an area that is now referred to as the Nakajima Sands.

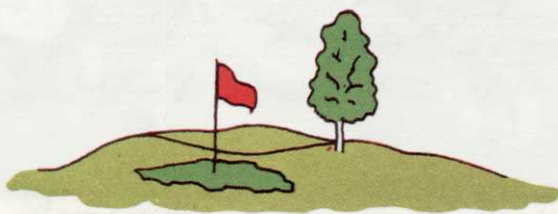
In Japan, there are 1,500 golf courses and over 5,000 driving ranges, used by those who only dream of playing a real golf course.

In the near future, more courses will be built for those of moderate and lesser incomes to enjoy. Playing tennis and watching baseball are the favourite pastimes at the moment, but golf is quickly overtaking them.

Young Japanese now watch the major tournaments on television and copy the superstar's swings and techniques. This encourages them to work hard and to practise during every hour available. Over the next few years, it would not surprise me if they begin to capture the world's major titles.

Whether it be construction, drainage or **TORO** irrigation

GOLF LANDSCAPES LTD.



ASHWELLS ROAD
BENTLEY, BRENTWOOD
ESSEX CM15 9SR.

Coxtie Green (0277) 73720

The proven experience in the field



Growth control. Just picture how it could help you.

Cutting grass, even when it is a joy ride, is time consuming and expensive. In some areas it is also inconvenient and difficult. Sometimes it is downright dangerous.

But now that ICI has introduced Holdfast, mowing can be reduced or even eliminated in medium or rough amenity grass*.

This unique soil-active growth retardant is fully

Holdfast.

proven, effective and makes economic sense. It is easy to apply by spray application whatever the weather – rain isn't a problem. And once absorbed by grass roots will inhibit growth for about three months.

The photograph above proves the point. On the left is a grass sample allowed to grow normally and untreated. On the right is a sample which has been treated. Imagine how Holdfast can help you. Saving time, wear and tear and helping to release manpower for more important seasonal work.

Before deciding on your 1986 grass maintenance programme send for our Holdfast leaflet. It is the only way to get the complete picture.

An  **Professional Product**

ICI Professional Products, Woolmead House East, Woolmead Walk, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7UB. Tel: (0252) 724525.
*This product has Limited Clearance under the UK Government's Pesticides Safety Precautions Scheme for use as directed.

BROCTON HALL GOLF CLUB

requires an

**ASSISTANT
GREENKEEPER**

Applicants must have experience in greenkeeping and machinery maintenance. The appointment to commence as soon as possible. Salary negotiable. Accommodation may be available to suitable applicant.

Apply in writing stating age and experience to:
The Secretary, Brocton Hall Golf Club,
Brocton, Stafford, ST17 0TH.

HEAD GREENKEEPER

required by

CREWS HILL GOLF CLUB

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons. Salary negotiable. Accommodation available.

The Club is situated in country surroundings yet within easy reach of all facilities and Central London.

For application form, write or telephone:
The Secretary/Manager, Crews Hill Golf Club,
Cattlegate Road, Crews Hill, Enfield,
Middlesex, EN2 8AZ.
Telephone: 01-363 6674

**YORK GOLF CLUB
(18 hole course)**

applicants are invited for

**ASSISTANT
GREENKEEPER**

Applicants must be experienced in greenkeeping techniques, the use of modern equipment. Experience in drainage would be an advantage.

Written applications to:
The Hon. Secretary, York Golf Club,
Lords Moor Lane, Strensall,
York. YO3 5XF

**Appointments
Sales & Wants
Greenkeeper,
of course!
Phone—
0255 507526**

WARREN GOLF CLUB

require

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited for the above post. Salary negotiable. House provided.

Apply in writing with full details of age, experience, qualifications etc. to:

The Secretary, Warren Golf Club,
Dawlish Warren, Dawlish,
Devon. EX7 0NF

**HEAD
GREENKEEPER**

required

Applications are invited from persons experienced in all aspects of Golf Course husbandry for this old established Nine Hole Private Members' Club with full responsibility for Greenkeeping Staff and Maintenance.

No Accommodation available.

Salary Negotiable.

Applications in writing to:

The Secretary
Hampstead Golf Club
Winnington Road
Hampstead Garden Suburb
London N2 0TU
Tel: 01-455 0203

SECOND-HAND MOWERS

*SPECIALISTS IN RANSOME
MOTOR TRIPLES*

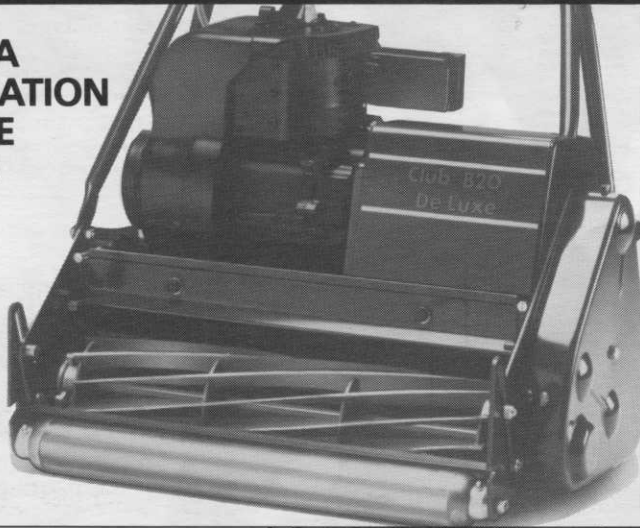
SHAFTESBURY PLANT

Shaftesbury, Briar Road,
Great Bromley, Colchester, Essex. CO7 7XD

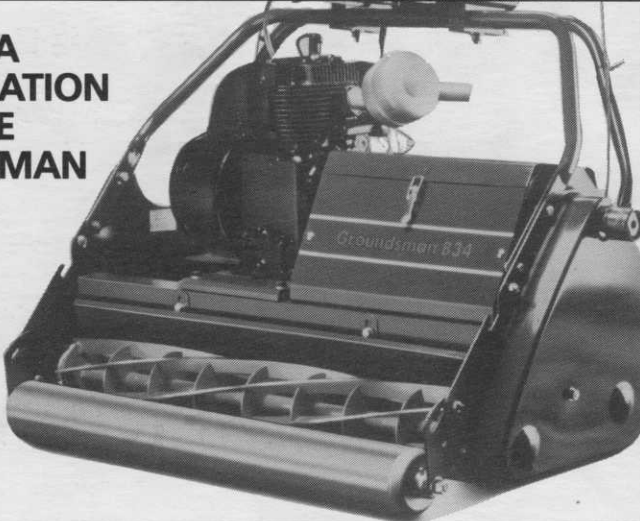
TEL.: (0206) 230442

ATCO PROFESSIONAL. YOU CUT THE COUPON- WE'LL CUT THE GRASS.

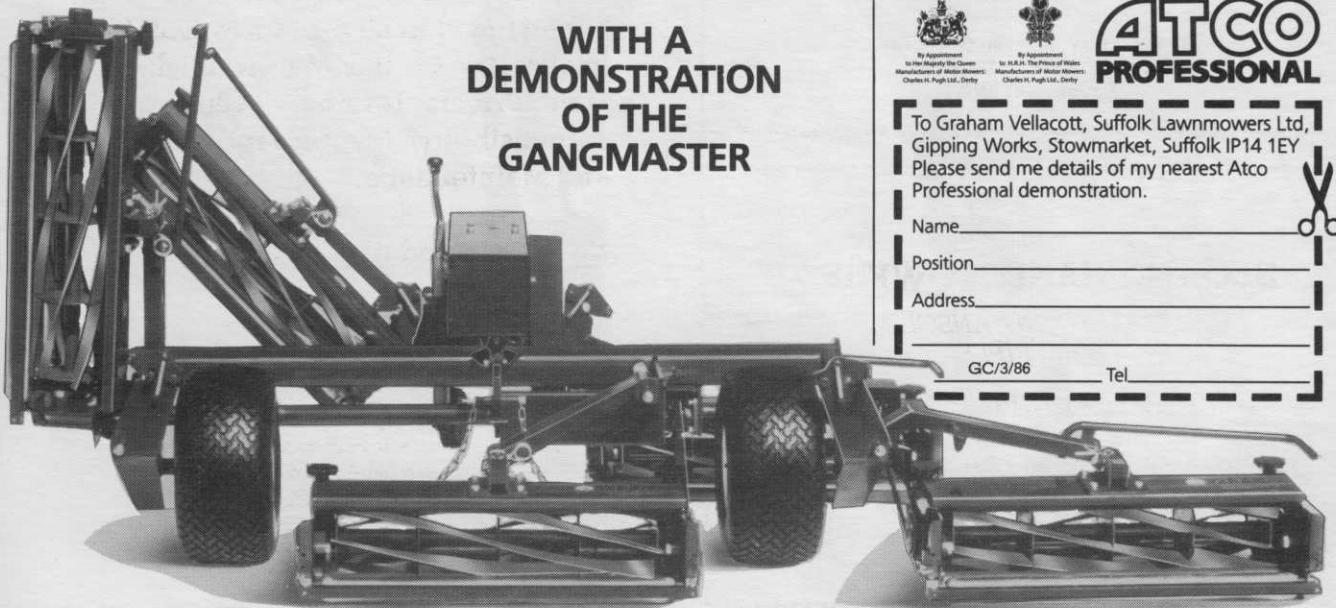
WITH A
DEMONSTRATION
OF THE
CLUB



WITH A
DEMONSTRATION
OF THE
GROUNDSMAN



WITH A
DEMONSTRATION
OF THE
GANGMASTER



Whatever job it's designed for – fine mowing or rough cutting – a professional machine has to be more than supremely efficient.

It must be easy and economical to operate. It must be tough and robust. Above all it must be able to carry on working day after day, season after season.

These qualities – and many more – are built into every machine in the Atco Professional range. But don't take our word for it.

Come along to one of our demonstrations. Watch the machines being put through their paces. Test them yourself and discover the many features of the:

Club 17" or 20" cut. For all types of golf and bowling greens and ornamental lawns.

Groundsman 28" or 34" cut. For playing fields and sports grounds, electric or recoil start options.

Gangmaster 83" or 138" cut. P.T.O. gangmower with 3 or 5 cutting heads in fixed or floating versions. For golf courses and other grass areas.

Also available in the rotary mower range, **Airborne**, **Stoic** and **Clearway**.

To find out more about demonstrations in your area ring Graham Vellacott on Stowmarket (0449) 612183 or return the coupon.



By Appointment
to Her Majesty the Queen
Manufacturers of Motor Mowers
Charles H. Pugh Ltd., Derby



By Appointment
to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales
Manufacturers of Motor Mowers
Charles H. Pugh Ltd., Derby

ATCO
PROFESSIONAL

To Graham Vellacott, Suffolk Lawnmowers Ltd,
Gipping Works, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1EY
Please send me details of my nearest Atco
Professional demonstration.

Name _____

Position _____

Address _____

GC/3/86

Tel _____

MASCOT



"For the perfect finish"

Peter Baker

Rigby Taylor Limited
Rigby Taylor House, Garside
Street, Bolton, Lancashire BL1 4AE
Tel: (0204) 389888,

Rigby Taylor (Midlands) Limited
Unit 9A, Warwick Industrial Estate,
Budbrooke Road, Warwick CV34 5XH
Tel: (0926) 401444,

Rigby Taylor (South) Limited
Unit 7, The Riverway Estate,
Peasmarsh, Guildford, Surrey GU3 1LZ
Tel: (0483) 35657,