

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

MAY 1986

Greenkeeper

& The International Greenkeeper

Deutsche Fassung
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BULLETIN NR. 48



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Steady Progress at York

At a further meeting between the three green-keeping Associations EIGGA, SIGGA & BGGGA held on April 28th under the Chairmanship of Peter Wilson of the English Golf Union, agreement was reached on a number of points. A constitution for the proposed joint Association was hammered out, clause by clause to the satisfaction of all present. It was also agreed that the base for the Administrator of the new Association would be within the offices of the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley. Other matters were only briefly discussed, the meeting having gone into such detail on the constitution. This will now be presented to the three participating Associations for their approval prior to the next meeting at York on June 9th, when it is hoped that the remaining parts of the package will be agreed. It is proposed that the new Association will come into being on January 1st 1987.

Greenkeeper Training Committee

Dr. Peter Hayes Director of the Sports Turf Research Institute and Chairman of the G.T.C. has announced that a donation of £1,500 has been received from the P.G.A. European Tour. This money is to be used to fund better liaison between the colleges which the G.T.C. have selected as their regional greenkeeper training centres. (see April Greenkeeper) The money from the European Tour (a totally separate organisation from the Belfry based Professional Golfers Association) is part of the promotional fee paid by ICI Professional Products to be utilised for greenkeeper training. Commenting on the Tour's move ICI's Keith Cleverley said that he was delighted that the money would benefit all greenkeepers at every level with the improvement in educational opportunities.

This is another welcome boost for the G.T.C. which in the last year has made considerable strides forward in rationalising the formal greenkeeper training opportunities and syllabus in England.

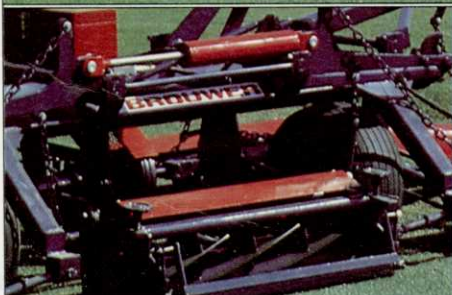
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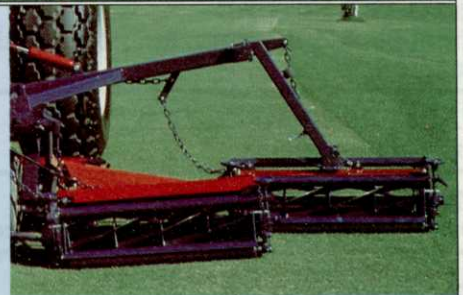
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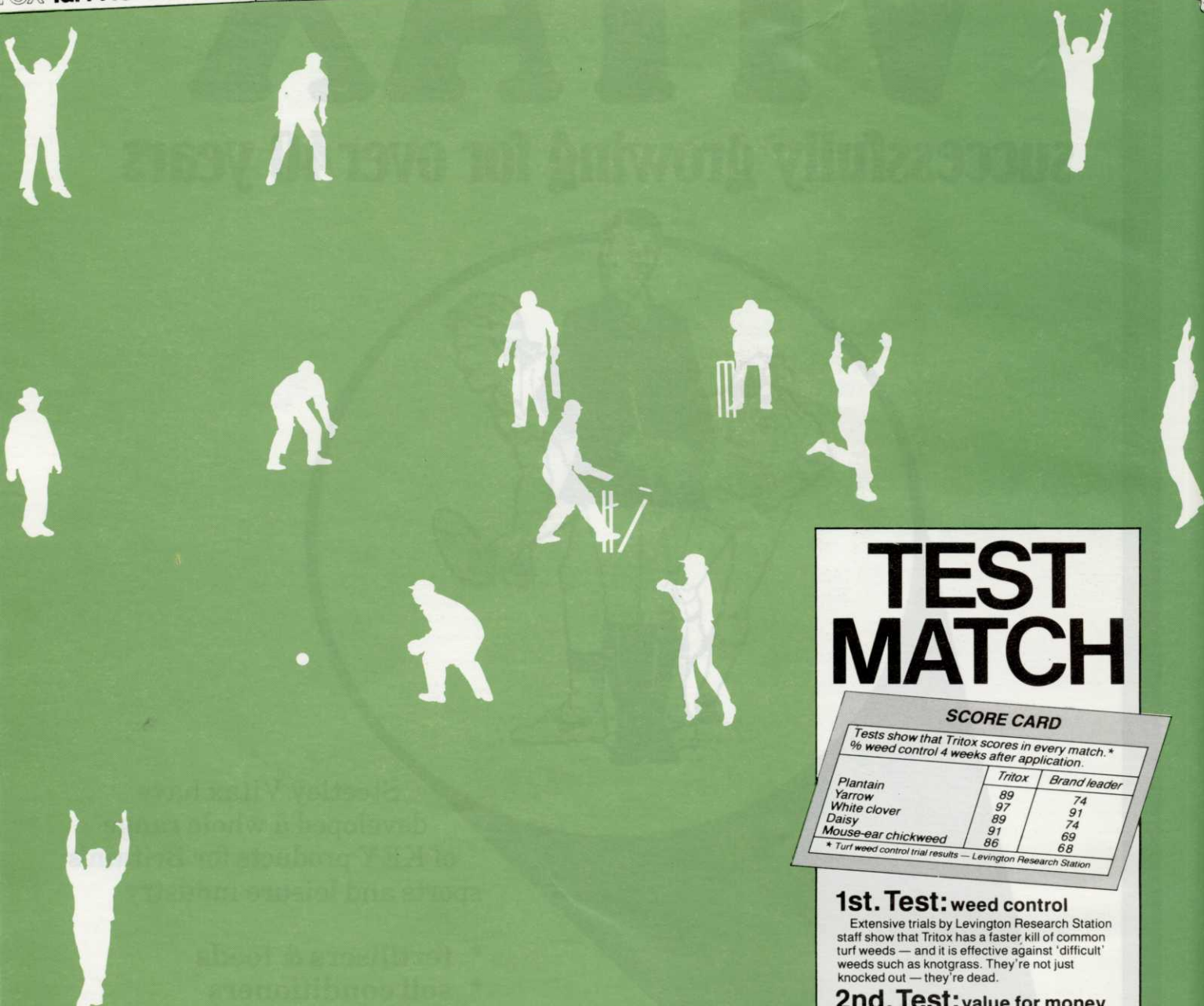


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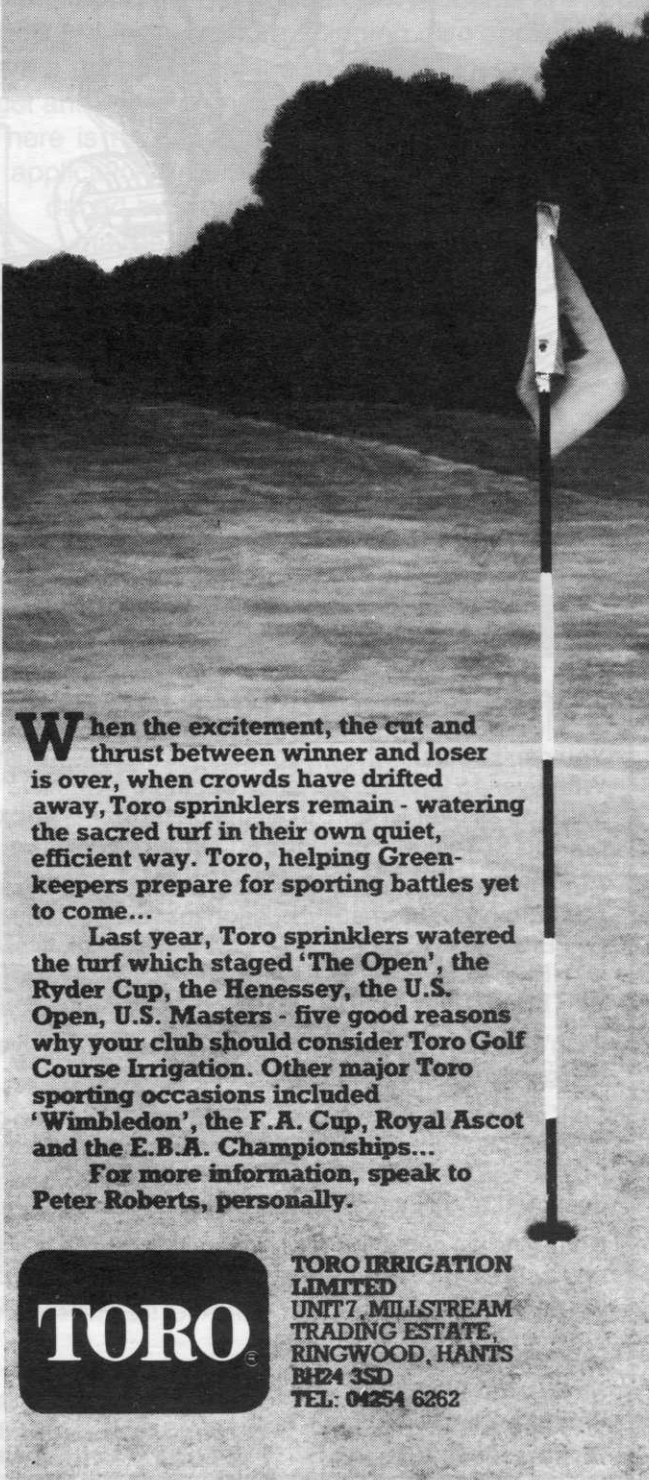
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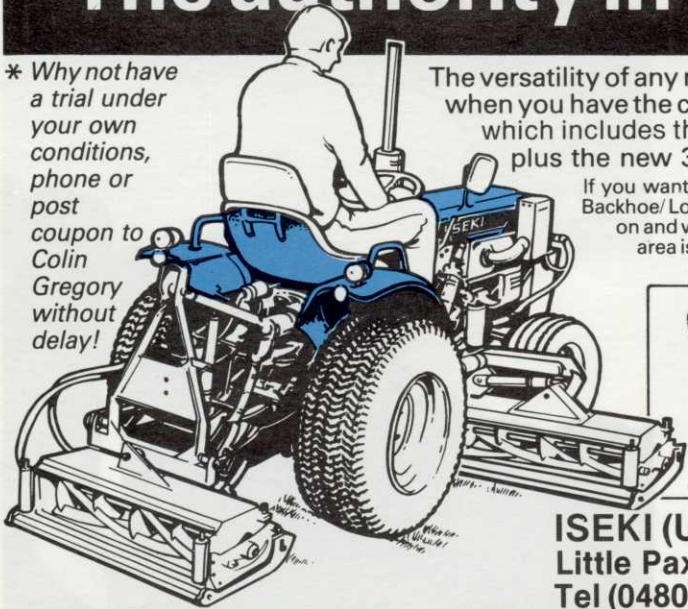
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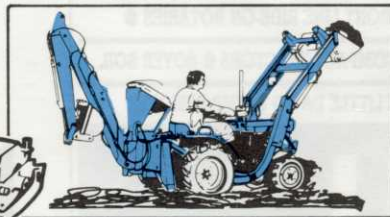
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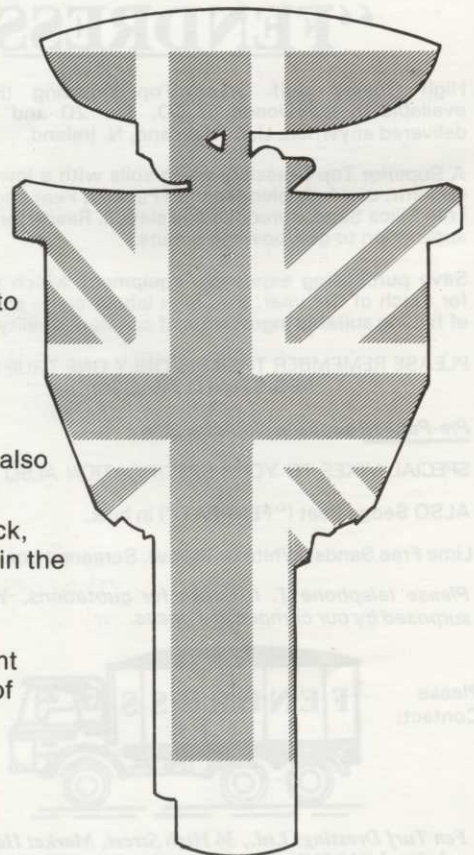
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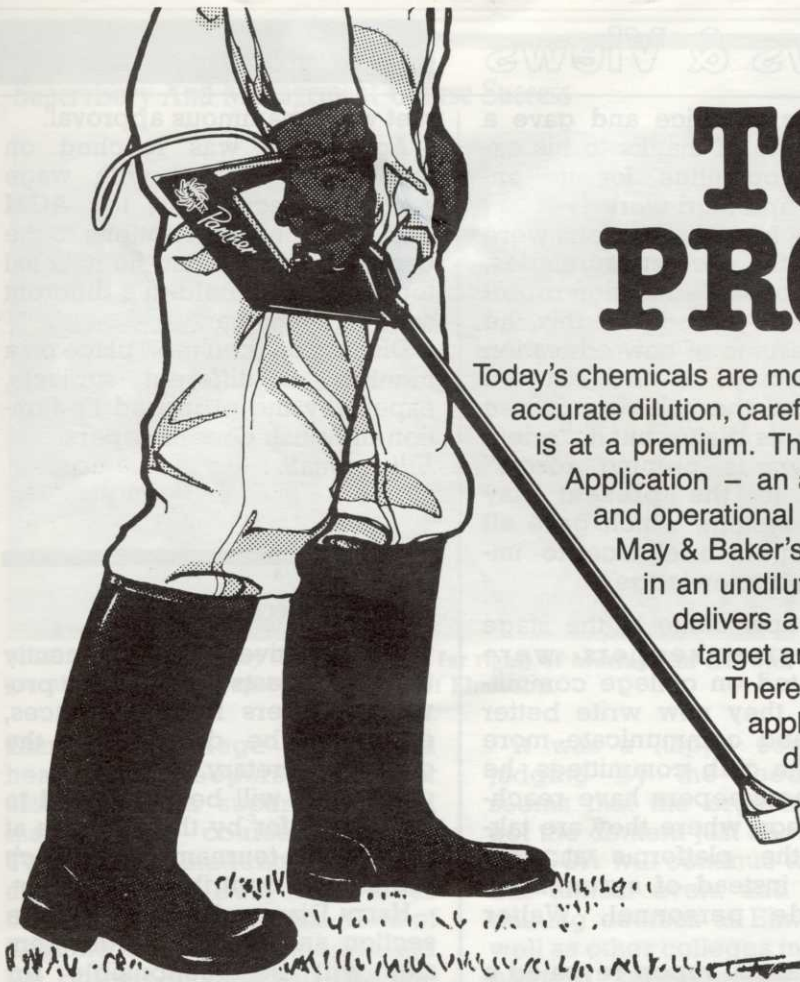
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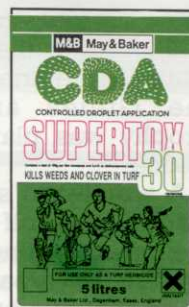
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SIGGA AGM

The 39th AGM of SIGGA was held at the Golden Lion Hotel, Stirling. President Jimmy Neilson welcomed everyone and asked for a minute's silence in memory of Russell Brown (Turnberry), Jim Duncan (Barassie) and Bob Scott (Murcar).

The president then gave his report and outlined the high points of a successful year. These included the opening of SIGGA's new headquarters at Haggs Castle.

The national golf tournament at Cawder had been a great success, despite atrocious weather. But the highlight of the year, of course, had been the international conference and tournament at St Andrews in October. SIGGA, he said, could be proud of the superb organisation of this event, which had been enjoyed by representatives from 13 countries.

Jimmy added that SIGGA was proud of its team in the tournament. Raymond Day, Jim Granger, Duncan Gray, Graham Webster and non-playing captain George Hampton had made a great effort to win the event in its first year in Scotland and only the second-round brilliance of the Canadians had stopped them.

To SIGGA members who had not made the effort to attend, he could only say, "you don't know what you missed."

The management and supervisory courses at Elmwood College had again been well-supported. The Elmwood conference in March was also a great success with over 200 present.

The year had also seen the innovation of a quarterly newsletter for SIGGA members only. The first issue was already with members and Jimmy Kidd is responsible for the editorial. Elliott Small has taken over sole responsibility for any SIGGA editorial in *Greenkeeper*.

Jimmy Neilson thanked the members for their support in his

two years of office and gave a special vote of thanks to his executive committee for its enthusiasm and hard work.

Reports from the sections were given by the section secretaries, followed by the education report from Walter Woods. In this, he gave a resume of how education had improved in the last ten years, from the one-year course primarily, as Walter put it, "orientated towards pruning roses," through to the present day modular system, which gave all greenkeepers a chance to improve their knowledge.

It had now come to the stage where greenkeepers were represented on college committees and they now write better reports and communicate more easily with club committees, he said. Greenkeepers have reached the stage where they are taking to the platforms at conferences instead of agronomists and trade personnel, Walter added.

The financial report revealed a healthy balance sheet, which was fully approved. Jimmy Neilson then proposed that Walter Woods be elected president and this was unanimously approved. Walter, in accepting, spoke of the pride it gave him to have achieved this position and he hoped that he would have the support of the members in carrying on the good work of SIGGA. He then proposed that Jimmy Kidd should be vice-president and, again, this

met with unanimous approval.

Agreement was reached on resolutions dealing with wage scales, subscriptions, the AGM date, section subscriptions to the central fund and that the national tournament be held in a different section each year.

Discussion then took place on a number of different subjects, especially the proposed Federation of British Greenkeepers.

Elliott Small.

Executive Decisions...

The executive agreed recently that all requests for SIGGA to provide speakers for conferences, etc, must be directed to the general secretary.

A trophy will be purchased to be played for by the veterans at the national tournament and each section will contribute to its cost.

Harry Diamond of the Ayrshire section and Cecil George (Lenzie) will be responsible for bunker rakers at the Open Championship.

The national tournament has been confirmed for Downfield GC on Thursday June 19.

Help promote your association's image by contributing news stories to these pages...

Victory For The Greenkeepers Versus The Secretaries

The annual match between SIGGA and the Association of Club Secretaries (Scotland) for the Gillies and Henderson Trophy was played at Elie Golf House.

A wonderful spring day and a magnificent golf course provided the ideal setting for SIGGA to avenge last year's surprise, but deserved, win by the secretaries. SIGGA did just that, winning by seven games to nil, with one game halved. President Jimmy Neilson accepted the trophy with delight and he thanked all those who organised and took part in the day.

Jimmy made special mention of Sandy Cowan and his clubhouse staff for the high standard of catering and he also congratulated Brian Lawrie, the head greenkeeper at Elie, and his staff for presenting the golf course in an immaculate condition.

While looking forward to next year's encounter, I thank George Forgie, the Elie secretary, for the help he gave me and to the captain and council of Elie Golf House, I express SIGGA's thanks for affording us the courtesy of the golf course.

Joe McKean, General Secretary.

Supervisory And Management Course Success



SIGGA president Jimmy Neilson (front, far right) of Murrayfield GC with head greenkeepers on the supervisory course at Elmwood.

Elmwood College welcomed head greenkeepers and first assistants to a supervisory and management course recently. Twenty-two students attended and they came from many areas of the UK - some from the north of England, others from London and the Home Counties and one student travelled over from Ireland.

It was a happy course and, judging by the feedback, it seems that the organisers have got the content just about right!

SIGGA will continue to support this annual event and all other training courses at Elmwood, as well as other colleges in Scotland offering greenkeeper training courses.

Ayrshire

A further meeting of the programme review team of Radix, the management agents for the YTS in Ayrshire, was held recently. Further progress was achieved with Ayr Technical College regarding greenkeeping students attending in 1987. A meeting has been arranged at the college to assess the facilities.

At the committee meeting, chairman H. Diamond gave a detailed report on the proposals and arrangements for bunker raking duties at the Open. The programme for the Inverclyde seminar was discussed and forms have been drawn up.

The section is providing a trophy for its fourball competition, held for the first time last year. The winners were M. Power and W. Anderson of Troon Darley. New rules have been introduced for this year's competition.

There is a possibility of ten greenkeepers from Ireland joining the section and they will be attending the spring outing at Thornhill.



Students came from far and near to attend the distance learning course.

West

The West section's annual greenkeeper/convenor pairs trophy, sponsored by SISIS, was played over a windswept West Kilbride. Keith Vertigan and Ian McKay from SISIS arranged a demonstration of machinery for the membership and competitors before play began.

Our thanks go to them as they managed to put on a creditable

Also At Elmwood...

The Scotec part-three supervisory course was adapted by A. Smith, the course tutor, so it could be taught largely on a distance learning basis (one week in college instead of the normal five).

The wide interest in the course is best shown by the list of those who attended: Gary Armstrong (Co Durham), Robert Brewer (Glasgow), Thomas Byrne (Glasgow), Ronnie Christie (Crail), Graham Clarke (Leeds), Stewart Cruickshank (Larbert), Alan Ferguson (Bathgate), Charles Fotheringham (Falkirk), Christopher Gray (Isle of Wight), Iain Gunn (Kingussie), Robert Hardie (Aberdeen), Alastair Holmes (Berwick-upon-Tweed), Neil Metcalf (Aberdeen), Paul Morrison (Irvine), Chris Nicolle (Guernsey), Alastair Taylor (East Kilbride), Andrew Terry (Stratford-upon-Avon), Graeme MacNiven (Effingham) and Stuart Townsend (Linlithgow).

Dates and details of the 1987 course have, as yet, not been distributed, but there are already eight on the waiting list.

show despite the weather, which confined most of the audience to the clubhouse!

Only ten holes were contested and the final order was: A. Glachan and D. Middleton (Vale of Leven), 43 points; F. Scullion and W. Bryson (Dumbarton), 44; A. Connell and J. Moore (Cawder) and D. Hindmarch and G. Webster (Milngavie), tied on 45.



North-West

The spring tournament was held at Caldys Golf Club in early March, followed by the AGM, dinner and presentations. The branch committee would like to thank the club captain, secretary and directors for the courtesy of the course.

Also, our thanks go to John Huyton (Mealors) for sponsorship and assistance on the day and all the other companies that donated prizes.

Members and guests were fortunate to find the course playing so well following prolonged frost. The results were: best gross - T. Adamson 75, best net - G. Davies net 65 and the assistants' trophy - G. Cannings net 68.

A presentation was made to the retiring SISIS managing director Eric Staniforth from the EIGGA board of management. We all wish Eric a long and happy retirement. A presentation was also made to retiring branch chairman Bill Lawson, who received a silver salver from the new chairman Rick Fletcher on behalf of the members.

At the dinner, Vicars Cross assistant Mark Sutton was congratulated by the chairman on winning a free place to the EIGGA conference at Warwick.

Contact numbers for the north-west are: chairman - Rick Fletcher on 051-625 9898, administrator - Terry Adamson on 0978 83 2908 and treasurer - Guy Cannings on 051-625 6436.

Guy Cannings.

Surrey

As many of you will probably know, Clive Osgood is in hospital and our best wishes go to him for a speedy recovery.

Congratulations in their new posts go to David Lenham (Camberley Heath), Billy McMillan (Sunningdale), Kevin

Munt (Royal Dornoch) and Ian McMillan (Hankley Common).

It is with some relief that the Huxley Bowl has finally been concluded. P. Pearse and S. McMillan defeated A. Davey and M. Lower in the two-legged final. This year's first-round fixtures for the Huxley Bowl should have reached you by now and the best of luck goes to all competitors.

Paul Pearse.

The Learning Process...

EIGGA member David McIndoe is something of a Likely Lad residing presently in the haven that is the Killarney Golf and Fishing Club.

Scotsman Dave, with a dapper line of dress for any occasion, has taken to the magnificent locality well and is now busy embarking on many tasks out on the course.

Killarney members and visitors alike have warmed to the affable Scot and his committee was only too willing to contribute towards his visit 'over the seas' to Warwick for the recent EIGGA conference.

Here, David outlines the many plus points of his trip, which will surely prove a very worthwhile bonus for the Killarney club in return for such a modest outlay.

Thursday

Left Cork Airport at 9am on April 3 (only flight available) and was collected by a friend from Heathrow and taken to Sunningdale GC. After lunch in the company of three other course managers, it was back in the old routine - looking at and assessing neighbouring golf courses. The Scots fraternity in London have a great understanding and always appear ready to discuss their problems, theories and ideas. So, there we were, three Scots and one Canadian course manager (over for the conference), walking Effingham GC, Surrey and discussing anything attaining to course management. A good start to my trip!

Friday

Stayed overnight with the course

manager at Leatherhead GC, Surrey. A quick breakfast and by 7.15 I was on my way to Warwick in the company of Bob Moreton, course manager of the famous Berkshire GC. Arriving at 10 am, we were in plenty of time for the first lecture at 11.

Out president Dennis Ayling opened the conference in the presence of 100 delegates, mostly greenkeepers belonging to EIGGA. The first lecture from head greenkeeper David Wells set the pattern for the rest of the weekend - a well thought out and presented paper with enlightening slides showing the many problems in maintaining a busy public golf course. As David sat down to great applause, I hoped that the following speakers would maintain the standard and they did just that. The evening finished, as did Saturday, meeting old friends for a drink in the bar, where talk from every corner was about golf courses and related problems. The old saying 'greenkeepers never take a holiday' has more than a grain of truth!

Saturday

In the morning, we heard about constructing a course from start to finish and how to look after the flora and fauna found there. Next, a session from apprentice greenkeepers was thoroughly enjoyable and the future of our profession looks to be in good hands.

After lunch, came the heavy-weights! J. Arthur, his usual self, burning with enthusiasm for British greenkeeping methods. You almost felt sorry for the Americans! J. McMillan then told us, "the grass is talking to you. All you have to do is listen." Well, we listened to Jack and we learned.

Sunday

Grasses for golf was the theme at 9am, with some extensive research from Dr Shildrick of Bingley. He gave a super paper, detailed and specific. It obviously took many hard hours of research and study to produce.

Then followed an abundance of talent in the forms of M. Jones, course manager at Saffron Walden GC with Parkland Problems; Estate and Golf Course Management by J. Kidd (Gleneagles), who was followed

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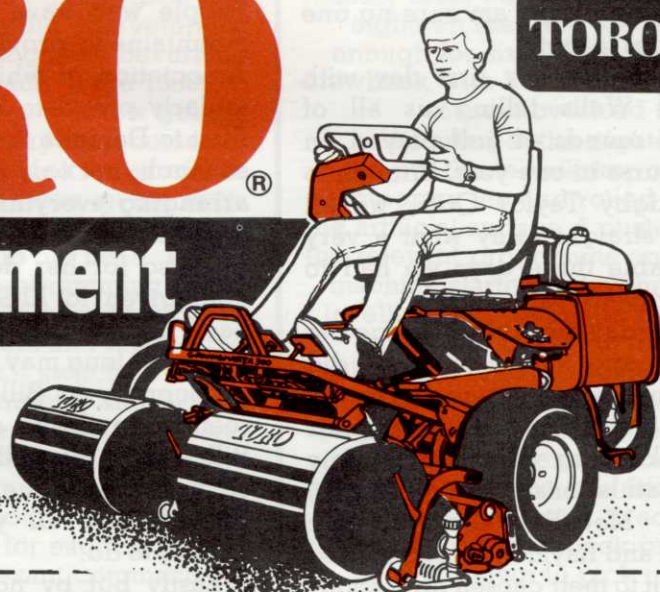
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by a Canadian greenkeeper, G. Witteveen, who showed us some of the mistakes that can and do happen. His paper, entitled Twenty-five Years of Mistakes, was a real masterpiece.

EIGGA chairman Bill Lawson summed up the weekend as "a progressive step in education and better standards of course maintenance."

Monday

Up at 8.30, breakfast and then to Leatherhead GC to inspect the

alterations carried out by S. McMillan. The two new greens and several tees cut through a forest are a first-class operation. By 10.30am, we were on our way back to Heathrow to catch my return flight and a welcome reunion with wife and family.

All in all, a full and informative weekend. My mind refreshed and buzzing with ideas, I returned to my task of ensuring that members and visitors can fully appreciate the joy and challenge of golf at Killarney.

Expenses

Return ticket	
Cork - Heathrow	£137
Petrol	£34
Lunches	£14
Dinners	£8
Total	£193

Travel to Warwick and two overnight stays were covered by friends.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the club for a very enjoyable working weekend.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I would like to congratulate and thank everyone who gave us all such a memorable EIGGA conference in 1986. The standard of such well presented papers was a contributory factor to the obvious success of the whole three days that we have now come to expect of such an event in the EIGGA calander.

The tremendous spirit that prevailed throughout the three days was something I am sure no one will ever forget.

From the very first day with David Wells telling us all of 62000 rounds of golf played on his course in one year, through to the Rigby Taylor Quiz, we all knew straight away what a very enjoyable three days we had to look forward to.

Saturday morning belonged to four young men who really did give us something to be proud of, in that they are all part of our greenkeeping profession, many congratulations to David Lucas, David Merrills, Cameron Mc Millan and Raymond Hunt, indeed a credit to their chosen profession.

After the Saturday afternoon papers, once again full of very interesting topics by our more senior gentlemen, we moved to what I am sure was the best formal dinner in our short history. Our guest speaker Sir Rex Hunt related some of his past experiences on golf courses around the world, much to the delight of everyone present. We all wish Sir Rex and Lady Hunt a very

happy retirement at their home in Sunningdale.

On the Sunday I was somewhat amazed at the numbers in attendance at the first lecture after the previous nights festivities, yet again a very enjoyable day with something for everyone with the respective papers holding a captive audience.

I would like to thank on behalf of all members of EIGGA two people who have really moved mountains to provide us with an Association of which I am particularly proud to be a member. First to Danielle to whom we owe so much, not only for the work in arranging everything for a conference from one year to the next, but also for her dedication and help given to EIGGA over the past four years. Thank you Danielle, long may it continue.

Secondly to Bill Lawson who seemed to thrive as Chairman. Bill we are eternally grateful for all you have done on behalf of EIGGA and all you are continuing to do.

Lastly but by no means least may I thank the Members for their support at the conference. I was particularly pleased to see so many old friends and delighted to meet so many new ones.

I can conclude by adding that our Association can only go from strength to strength with the enthusiasm and dedication that now prevails.

Dennis Ayling
President EIGGA

London Branch

The Branch A.G.M. was held at Aldenham Golf & Country Club in March and although no golf was planned, at the invitation of Mr. David Phillips (owner) a few brave soles ventured out, and, guess what? it rained!

A very interesting discussion took place before the A.G.M., with regard to the present moves to amalgamate the three Greenkeeping Associations under one umbrella, very appropriate in the present climate! The feelings of the branch are that the objectives are correct but everything that EIGGA has achieved in the last four years must be safeguarded.

As a result of the A.G.M. the committee for 1986 will be as follows: Tom Low (Chairman), David Low (Administrator), Tom McDonald, Mike Peters, Derek Mason and Chris Greenwood.

The next meeting will be held at Finchley Golf Club on June 23rd at 4.00p.m.

Thanks must go to Mike Peters for continuing with the Summer League he ran so successfully last year. Please try and arrange to play the matches between the stated dates.

At this years conference held at Warwick it was nice to see other members of the London Branch in attendance. We even had a team in the Rigby Taylor Quiz, thanks to Tony Taylor and Bill Thompson for their support, we did not win, but gave a good account of ourselves. As in previous years the whole weekend was most enjoyable, meeting and making friends and sharing experiences both good and bad.

David Low.

INTO THE FUTURE

Nigel Beckford is very much a greenkeeper of today, but with a vision of 'life' in the next century...

I ARRIVED at work around 6.20am, changed into my overalls, loaded up the Hover-Cart (designed to cut down wear on the golf course) with greens maintenance equipment, slotted in the recharged power pack and climbed in to start work on the eighteenth. It was Friday morning. Busy day today. I set the Hover-Cart down at the back of the eighteenth, unloaded the Robo-Keeper and the Hover-Rake, inserted programmes for the eighteenth green, then switched on the golfer sensors. These are able to detect anyone preparing an approach shot and can identify club, stance, etc.

I left the droids whirring and clicking, digesting all the relevant information. I lifted off the Rota-Cut, checked for a fresh set of cups, walked on to the green and selected the new pin position, placed the Rota-Cut on the surface and pushed the necessary button. Another series of whirrs and clicks followed and then a grinding sound was finally punctuated by a blorp! I removed the old cup and renewed the old hole, put the machine in the cart, set the droids into work mode and made off for the seventeenth, leaving the little work droids to carry out their menial duties.

I changed the pin position, repaired pitch marks and went on to the sixteenth to carry out some spraying, as well as regular maintenance. I set up the Hover-Spray droid with the appropriate fungicide, programmed it for the sixteenth green and all its relevant dimensions. That done, I returned to the eighteenth to pick up the Robo-Keeper and the Hover-Rake.

There they were, waiting patiently at the rear of the green, hovering millimetres above the ground. I loaded up, took them to the seventeenth, pushed in the relevant programme and went off to continue work around the golf course.

I finished the fourteenth, returned to pick up the droids

and set them in motion once again on the sixteenth, loading the Hover-Spray back on. I looked at my watch: 7.45am, another three greens and I'll have a break, I thought.

I had finished changing the hole on the eleventh and was on the way back to pick up the droids from the thirteenth when I heard a familiar voice calling me from behind. It was Dave, the head-keeper. I slowed down to let him catch up.

"I've just seen the secretary, Nigel, and he reminded me that there is a tournament on Sunday, so can you do the necessary work on the tees?"

"Yes, OK, Dave, but I'll have to stay late."

"That's all right, just put it into the computer. Any problems, I'll be over at the clubhouse."

I carried on with my work until I had finished the eleventh. It was 9.30, time for breakfast. I walked into the rest area, switched on the video and watched some old golf veterans.

I recognised Severiano Ballesteros, back in the 1980s. It always amazes me how golfers managed to play the courses of that era. They look so worn out.

My thoughts were on the extra work Dave had given me - an idea came into my head. I went round to the programming room. One wall was covered by banks of computers and monitoring screens. I switched on the necessary computer and picked up one of the Robo-Keeper and Hover-Rake programming discs. I tapped in the layout of the golf course and relevant information for each droid and then the relevant commands in the correct order. The computer did its work and out popped the finished programmes.

I climbed back on to the Hover-Cart and took off to the tenth wondering if my deviousness would pay off. I unloaded the little droids and pushed in the programmes.

While they digested the information, I changed the hole and repaired pitch marks.

I loaded the Rota-Cut on to the

cart and walked over to my little work mates filled with anticipation. Pushing their work mode buttons, I sat back to see if my efforts would pay off. The little droids hovered around carrying out their duties, oblivious to all distractions except approaching golfers.

Would it work? They came to the end of their respective toils and stopped as if to think about their tasks and then, to my satisfaction, they took off to the ninth and carried on once again!

I sped off to catch up and change the holes on the greens in front, leaving the droids to carry out their work.

The course was getting busy now, so I switched the play to temporary tees and hastened back to the yard to change my machine. There, I parked the Hover-Cart and unloaded the equipment into the cleansing room, started up the Hover Auto-Turf, went round to the nursery area, cut enough turf for eighteen tees and loaded up enough for six. That's the only drawback with hover-tools - you mustn't overload them.

I started at the eighteenth again, put the tee marker on the temporary tee and rolled back the artificial surface. I pushed in the relevant programme and the machine started to lay the turf, levelling and rolling as it went.

In no time at all, the tee was finished and ready for play. I put the marker back on the tee and sped off to the next one, gliding along almost silently. I carried on until the last tee was finished and then stood back to admire my work. I hopped back on and went down to pick up the awaiting droids. My new programme had worked well. I put the droids in the cleansing room, shut the door and pushed the cleansing button. I cleaned myself up and disposed of my overalls.

I walked outside feeling much fresher. By now, the sun was really beating down.

Just one last job - I must check that irrigation in the nineteenth!

"Ah, I remember it well...!"

IN conversation with a group of young greenkeepers on a training course the other day, one or two questioned whether greenkeeping was all that different in the immediate post-war years when I started advisory work and which period they clearly equated with the start of life on earth, writes Jim Arthur.

This made me think because, when I looked back, I realised that the greatest changes did not really start until much later. I make due allowance for the tendency of the old to philosophise on the past and to remember what they want to remember, but I have always had a good memory!

It seems hard to accept that the first Auto Certes was produced in January 1950 and the Paladin not until 1961. Up to that time, most greens were mown with hand-pushed Certes or the equivalent, needless to say, *not* every day of the week.

The controversies over triplex mowers, which still keep returning, were then centred on the Overgreen, first produced in 1937 and the last of which was made in 1963. Because the units could not be 'lifted,' the machine had to be turned on the putting surface. The technique, I well remember, was to turn, very slowly and under the momentum of the machine and not under drive, to avoid scalping the ends. This resulted in the greens having to be mown one half in one direction and the other in reverse, leading to dark and light half-greens.

We had the same nonsenses talked then about nap and different putting speeds as we do today, with the alternate wide stripes with a triplex. Incidentally, the same embargo on turning under power on putting surfaces applies as much to modern triplex machines as to the old Overgreen. I fully agree that some greens are so designed - or, like Topsy, just grew - with tightly surrounding mounds (so characteristic of Braid's courses); steep banks; close bunkering or very narrow surrounds, making it impossible to turn off the green, that they do not mow satisfactorily with a triplex.

I am all for the occasional cut with a 'hand' machine, but it is more important to mow every day, including weekends, in peak growth seasons and also to verticut as often as weekly - this is impossible without triplex mowers.

What the controversy is all about, as with so much in greenkeeping, is in the eye and the TV camera lens! The narrower stripes look nice, so they are put on by a dawn cut with 'hand' machines for the Open, but the main cut the previous evening is often with a triplex.

The first triplex mowers came into this country in the very late 1960s and did not take off until the 1970s. I well remember criticising (and being abused by) agents selling triplex mowers on the basis that, since all the greens could be cut with one machine and one operator instead of three, the machine could be paid for by sacking two greenkeepers. As one old Scot enquired, "does yon machine build tees in winter?" Of course, machines do not save men - they save time on a golf course, keeping essential work ahead of play.

Laziness

It always annoys me when pompous members hold forth on the laziness of greenkeeping staff. "Never see anyone working on this course," they say. But if play catches up with, for example, mowing, this doubles the working time with unproductive delays. In any case, the greenkeeper was out working at first light before the aforesaid member had probably emerged from his bed!

Pop-ups came relatively late - the first five courses had them installed in 1965. The early systems were very inefficient, using the only equipment then available. Indeed, almost every system installed in the first decade has been substantially upgraded and improved to get better coverage and, therefore, making it possible to use less water. All too often, the early systems dumped water in the centre of the greens and left missed areas. Equally all too

often, by a thought process the logic of which eludes me, pop-ups were then set for longer periods in a predictably futile attempt to catch the missed areas, thus aggravating the effects of uneven application and so thatch started.

In fact, thatch was a very rare problem forty years ago. We were emerging from war-time austerity in every sense. No fertilisers could be used in the war and everywhere reverted to more natural swards. Few courses had irrigation and many of those with pre-war installations had suffered damage to them from war-time ploughing up of some fairways. There were certainly problems of neglect, which are always much easier to correct than those of misguided kindness and over-feeding.

The pressures on turf were, literally, far less, with fewer people playing, especially in winter. Membership figures were not all that much lower, but there were many more non-playing members and only a handful of fanatics played winter golf, except on links courses and in Scotland generally. This meant that winter work could proceed with minimum notice, let alone objections by members. We used to say, thirty years ago, that a good greenkeeper could lift and relay a green and have it back in playing condition without more than a handful of members knowing the work had been done.

Prior to more efficient machines, enabling more intensive routine aeration to be carried out, it was a common pre-war practice to lift one green a year, especially on sandy courses, fork over the base and relay. Today, we dare not, and would not, get away with it, so we Vertidrain instead!

I suppose the big changes in techniques came with the increasing popularity of golf, engendered by television coverage, and the associated golf boom of 20 years and more ago. This was accentuated by many new courses being built on basically 'unsuitable' land, as sandy heaths and links were naturally in short supply near the main urban areas.

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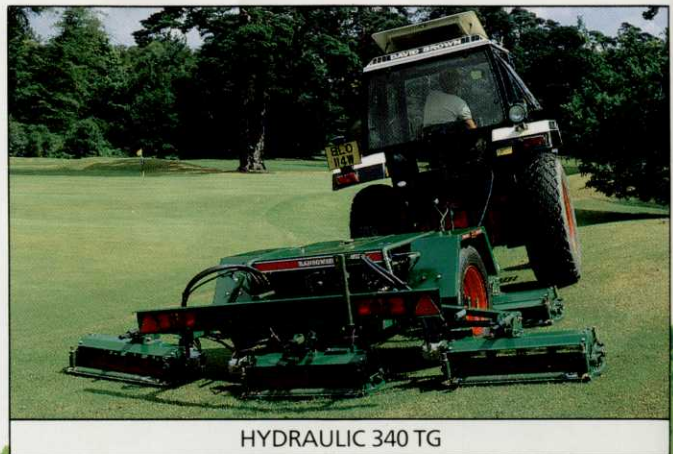
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MOTOR 180



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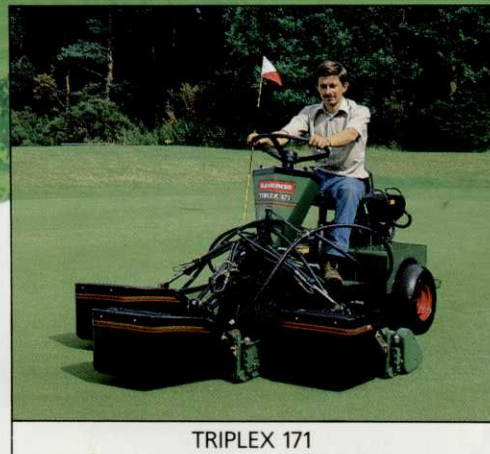
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The effects of extra play, and more winter play especially, had to be counteracted by more aeration. There is still debate about how to aerate greens, though I note with quiet satisfaction that some of the more extreme views have since been modified. No-one denies the need for more aeration. Yet, thirty and more years ago, many greenkeepers were aerating greens once a year only and fairway aeration was not carried out, if at all, more than once a year, despite the fact that SISIS brought out its first (horse-drawn) fairway spiker in 1936!

Mechanisation

Changes in mechanisation of greenkeeping equipment have taken place in two phases - first, putting engines on hand machines in the 'fifties and then putting man on as well in the late 'sixties. The next phase was to treat tractors as tractors and not as horses with direct-mounted machines - aerators as well as mowers for greens and fairways alike.

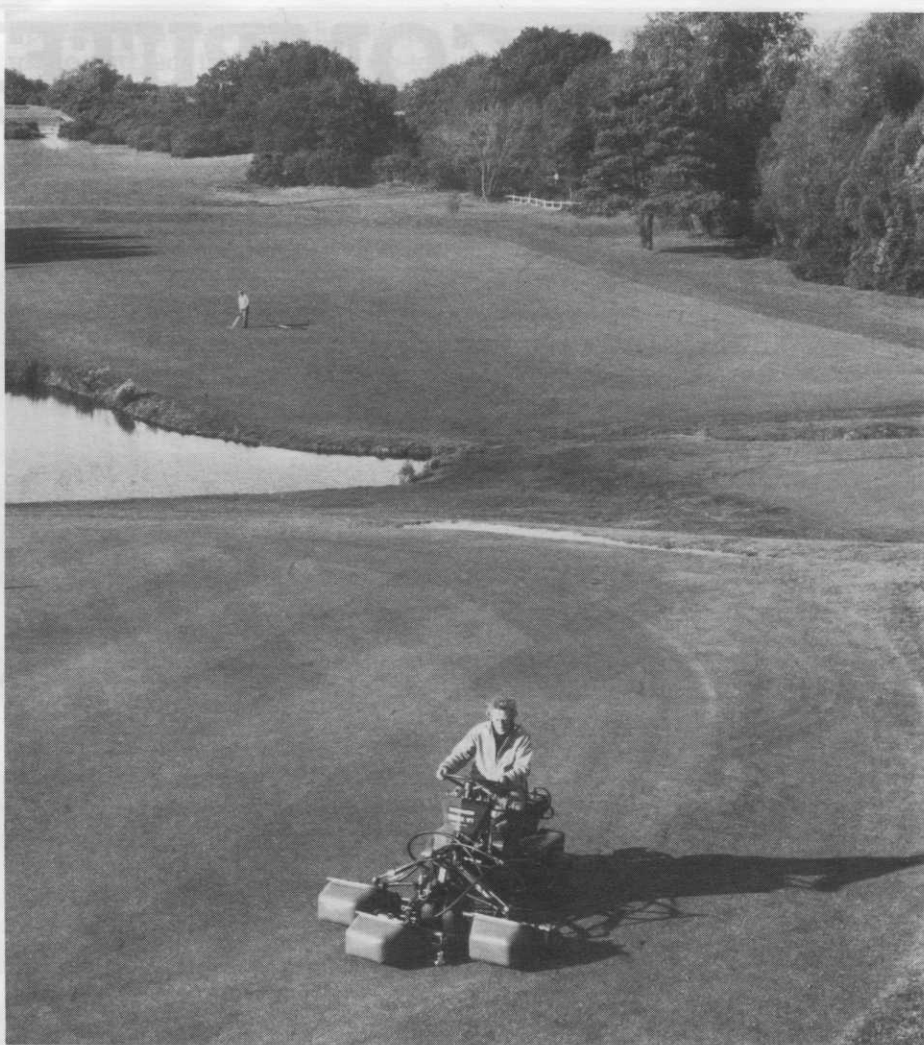
Progressing from using existing rear wheel drive agricultural tractors, more and more the emphasis is changing to four-wheel drive, which has the advantage of better power/weight ratios, not to mention adhesion and traction. There are some very interesting developments in this connection which, doubtless, will be unveiled at Windsor, if not before.

Certainly, greenkeeping forty years ago was much less complicated for various reasons. One was that lower standards were accepted. We rarely discussed anything in detail except green-management, with a few lines on tees and nothing on fairways, unless some disaster loomed.

Second, there were neither the machines nor money to treat much more than greens. In a way, this was a help, as the lack of money prevented disastrous mistakes being made, which would have cost even more to correct! Sadly, mistakes are made on an heroic scale today and cost astronomical amounts to correct.

Third, pressures with play were far less.

What is relevant, however, is that the *principles* of greenkeeping, relating as they do to the 'cultivation' of a narrow range of grass species adapted to low-



Regular mowing - the typical modern-day scene.

fertility soil conditions, the direct opposite of agricultural grassland husbandry, have not changed.

The battle against annual meadow grass was as important in the 1940s as it is today, but we had more chance of winning then as we did not have to first correct mistaken overfeeding (except to try to counteract the 'harmful' legacies of war-time crop production on many of our courses) and were less subject to the courtship of fertiliser firms, which were then too busy supplying farming to have time to worry about a miniscule market in golf.

Now, of course, the wheel has turned - maximum agricultural production (no matter at what marginal cost) has ceased to be economic and disappointed suitors are turning their amorous attentions elsewhere.

What is certain is that there is nothing new in this world. Even in the early 1930s, agricultural experts were warning that the management of fine turf and agricultural grassland was diametrically opposed in end-

result and, therefore, method.

All I can emphasise to today's young greenkeepers is that the British soils and climatic conditions have not altered; that the game of golf is played at its best on fine wiry turf and that the needs of those grasses have not altered either. We must modify and intensify treatments, especially the physical ones, but if we try to paint greens green with fertilisers, we shall be in as much trouble as were earlier generations of greenkeepers in the 'thirties, 'fifties and 'seventies!

Hopefully, better greenkeeper training means that the next generation of head-men will be even better equipped to think for themselves and not be swayed by high-pressure salesmanship, masquerading as the results of research.

Every club should insist that its young staff become technically qualified, encourage and liaise with the new greenkeeping centres and pay *qualified* staff more while treating them as professionals.

THE COMPUTER AGE



David Jones (on screen above) makes full use of his Epson computer...

WITH the advancement of head greenkeepers to golf course managers, it has become apparent that the latter is not just a fancy job description, says David Jones, who holds that title at the St Pierre Hotel Golf and Country Club, Chepstow, Gwent.

Today's golf course managers are expected, and should expect, to actively manage their golf courses. After all, the term 'manager' means someone who controls a business, or a person who makes decisions.

A golf course manager has to control the golf course and make the necessary decisions, so that the course receives the appropriate treatment at the right time and by properly trained personnel. He also has to keep records of treatments given and be able to prepare and present a budget to the greens chairman or course director.

It is in the keeping of records that course managers can benefit from a personal computer.

Computers are now widely used in many fields and I forecast the dawn of the computer age for golf course managers - a frighten-

ing thought some might say.

Others might ask, "what can a computer do for me?" Well, let's look at one or two of its uses.

One thing you must be sure of from the beginning is that you can only get out of a computer as much as you put in. A computer comes into its own for record-keeping, record-retrieval, working out averages and giving you a paper copy of the information.

A basic system would comprise a keyboard to 'type' in the information, a disk drive to run the programme, which will receive the input, a floppy disk to store the information on for future use, a screen to display the information and, finally, a printer to print out a hard copy of that information.

There is a variety of what are termed 'off the shelf' programmes that could be utilised for

your new 'record keeper.'

A word processor would allow you to keep daily records of work completed on the course; it could be used for writing letters ordering materials; to produce a work schedule for the coming week's jobs or to write an article, as I am doing, correcting my typing errors before they hit the paper.

One of the most useful programmes is termed a 'data base.' As the name implies, it is a base for the storage of data. There are many data-base programmes available - the best are the more flexible type. By flexible, I mean those that you can design to do a specific task of data recording and retrieval to suit your requirements.

The data base is a type of flexible card index system, which can be used for keeping records on staff, holding information such as the date of starting employment, certificates of turf culture, capabilities with types of machinery and overtime details, etc.

Each piece of machinery could have an 'index card' within the data base, giving its age, serial number, purchase price, date of renewal and, finally, renewal cost. You might want to include the machine's service record, when the last service took place, parts fitted, cost of parts, time spent in servicing - all of this would help evaluate when machinery is becoming too expensive to maintain and would be better traded in for replacement.

To take record-keeping further, it might be interesting to categorise the course maintenance. How much does it cost in sand and man hours to look after all the bunkers? Could some savings be made in this area? Answers to this type of question can be made easier with the help of a computer's memory.

A finance programme will be extremely valuable in budget preparation and I find a purchase ledger file useful for maintaining a monthly running cost of expenditure on my course. All materials are set out as nominal accounts within the file - i.e. petrol, sand, seed, etc. The running totals are

up-dated as new purchases are made and, so, they give an up-to-date control figure. Two months before the end of the budget year, it is possible to determine if there is room for manoeuvre for a sought-after item of equipment.

A stock-control file on disk will also keep track of such items as irrigation and machinery spares. If these are categorised by number, the computer finds the numbers quickly and soon tells you whether you have the 2in PVC fitting needed to repair that burst pipe on the 4th fairway. But if you used that same fitting three months ago and forgot to input the information, the computer will be of little help.

As far as specialist programmes for golf courses are concerned I can't recall having seen any on the UK market.* Perhaps the computer programmers are waiting for us to let them know what we want from a computer.

Programmes such as grass and disease identification are possibilities and, some time in the not-too-distant future, we might be able to input specific parameters, such as the date,

type of course, present weather conditions, course agronomist, fixtures, staff levels and find that the computer will give us a list of work we should be doing that day.

Whether a computer is for you or not depends largely on your present paperwork load. Initially, you will spend a lot of time putting in your information but, once you have what you want on record, the extraction of that information should be very simple.

With the Epsom Grand Prix of Europe Matchplay Championship at St Pierre this month, my personal computer has been invaluable in helping to plan the course preparation.

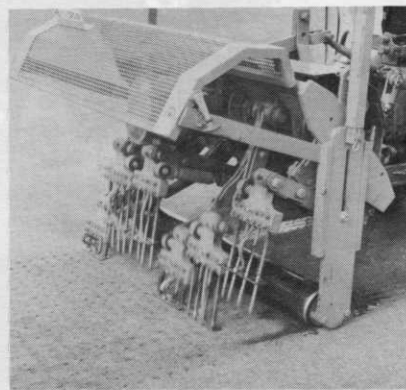
Having decided that you are going to try a computer, the next decision is which one?

**The February 1986 edition of the American magazine Golf Course Management carried a feature on educational software for turf management. As the saying goes, what happens in the States... Ed.*

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Apprentice Corner

Red Thread Disease (*Laetisaria fuciformis*)

This is a disfiguring, rather than a killing, disease. It attacks chiefly Festuca and Agrostis species in early to mid summer and again in autumn. It is most prevalent in wet seasons, giving a paradoxically droughted appearance despite heavy rain.

The characteristic pink or red outgrowths can be so prolific in muggy weather as to

give the entire affected area of fine turf a pink tinge.

It is rarely worth using fungicides to 'control' this disease - especially as a light, nitrogenous dressing will soon correct it. Beware of late nitrogen applications, of course, as red thread may be replaced by Fusarium patch disease.



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Backed by over 20 years practical experience, Turf Irrigation Services offer a wealth of professional knowledge few other companies can match.

Tees and greens, fairway watering or perhaps a complete overhaul or extension of your present irrigation system - a word with Turf Irrigation Services, the people who design and install to the highest standards, will ensure that your final choice is the right one.

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TORO
MAIN DEALER

FIVE MILES OF NON-STOP WATERLESS WEEDKILLING



...ON TAP!

With some weed control jobs, distance can be a limiting factor. No more. With the controlled droplet application method you can go a long, long way. Especially with Bullseye cda or Snapper cda.

Both products will kill existing weeds and grass, and prevent re-invasion for a whole season. Bullseye is best used as a pre-emergent residual weedkiller; Snapper, after the weeds have developed.

Getting started takes less than two minutes – there are no chemicals to measure, no dilution of concentrates. Simply connect up to your cda sprayer and you're on the road.

Low volume cda application produces oil-based droplets of a size which minimise drift and reduce evaporation and waste. They penetrate weeds faster than water-based cda products, and are rainfast.

Both products come in special backpacks which are comfortable to wear, and as they weigh in at only 13lb produce the minimum of fatigue. An operator can easily treat five miles of roadside weeds in less than two hours *and* without returning to base.

Bullseye cda.
Snapper cda.



NO STOPPING



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

People, Places, Products



John Edmunds, John Van der Vord and Michael Bush of Victa (UK).

The appointment of two new directors at Victa (UK) has been announced by John Edmunds, the company's managing director. Michael Bush has been promoted to marketing director with responsibility for market planning, new product development and promotion. He joined Victa as marketing manager from Wilkinson Sword four years ago. John Van der Vord, who has now been appointed sales director, was formerly a national accounts sales manager with the Wilkinson Sword Group.

Vitax has launched a new range of grass seed mixtures - three without ryegrass.

The first is a blend of 80 per

cent chewings fescue and 20 per cent browntop; the second, a mix of creeping red and chewings fescues and browntop, is for tennis courts and cricket squares; the third is an economy mixture of creeping red fescue and browntop for fairways and lawns, with *Poa pratensis* added to improve its hard-wearing qualities.

The ryegrass mixes are a blend of two leading sports-type perennials (50 per cent) with creeping red fescue, browntop and *Poa pratensis*; a blend of three purpose-bred perennials and a genuine economy mix for roadside verges and other amenity areas, which contains perennial ryegrasses and creeping red fescue.

Further details from Vitax, Liverpool Road North, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancashire L40 0SB.

Grass maintenance in Taiwan is hampered by a warm and humid climate, which encourages particularly vigorous rates of growth.

The Chiang Kai-Shek International Airport in Taipei has overcome the problem by utilising a fleet of Bomford flail mowers, consisting of six Bandits, three mid-mounted models not currently available in the UK and one 7.2m reach B728.

The airport authority intends to purchase a further 12 Bomford mowers over the next five years. Contact Clive Fowkes, Home Sales Manager, Bomford and Evershed, Salford Priors, Evesham, Worcs WR11 5SW. Tel: 0789 773383.

A 'brace' of Bromfords lined up outside the Chiang Kai-Shek Airport in Taiwan.



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PROBABLY THE BEST LIQUID SEAWEED PRODUCT IN THE WORLD



A high alginate growth stimulator retaining all the natural benefits of seaweed.

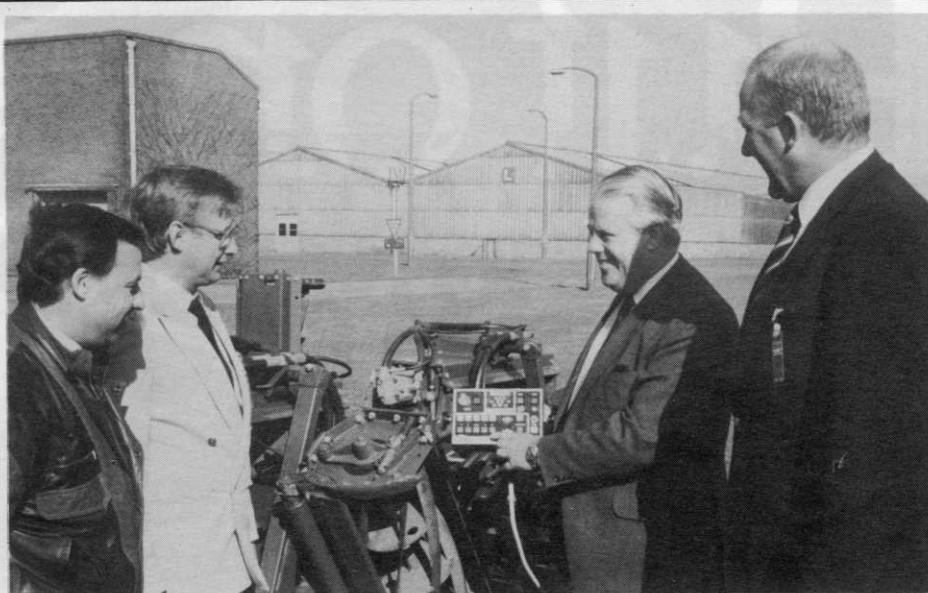
Pure Seaweed Concentrate

Write for details · Farrant Chemicals Ltd
PO Box 26, Guildford, Surrey.
PH: 0483 574562

Appointed two years ago, Ransomes distributor in Sweden, Park and Grasvards of Stockholm, has made what UK general sales manager John Wilson described as excellent headway. Eight dealer personnel, accompanied by Kurt Revestam, owner of Park and Grasvards, visited the parent company at Ipswich recently. Park and Grasvards had placed orders worth £600,000 with Ransomes by the early part of 1986.

The *Grandstand Product Catalogue* from Maxwell Hart has become something of an early-season highlight! This year's full-colour, 40-page publication offers a good read, as well as detailing the latest developments in chemical treatments, grass seeds, fertilisers, turf dressings, golf, cricket and bowls equipment, line markers, litter bins, 'extras' such as pacers to slow traffic and armbands to identify club officials, and so much more.

There's a colour spread on Hart's new northern sales and distribution centre at Warrington, Cheshire and the company's



John Wilson (second right), Ransomes general sales manager, escorted the Swedish party around the company's Nacton Works.

'here to serve' claim is supported by a 24-hour answering service. Copies of the catalogue can be obtained from Maxwell Hart, Winnersh, Wokingham RG11 5HF. Tel: 0734 785655.

combined to provide a comprehensive range of protectors covering most popular turf sizes. Further information from Hugh Hartley of Axleline Eastern on 0205 79531, or Hugh Williams of Moplant on 0202 677504.

Punctures can be reduced by a new range of tyre protectors from Axleline Eastern of Boston and Moplant of Poole. Turf tyres, necessarily thin to avoid damage to grass, can now have these thick rubber protectors placed inside the tread and held in place by the tube, thus providing an extra strong layer to absorb thorns, etc, helping greatly to reduce punctures.

Capital expenditure by Moplant, well-known for protectors in the industrial field, and the experience of Axleline, with its large range of turf tyres, has



Fitting one of the new range of tyre protectors.



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The Liquid Organic Fertiliser

Make it part of your management programme — from re-seeding to maintenance

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For detailed information, contact your distributor or

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has been used on a wide variety of sites including

- FOOTBALL GROUNDS — Wembley, Aston Villa, Arsenal, Coventry
- GOLF COURSES — Birkdale, Lytham St. Annes, St. Andrews, Woburn
- RACECOURSES — Ascot, Ayr, Chester, Uttoxeter
- LAND RECLAMATION — Work in progress on NCB sites
- ALSO on cricket pitches, bowling greens, tennis courts — in fact, wherever grass is sown, grown and mown



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 H.M. The Queen
Manufacturers of Horticultural Products
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FISONS Horticulture

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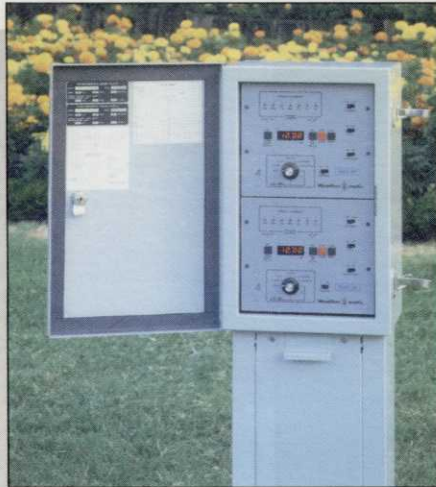
GREENMASTER is a Trade Mark
of Fisons plc
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Five simple ways to take control.

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

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.

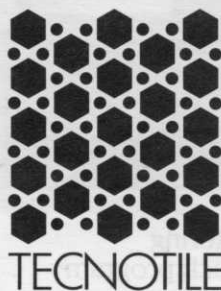
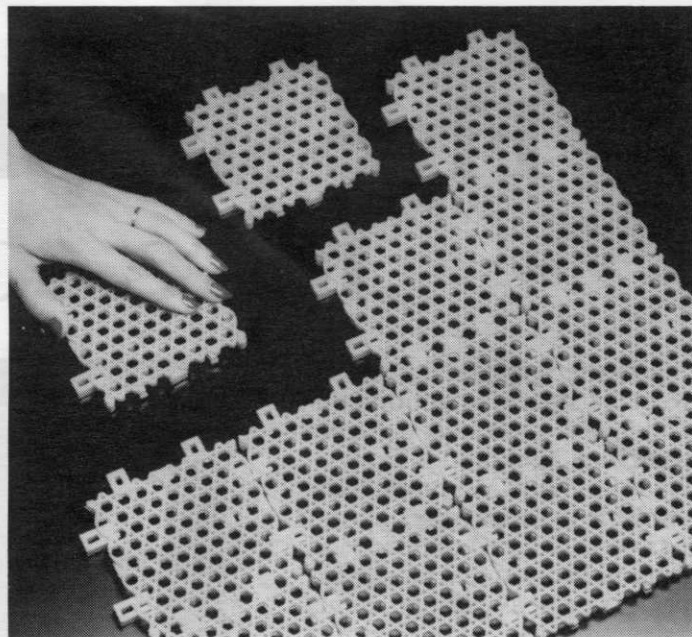
Full details are available from the address below.

**Golf course
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Cameron

Harwood Industrial Estate, Littlehampton
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NO DIVOT FILLING
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ALL YEAR PLAYING
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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

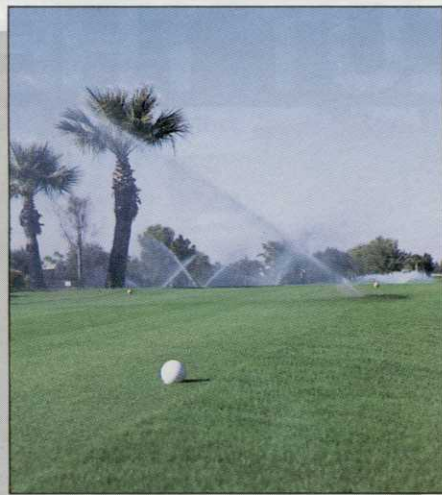
Sprinkler Division/Telsco Industries
P.O. Box 18205 • Dallas, Texas 75218
214/278-6131

Palm Desert Greens Country Club is positive proof.

Maintaining one of the heaviest played executive golf courses in Southern California is a challenging job. An average of 290 rounds of golf a day puts tough demands on the turf, and on the irrigation system. That's why golf course superintendent Robert Stuczynski recently installed Weather-matic rotary pop-up sprinklers to upgrade the system at the Palm Desert Greens Country Club.

Stuczynski was won away from a brand he's used for more than a decade by Weather-matic's high quality design and features. The exclusive adjustable armspring allows fine-tuning while the sprinkler is on or off, and *stays* adjusted once set — a must for handling Palm Desert's exacting schedule of watering or fertilizing.

Weather-matic impact drive, rotary pop-up sprinkler heads are available in rugged cast



aluminum alloy and high impact plastic housings for your long-range or medium-range needs — from golf courses, parks and athletic fields to commercial use.

Designed for years of dependable service, they offer many outstanding features. Like the backsplash control arm on K-50/80 and PK-50/80. And the optional check valve, available on PK models, to prevent backflow in low areas and damaging line surge. Plus only Weather-matic can help reduce your inventory with interchangeable parts for plastic and metal housings.

When you team up our rotary pop-up sprinklers, controllers and valves, you have a combination that can't be beat. Just ask Stuczynski. He's now finalizing a plan to changeover the entire Palm Desert system to Weather-matic. Because Weather-matic works. Write or call for all the details.

You can't beat the system.



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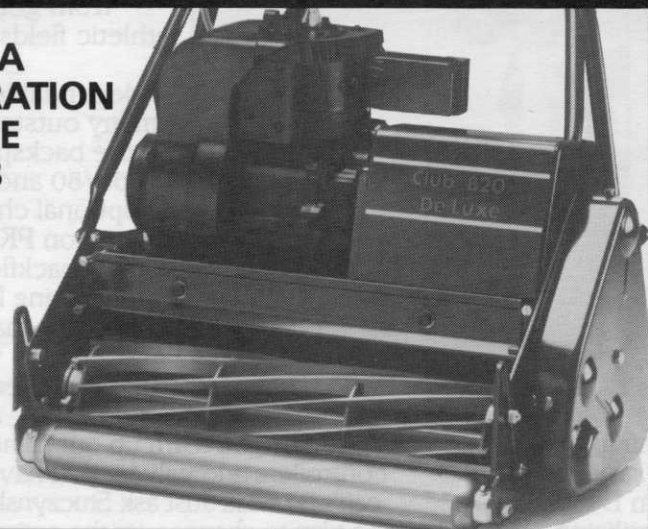
Weather
LAWN AND TURF



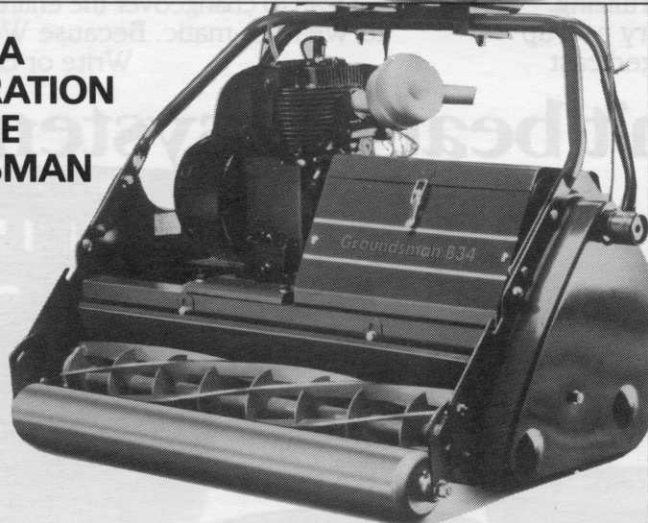
matic
IRRIGATION

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

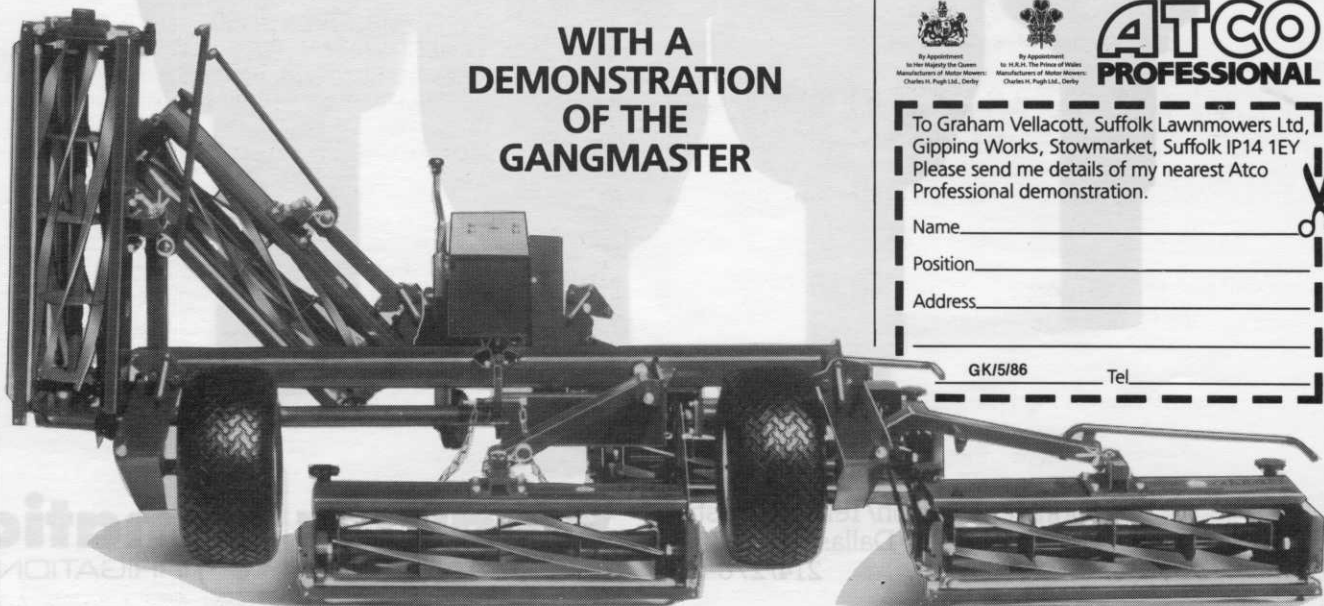
WITH A
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Whatever job it's designed for – fine mowing or rough cutting – a professional machine has to be more than supremely efficient.

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
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Please send me details of my nearest Atco
Professional demonstration.

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Position _____

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GK/5/86 Tel _____



New Hydraulic Reelmowers Extend The Cut Behind Compact Tractors

Huxleys have added two hydraulically-powered reel-mowers to its line-up of equipment for use with compact tractors. The TR84 and TR138 join the TR66 and TR108. Huxleys also manufactures a mid/rear-mounted unit, known as the TR84M, for compact tractors.

The major difference between

Huxleys' existing rear-mounted mowers and the TR84 and TR138 models is the cutting reel width. Both new machines have 762mm (30in) wide units, which is 152mm (6in) wider than those used on the TR66 and TR108 machines. In common with their stablemates, all reels are hydraulically-driven and pivot-mounted.

Overall mowing width of the TR84, which has three cutting reels, is 2.13m (84in). The five reels on the TR138 give a maximum cut of 3.5m (11ft 6in) wide.

The TR84 and TR138 rear-mounted reel-mowers are priced at £3,600 and £5,900 respectively, excluding VAT.

Full details from Huxleys Grass Machinery, The Dean, New Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9BL. Tel: 092673 3222.



Two new lines from Huxley - the TR84 and the TR138.

BIRCHWOOD GOLF CLUB

invites applications for the post of

WORKING HEAD GREENKEEPER

Enthusiasm and Drive and Man Management as important as Professional Qualifications.

If you feel you can cope with this exciting opportunity write immediately to:

Mr. Alec Jackson, Secretary/Manager,
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NEW SOILIFE TESTS PROVE THAT DRAINAGE PROBLEMS ON ALL PLAYING FIELDS CAUSED BY CLAY SOIL OR COMPACTION CAN BE OVERCOME.

SOILIFE IMPROVES SOIL STRUCTURE TO ALLOW DEEP WATER PENETRATION THROUGH COMPACTED SUB-SOIL AND HEAVY CLAY AND RELEASES TRACE ELEMENTS.

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Please send me full details about SOILIFE from:
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Guildford, Surrey.

Name

Address

Contractor Range With New Undercarriage Transporter

Flymo has introduced a two-wheeled undercarriage transporter designed primarily for Contractor mowers.



Top: the GT4-S. Above: Flymo's GT2.

There are three petrol-powered models in the Contractor range of air-cushion mowers and the new undercarriage fits them all. The range comprises the GT4-S, CL4 and GT2, offering a choice of 47cm (19in), 52cm (21in) and 50.5cm (20in) cutting widths respectively.

The new undercarriage is also available for all Flymo petrol air cushion mowers of over 15in cutting width. Full details from Flymo, Hurworth Road, Aycliffe Industrial Estate, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham.

For over 50 years, the Pierce Corporation has been a leader in the design and development of systems for agricultural irrigation. Pierce now offers a complete line of epoxy-coated steel fittings, specially designed for use in golf course irrigation as standard items, ranging from 2in to 12in IPS sizes. Metric sizes are available.

Unique to the company is its compression gasket, which helps prevent leaks from PVC deflection during installation. Hydraulic design also ensures efficiency in operation. All fittings are built with a 3 to 1 margin of strength to withstand pressure surges. The preparation and application of specially developed epoxy resins provides a finish tightly bonded to the steel.

For further information, contact Cliff Fithian, Pierce Corporation, PO Box 528, Eugene, Oregon 97440.

Whack It Away!

Waste Whacker has added an air-powered baler to its existing range of waste handling equipment. The baler can be connected into an existing air supply, or the company will supply the baler with a silent running compressor, which can be used for other tasks, such as pressure washing, spray painting, stapling and tyre inflation.

The charge box of 12.85 cubic feet, together with its large loading aperture of 23in wide x 21in high, means that bulky material can be fed into the baler without prior crushing or folding. A push button starts the compaction cycle and the finished bale size measures 22in wide x 21in deep x 24in high.

By reducing the volume of waste material, which can contain up to 85 per cent by volume of air, considerable savings on storage space, transport and disposal costs can be achieved.

Waste Whacker also produces a manually operated version and prices start at £560.

For further details, contact Waste Whacker, Holbrook, Ipswich, Suffolk IP9 2PT. Tel: 0473 328272.

Small ads can provide a big return for little outlay.

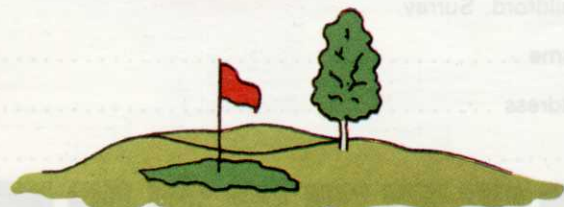
Phone 0255 507526 for full details of how Greenkeeper can help you!

The Berkshire's may be really special...

...but if you need a new irrigation system, or your old one just improved to the highest standards contact...

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regional **TORO** distributor



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Telex: 995215 GOLF LG

The proven experience in the field

New secretary for the British Turf Irrigation Association

The British Turf Irrigation Association, which was founded in 1978, has recently appointed as its Secretary Mr. John Shildrick. Mr. Shildrick, currently Assistant Director of the Sports Turf Research Institute and Secretary of the National Turfgrass Council, will be serving the BTIA in a part-time capacity.

Mr. Bill Hawthorn, the current BTIA Chairman, said, "We have for some time wanted to have an independent Secretary to whom a dissatisfied customer or anyone else with a serious problem could write in full confidence that the matter would be sorted out quickly and fairly. We intend to strengthen and improve our minimum standards, both for golf courses and before long for other irrigation work, and an essential basis will be a Secretary with no ties to any single company but with the interests of all at heart, in maintaining the good name of the Association."

Further information on the British Turf Irrigation Association can be obtained from: The Secretary, BTIA, 3 Ferrands Park Way, Harden, Bingley, West Yorkshire, BD16 1HZ.

Courses Measured and Mapped

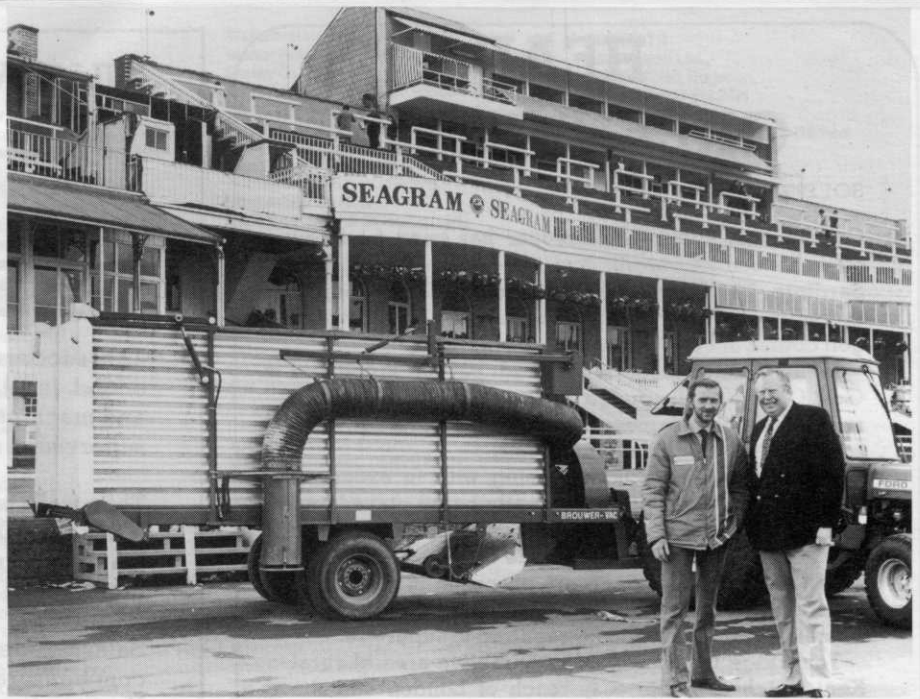
Based on experience gained first hand, during the first year of running his own golf irrigation consultancy, Phillip York has now expanded the services his business provides by adding a golf course measuring and mapping facility.

"I have been surprised at the lack of detailed information available at some clubs" he says. "An accurately measured and detailed course map is essential when clubs are considering expensive innovations like the installation of an irrigation system. Without it, work will be carried out on a hit-and-miss basis with final costs being higher than originally envisaged."

Phillip York's new service offers clubs, contractors, architects and agronomists professionally certified course measurement, the complete mapping of courses, pre-development surveys and staking-out.

"Charges need be no more than one pays for a good set of clubs" says Phillip York.

Measurement certificates are issued to clubs and meet the criteria laid down by the Council of National Golf Unions.



"When Chris Watmore & John Nicholls of Turfand Professional Equipment Ltd. turned-up with their Brouwer Vac at Aintree, they were taken for suckers, but they certainly cleaned-up at the National!!!"

It was a leap in the right direction recently when Wimpey Waste called in the services of Turfand Professional Equipment Ltd with the Brouwer Vac and, needless-to-say, it ran first in the 'sweepstakes'!

With the Grand National over for another year the Ground Staff were faced with 60 tons of litter and debris to clean-up but in true Brouwer fashion the Vac came to the rescue.

This unique machine, with a loading capacity of 335 cu ft, was launched onto the UK market towards the latter part of '85. Specially designed to collect fallen leaves, grass cuttings, twigs, paper, food containers etc, it is now making a 'clean-sweep' of all the jobs it encounters. Greenkeepers find it invaluable for disposing of thatch left by verticutting and it's also a huge success with Turf Producers — a large capacity machine, capable of removing damaged wet grass clippings.

Fitted behind a 35-45 HP tractor, it is very manoeverable and operates quickly and efficiently.

Just like 'West Tip' — no hurdle proved too big for the Brouwer Vac at this year's Grand National.



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AT KHT WE HAVE ADDED A NEW AND SIGNIFICANT DIMENSION TO THIS AGE OLD EQUATION, NAMELY YOUR HANDWRITING STUDY. IT IS CALLED GRAPHOLOGY

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FULL MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
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HEAD GREENKEEPER

SO1 £9975-£10638

Our existing Head Greenkeeper has been made an offer he cannot refuse, and is taking up a post in Sardinia. The Recreation & Amenities Department is therefore seeking to fill the vacancy for its municipal golf course at Poult Wood, Tonbridge.

Poult Wood course is a 5,569 yd. par 68, Woodland Golf Course, constructed in the early 1970's with a modern clubhouse comprising bar, restaurant, four squash courts and changing rooms.

Use of the course is increasing with in excess of 50,000 rounds per annum currently being played and we require a person with the necessary experience and qualifications to maintain the current high standards. Major improvements are proposed in relation to course drainage and automatic tee irrigation which the successful applicant will be required to supervise.

Tonbridge is situated in an attractive area of rural Kent which is within easy reach of London and the coast. Excellent conditions of service are offered including Relocation Assistance up to £3,500 + VAT.

Application forms are available from the Personnel Section, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Council Offices, West Malling, Kent ME19 6LZ. CLEARLY MARKING ENVELOPE "APPLICATION: APPT/935" or by telephoning WEST MALLING 844522 Ext. 259. Closing Date 21 May 1986.

**Tonbridge and Malling
Borough Council**

MILLTOWN GOLF CLUB, DUBLIN

REQUIRE A

HEAD GREENKEEPER

The successful applicant will be fully experienced in all aspects of modern greenkeeping and machinery maintenance. Experience of staff supervision desirable.

This well established Course is situated four miles from Dublin City centre. It is undergoing a major improvement programme under the guidance of a Course Consultant.

Salary is negotiable, but will be attractive and commensurate with this important position. Housing is not available.

Written applications with full details of age, experience and qualifications etc. to:

**The Secretary/Manager
Milltown Golf Club
Dublin 14.**

LYME REGIS GOLF CLUB

invite applications for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

This old-established Club seeks a person of proven ability and experience in all aspects of course management. Applicants should have a practical working knowledge of the use and maintenance of modern greenkeeping machinery together with the ability to direct and train staff.

Preference will be given to persons who are members of a recognised greenkeeping association. This 6,200 yards course is mixed heathland and parkland situated close to Lyme Regis and its excellent School.

Salary by negotiation. No accommodation.

Please write stating age, qualifications, etc., and salary expectations to:

**The Captain, Lyme Regis Golf Club,
Timber Hill, Lyme Regis, Dorset. DT7 3HQ**

SOUTHERNDOWN GOLF CLUB

invite applications for the post of

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

From persons of proven ability and experience in all aspects of Course Maintenance and knowledge of machinery maintenance with ability to direct and motivate staff.

Preference given to persons holding National Diploma in Turf Culture or relevant City & Guilds Certificate.

No accommodation available — Salary negotiable
Applications in writing to:

**The Secretary,
Southerndown Golf Club
Ewenny, Nr Bridgend,
Mid Glamorgan. CF35 5BT**

Buyers' Guide

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5 Church Street,
Tetbury, Glos. GL8 8JG
Tel: 0666 52711 or 53919 Telex: 43144

BRITISH ASSOCIATION GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS

J. Hamilton Stutt – Hamilton Stutt & Co.,
12 Bingham Avenue, Poole,
Dorset BH14 8NE
Tel: 0202 708406

Donald Harradine,
CH 6987, Caslano, Switzerland.
Tel: 091 711561

Fred Hawtree,
Martin Hawtree – Hawtree & Son,
5 Oxford Street, Woodstock,
Oxford OX7 1TQ
Tel: 0993 811976

**Donald Steel – Cotton, Pennink,
Steel & Partners**
5 Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HR
Tel: 01-630 5252

Tom McAuley,
38 Moira Drive, Bangor, Co. Down,
N. Ireland BT20 4RW
Tel: 0247 465953

Peter Harradine,
P.O. Box 1165, SHARJAH,
United Arab Emirates.
Tel: 009716 356446

**Provisional
Alistair Rae,**
26 Tannoch Road, Uplawmoor Road,
Glasgow G78 4AD
Tel: 050 585 371

**Cameron Sinclair – Cotton, Pennink,
Steel & Partners**
5 Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HR
Tel: 01-630 5252

Simon Gidman – Hawtree & Son,
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Oxford OX7 1TQ
Tel: 0993 811976

**Overseas (Full)
Eddie Hackett,**
28 Ailesbury Drive, Dublin 4, Eire
Tel: Dublin 691592

Joan Dudok Van Heel,
Benkenlaan 4, 1640, St Genesius,
Rode, Nr Brussels, Belgium
Tel: 358 5518

Pier Mancinelli,
21 Via Achille Papa 00195
Rome, Italy
Tel: 06 36036 35

Jan Sederholm, S 252 34 Helsingborg,
K. Kristoffersg 3A Sweden
Tel: 042 371 84

**Overseas (Provisional)
Kurt Roßknecht,**
Dennewoos 5a, 8990 Lindau-Bad,
Schachen, Germany
Tel: 08382 230 05

R. Berthet,
57-59 Rue Lhomond, 75005,
Paris, France
Tel: (1) 336 77 50

**Senior Member
Fraser Middleton**
15 Kilmaron Crescent, Cupar,
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Essex CM15 9SR
Tel: 0277 73720

Land Unit Construction Ltd.,
Folly Farm, Hanslope, Milton Keynes,
Bucks. MK19 7BX
Tel: 0908 510414

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Dorset BH12 6DR
Tel: 0202 822372

Southern Golf & Landscapes Ltd.,
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Telex: 35302 W. Naylor or contact
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Contact: Michael Warne
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Contact: Philip Adams
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