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BULLETIN NR. 50



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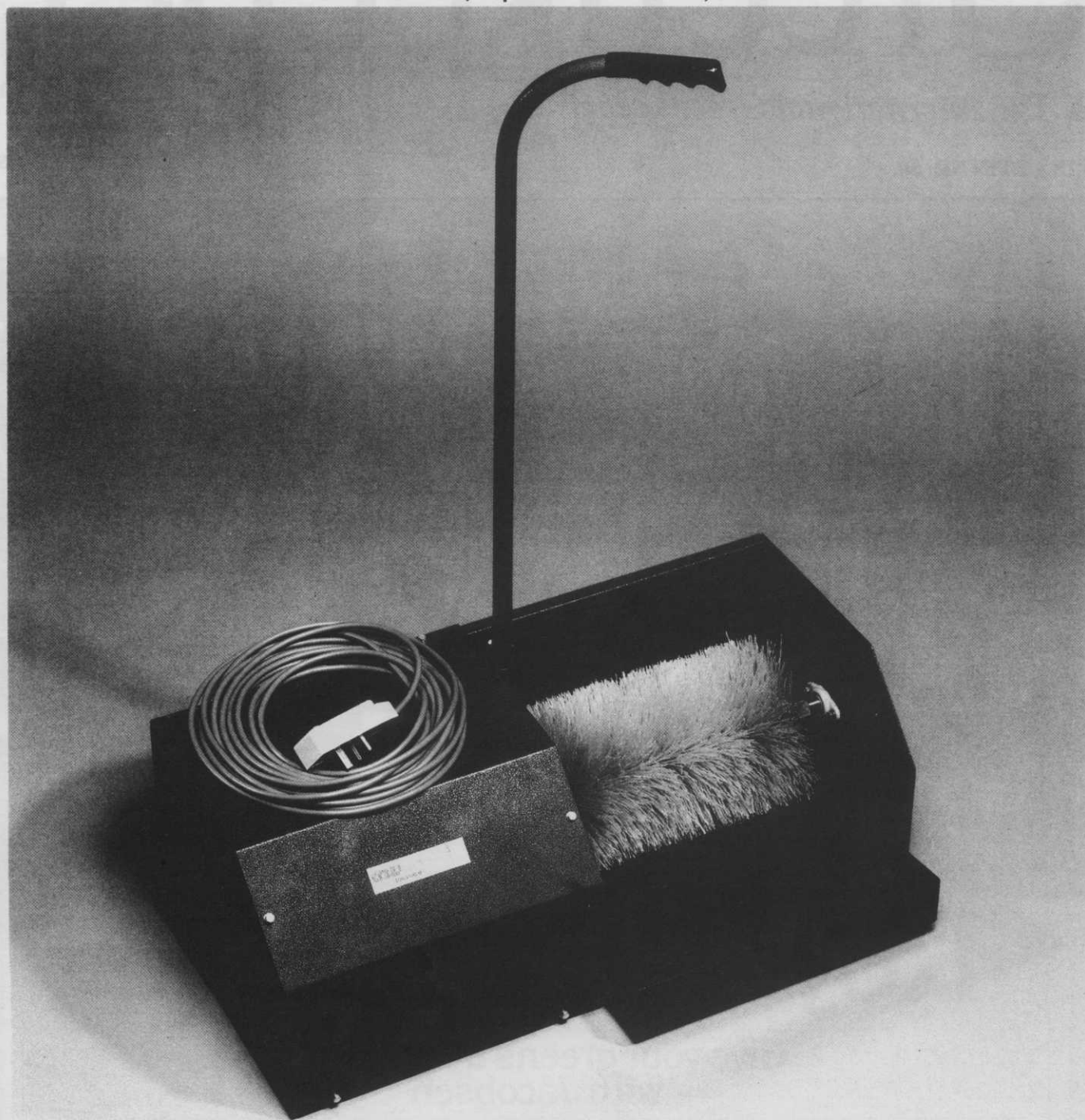
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This issue

OCTOBER 1986

Front Cover:

Details of the full Jacobsen range are available from: Chris Smith, Jacobsen Division of Textron Ltd., (0553) 76333.

SIGGA NEWS & VIEWS	10
Alexander Blacklaw gives a greenkeeper's view of golf green construction	
EIGGA NEWS & VIEWS	11
THEY'VE BEEN TOGETHER NOW...	12
Forty years of Huxleys	
TRAINING IS EVERY CLUB'S RESPONSIBILITY	14
This is the joint belief of Dr Peter Hayes Ph.D. and J.H. Arthur B.Sc. (Agric.)	
THE AMATEUR GOLFER AND THE SUPERINTENDENT	16
'Golf's ultimate partnership,' expounds Frank Tatum in a fascinating article	
BOOKS FOR GREENKEEPERS AND GREEN COMMITTEES	20
Eddie Park continues his series	
GUY CATCHPOLE RETIRES	22



John Campbell on the man for so long synonymous with Ransomes

GREENKEEPER PLAYERS AND PROFESSIONAL SUPERINTENDENTS	24
The early days of greenkeeping in North America	
NOTEBOOK	26
Greenkeeper's news round-up	
APPOINTMENTS	34
BUYERS' GUIDE	35

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Where Do We Go From Here...

Now that the votes are in and counted, overwhelming approval for a new unified greenkeepers association has been given by the members of SIGGA, EIGGA and the BGGGA, what will happen next?

Four members from each of the current associations will meet and plan the future. There are a number of items they will have to consider. First the new Associations name and image, surely the title should be the Golf Greenkeepers Association, as in the Golf Club Stewards Association, the Professional Golfers Association etc. The logo could be the same as the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America  modern, stylish and bringing greenkeepers on both sides of the Atlantic closer together.

The business plan for the new Association will be strongly biased in favour of education and communication, with the continuation of lectures, seminars and an annual conference with the Associations AGM taking place at the same time.

Perhaps the most difficult item on the new committee's agenda will be to define the role of the Association's Administrator. Will the post need to be full time initially? Apart from running the day to day finances, attend Board of Management meetings and generally promoting the greenkeepers role in the golf club, what will the job description encompass. He or she will have to organise the annual conference and AGM, assist members with wage and job negotiations, act as a clearing house for contributions to the Association magazine, attract new members and be ready with a good answer for the inevitable question of "What's in it for me?"

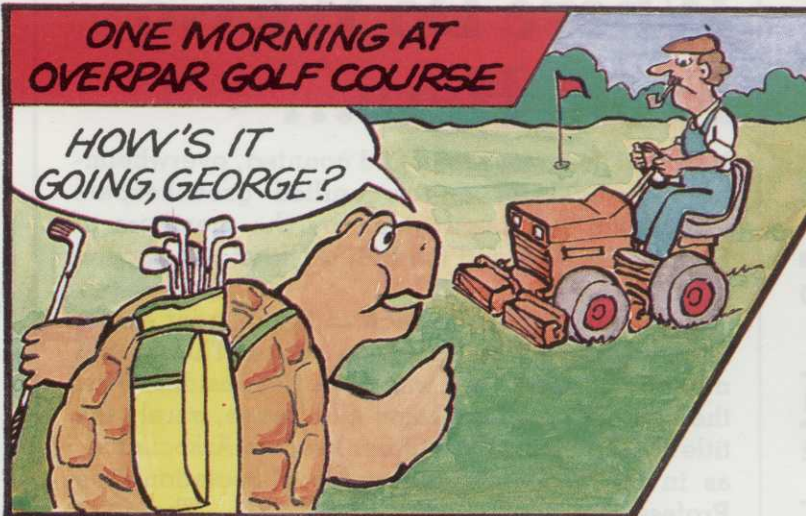
A great impression has been created over recent years by the "uniform", especially at such international gatherings as the Ransomes Tournament when the blazers and ties from both north and south of the border stole the show in the face of some smart opposition. Perhaps consideration could be given to a subsidy to aid the change from one uniform to another.

Will the new Association offer insurance cover to its members? Will it be possible for a wage scale or at least minimums for each category to be agreed with the golf unions? Could a standard form of employment be drawn up? The items for discussion will be many and it will take time and patience.

It has not been easy to come this far, there are many in the background who have played important, if unrecorded roles, in bringing all concerned together. The new Committee's task is a daunting one and theirs is an opportunity that will only come once. Everyone will wish them well in their deliberations not forgetting that twelve greenkeepers will attend in their own time and for no financial reward — dedication indeed.

ONE MORNING AT
OVERPAR GOLF COURSE

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GOING, GEORGE?



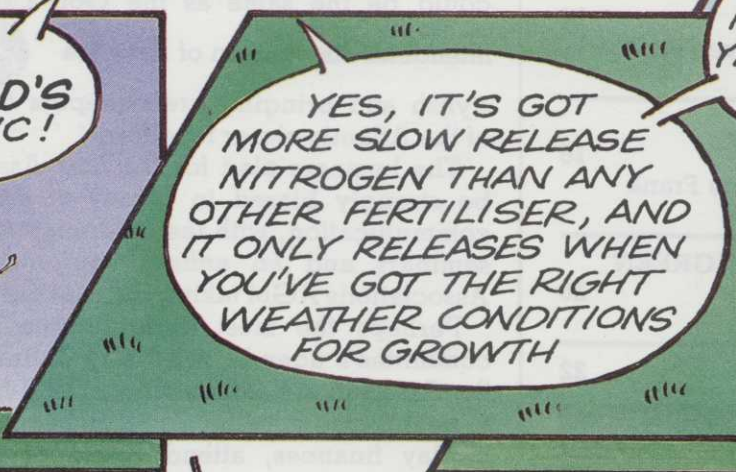
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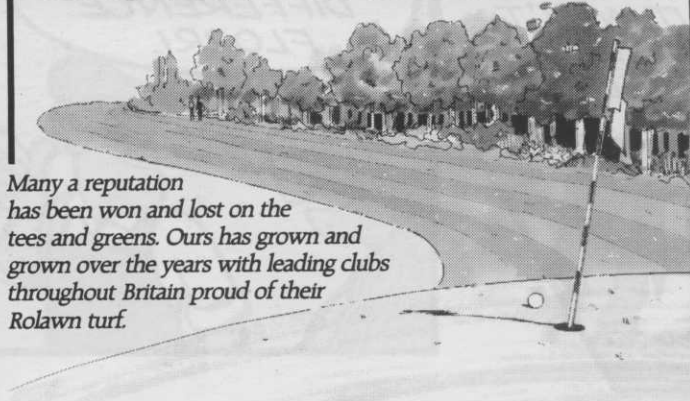
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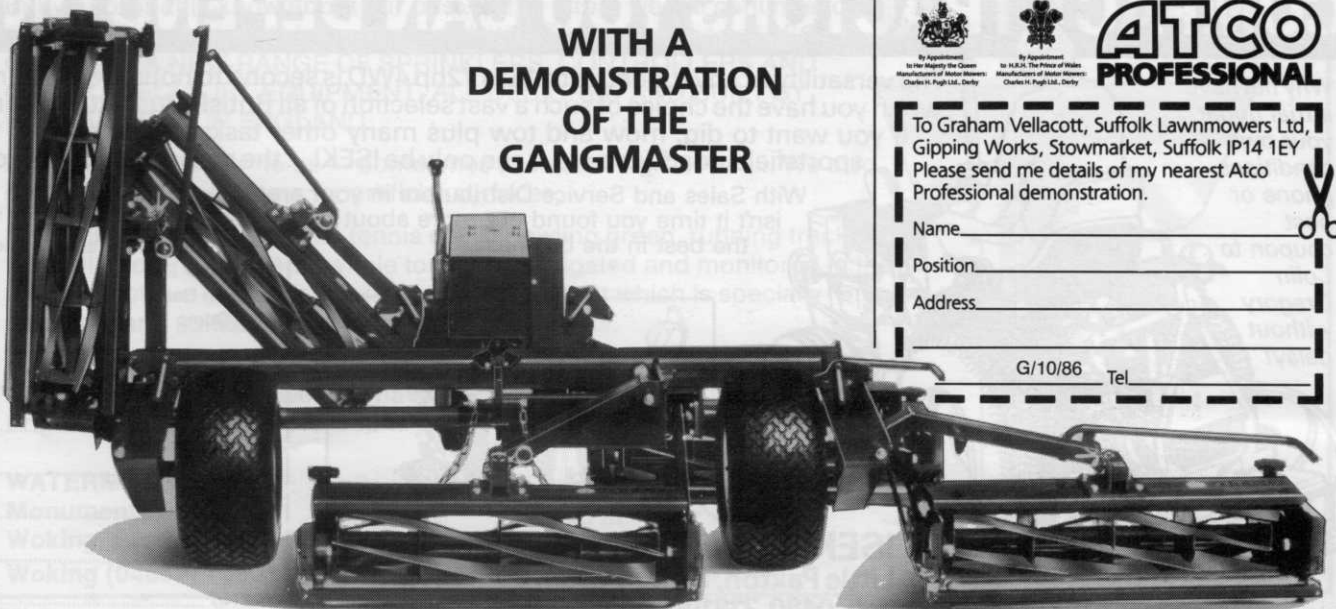
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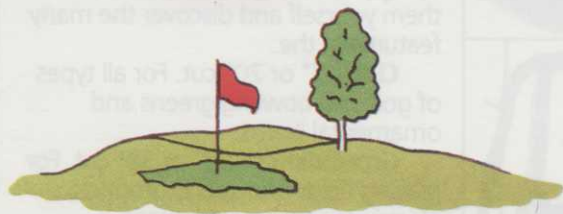
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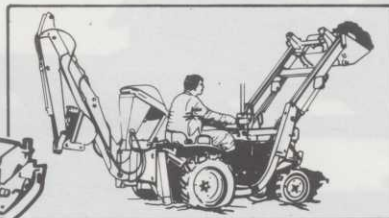
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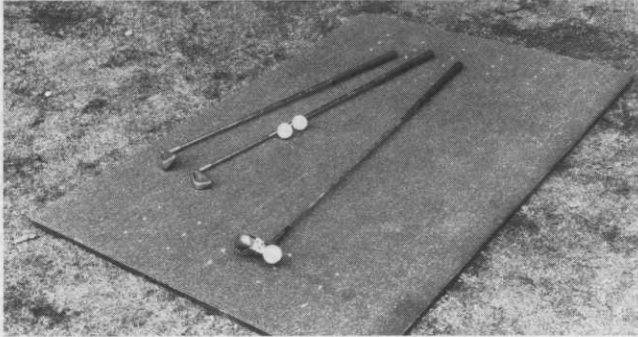
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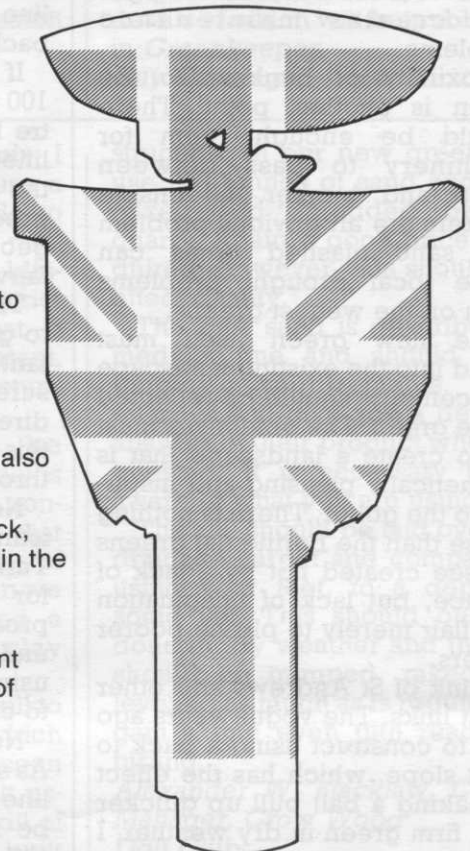
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Constructing A Golf Green

GOLF course construction is a topic of great interest to members of our profession and many regard it as the most satisfying aspect in the wide-ranging skills of a golf greenkeeper. Surely, the greatest challenge any greenkeeper can undertake is the successful construction of a golf green?

Before embarking on this task, there is much to be learned from the existing condition of greens and tees. Many times we see hard-packed, thin turf in these areas, caused by heavy traffic and a lack of alternative routes from a green to the next tee.

Proper design can iron out such problems before they arise. Bunkering around greens should also be considered and, in some cases, it is better not to clutter the tee side of your green with bunkers, as this again concentrates wear around bunker edges and creates maintenance problems.

Proximity of bunkers to the green is another point. There should be enough room for machinery to pass between green and bunker. Greenside bunkers are an obvious problem and sand-splashed areas can cause local drought problems even on the wettest greens.

The new green itself must blend into the existing landscape and contours should be reflected in the green. The objectives must be to create a landscape that is aesthetically pleasing and inspiring to the golfer. There is nothing worse than the boring flat greens we see created not by a lack of finance, but lack of imagination and flair merely to please poorer golfers.

Think of St Andrews and other great links. The vogue years ago was to construct using a back to front slope, which has the effect of making a ball pull up quicker on a firm green in dry weather. I would even suggest some greens when kept in a firm condition are

unsuitable for play because of initial design. Design is important and careful thought at this stage will influence the quality in years to come.

Construction of the green is best attempted by a system of pre-planned stages. First, a rough plan should be drawn up, detailing shape of green, hazards, drainage, potential problem areas, etc. This allows the committee to see your proposals and is necessary for reference throughout construction.

A cost estimate will also be required. This should include hire of a turfcutter, digger, trencher, sand, soil, drainage, time and labour and should be presented to the committee for approval.

It is very important that the greenkeeper keep a copy of all information given to the committee. This may help thwart members who would have you deviate from your plans.

The site I intend elaborating on has a slight slope facing the original fairway. The first step is to mark out the greensite. This is best accomplished by using an engineer's chain (100 feet in length) and measuring the new hole from the back of the tee (two club lengths) through the centre line of the new fairway to the back of the greensite.

If marker posts are placed at a 100 feet centres through the centre lines, it is obvious the centre line of the fairway is the same as the greensite. The shape of the green can then be outlined geometrically either side of the fairway centre line.

This may seem a lot of trouble to go to, but alignment is important and, if used, this method ensures the green is facing the right direction. If mistakes are made at this stage, they will be reflected throughout the construction.

Next step is to remove the existing vegetation from the site. Turf can be lifted and laid aside for turfing bankings and approaches, but if vegetation is undesirable, it is better to spray using a powerful, total weedkiller to clear the site.

Now to mark the green's shape. As stated earlier, using the centre line marker posts, the shape can be marked geometrically either side of the line using white marking compound. Some green-

keepers prefer to use a shallow trench.

Digging out the site involves using excavation equipment, which can either be hired in the form of a Hymac or JCB or, as in my case, a Back Acter digger.

In many situations, the excavated soil can be quite safely mixed with sand and used in the top mix for the green. In my case, where the soil has a very high clay content, this was unadvisable and we used the dug out soil to ring the green for banks and to outline bunkers.

When the greensite is dug out, the next step is to install drains to the green. Herringbone or grid patterns can be used, but I think the herringbone system is probably more versatile and can be used on most sites.

It is important that the whole green is covered by the drains. If a herringbone system is used, the main drain should follow through the centre of the greensite with laterals spaced at 4 to 5 yards alternately along its length.

The drains should be dug approximately six inches into the soil of the excavated site. This is best done manually. Perforated plastic pipe of 60mm to 80mm is best for the job and special plastic Y junctions should be used to connect laterals to the main. The drains should then be covered to soil level using gravel.

A couple of wet days usually helps to prove the system and any error can be corrected at this stage.

Now it is time to peg out the greens. The top of the pegs should indicate the intended surface contour of your green. Commercial contractors use a theodolite for this purpose. However, greenkeepers traditionally use a spirit level and board. The end result is the same.

When pegs are set to desired levels, it can be useful to paint the top nine inches representing the top mix. This, in turn, gives a good guide for sub-grade drainage carpet levels, which should reflect the intended green surface.

When hauling tons of gravel, it is essential to have a good road into the site. Some greenkeepers use old railway sleepers for this purpose and it is well worth spending a few days getting it right as



Kent

By the time you read this, you will already know about the cancellation of our autumn golf meeting at Cobtree Manor Park on September 9 and its transfer to West Malling on September 29. We apologise for this. It was due to circumstances out of our control.

The Kent seminar will take place on October 15 at Broome Park Golf and Country Club. Speakers include Nick Park, Martin Hawtree, Wing Cmdr W. McCrea, Jack McMillan and Chris Mardon.

As reported fully last month, the Course Management Trophy was held at Hankley Common recently. The event is for club teams of three, consisting of the head greenkeeper/course manager, secretary and green committee chairman. Congratulations to the West Malling team of Mike Ellis, secretary, Ernie Thompson, green committee chairman, and our own Chris Mardon. Well done you Kentish men!

John Atkins.

East Anglia

The Cambridge Hotel in August was a good place to be. Eddie Spittlehouse and the boys had knocked it into good shape and the hospitality was of a high standard, even though some of the golf wasn't!

Some, however, did almost excel. Steve Freestone scored 40 points and P. Howard 39 in the 0-17 section, followed by S. Painter 38 points and Mick Lathrope 35 points (straight up, no fix, honest!).

First guest was M. Crack 45 points (net 63) - there's always one! Second guest - on 42 - was D. Fox. First lady was Mrs Bawden with 42 points. Lucky Eddie won the booby prize.

Not much happening up here - the grass keeps growing, we keep cutting it. We're told the rough's too long, greens too slow, holes are in the wrong place, we get asked why we can't cut the fairways at night and why did the wheel fall off somebody's trolley. You know, quite the normal, routine stuff!

Well, that's it folks. Must catch my stage coach...

M. Lathrope.

North-West

The autumn golf tournament was held in glorious sunshine at Mold Golf Club. The branch committee would like to thank the Churchview Garage, Wrexham Lancia agents, for its sponsorship.

Also, many thanks to Arnold Cox of Rigby Taylor, Phil Davies of Joseph Metcalf and Walter Briggs of SISIS for donating excellent prizes.

It was agreed the course was in top condition and the greens were some of the best played for a long time.

Thanks to the greenstaff for all their hard work and congratulations to Teg Morris and staff for the superb condition of the course.

A most enjoyable evening meal was followed by the prizegiving. Our thanks go to Ray and Elsie Sheldon for the bar and meal.

Prize winners were: members - Paul Massey (Helsby) net 67, guests - Rob Jones (Wrexham) net 68.

EIGGA representative Bill Lawson recently attended a two-day meeting of the GTC at Askham Bryam College, York. A range of subjects was discussed, details of which will be published in *Greenkeeper*.

Guy Cannings.

Continued from facing page...

this will effectively keep the vicinity of the site free from disturbance by tractors, etc.

The type of gravel can be controversial and it is prudent to visit as many quarries as possible and compare costs. A good $\frac{3}{4}$ inch stone is ideal but, on some courses, natural subgrade can be used effectively. Broken pantiles and rubble are successful also. When buying, it is best to purchase a spherical stone. In our case, we used 250 tonnes, so it is evident costing is paramount.

When sand only is used in the rootzone, it is important to use a blinding layer of coarse sand or vermiculite clay. This prevents fine sand particles filtering into the drainage carpet. In fact, in a sand-only green, USGA specifications must be adhered to.

However, in a sand soil mix, I do not feel it necessary to use a blinding layer, as soil tends to bind the sand and hold the mixture fast and, in this case, a blinding layer would only restrict drainage, which is not what is wanted. The top mix is important, for it ultimately dictates the nature of the green.

Nowadays, we could be forgiven for thinking sand only is the only way. It is not. When constructing, a main criteria is that the new green be typical of others on the course. How can we accomplish this by building a sand-only green on a clay course?

Instead, we must use our skill to emulate our other greens, which may not be easy. I have seen many successful greens built using soil only. This was the skill of an older generation, who built surface drainage into their con-

struction. In our new green, we use 200 tonnes of sand and soil, mixed and shredded by the quarry. Again, a good price is required. However, this should not effect quality.

The best sand is described as medium fine and should meet Bingley's requirements. Most quarries will give you a detailed analysis of their product when requested. It is necessary to be aware of what you are using.

The soil should be laid over the drainage carpet and compacted, using your feet, to a depth of some 9in. This should only be done in dry weather and the soil should be tramped, raked and levelled as much as is required to gain a fine even tilth ready for turfing.

Alexander W. Blacklaw, Course Manager, Crow Wood Golf Club.

They've been together now...

THIS year, Huxleys Grass Machinery celebrates 40 years of service to the sports and leisure industry. From a modest beginning as suppliers to the domestic market, managing director Ted Huxley has seen his family firm grow and reach the position today where it is exclusively involved with the supply, service, hire and manufacture of machinery for the professional user.

Huxleys rapidly became a household name among greenkeepers by taking on the franchise for the Cushman Turf Care System. This was a master stroke attributed to the shrewd foresight of Ted Huxley and his staff.

When the machine was first introduced to Huxleys, the company had reservations, for the Cushman range then was not extensive and considered costly. Doubts were dispelled after a demonstration at the Temple Golf Club, Berkshire when an order was placed for a Cushman complete with all attachments. That first sale proved the capabilities of the machine and was eventually endorsed by a thousand Cushman owners and operators.

In 1977, Huxleys took over the management and distribution of Cushman equipment in the British Isles.

Huxleys' move into equipment manufacturing was the result of customer demand to produce more attachments that would broaden the range and scope of the Cushman Turf Care System and increase the year-round capabilities of the Turf-Truckster.

A spiker and sprayer were the first machines designed and built to operate with the Turf-Truckster. This was followed by a greens brush, dragmat and rake. The Turf-Truckster is now on offer with a complete, sophisticated turf care and maintenance system for a wide range of sports facilities.

In 1980, Cushman entered the



The TR138 hydraulic reelmower.

grass-cutting market when they introduced the Front Line machines, which have also been added to the Huxley range. It was the development of a hydraulically powered reel mower for mounting on to the Front Line in 1982 that led to the design and production of Huxleys latest successes, the TR range of hydraulic reel mowers for compact tractors.

At Alresford in Hampshire, Huxleys has its main design, development and manufacturing facility, together with spares and accessories for the Cushman, Huxley, Royer, Little David and Red Rider product lines the company distributes throughout the British Isles.

Under the management of Paul Huxley and Eddie Fox, the branch is also the major sales and service retail outlet within the

area for all professional grass and turf care equipment manufactured, distributed or hired by the company.

A showroom and sales office, workshop and spare parts department are housed in the head office, situated on a 4½ acre site at Hillside, Thorpe Lea Road, Egham, Surrey.

Ted Huxley and son Barry are based at Egham where they look after the requirements of professional grass and turf equipment users in and around London and deal with machinery orders from the company's dealer network.

Huxleys established position within the industry and readiness to meet all professional requirements should see the company through many more successful years of service to the industry.



Another success story, the Huxley vertirake.

SOUTH HERTS GOLF CLUB



HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited from suitably qualified greenkeepers with experience in all aspects of golf course management with ability to direct and motivate staff.

Salary by negotiation — no accommodation.

Written applications only by 7th November stating age, qualifications, work experience and intentions regarding accommodation.

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Hampstead Golf Club
Winnington Road
N2.

TRAINING IS EVERY CLUB'S RESPONSIBILITY

By J.H. Arthur and P. Hayes

IF some new wonder product or machine were to be introduced, which could be proved beyond any doubt to even the most sceptical of Committees to improve the condition of a golf course and, at the same time, lower costs, often dramatically, it is reasonable to suppose that those promoting the invention would receive a warm welcome at every Golf Club in Britain. Yet, this product exists, has a record of success which is indisputable in every aspect of modern life and its benefits are accepted by all.

Its name is education.

There is no person whose influence for good or ill on any golf course is greater than that of the Head Greenkeeper. It is his day-to-day decisions which make or mar his course even if he is working to an agreed, general, long-term programme.

Today's Course Managers and Head men must be versed in every aspect of course management, from the latest cures to all the problems that beset the turf to assessment of new machinery and critical, but informed, views on the latest 'new ideas'.

Representatives

The Greenkeeper Training Committee consists of two representatives from each of the three Greenkeeper Associations (hopefully, soon to be united) with representatives from the English, Scottish, Welsh and Irish Golfing Unions, a representative of the Secretaries' Association, and the authors of this article, with an Administrator and Treasurer. Its function is to improve the standards of greenkeeping education provided by existing agricultural and horticultural colleges and to encourage Golf Clubs to send their staff for training.

So far as the first part is concerned, it is obviously rational to concentrate resources on a few Centres of Excellence, which is

the proven way of improving performance. This makes it possible to eliminate that previously insoluble problem - the trainer who often knew less than his students, whilst at the same time guiding the content of the courses and ensuring a unanimity of interpretation of the agreed syllabi.

It is not so easy to achieve the second part of the Committee's brief - namely, to encourage Clubs to send their staff for training. Education, generally, in Scotland has traditionally always been more valued than in England, partly by tradition and partly perhaps (if this is not thought to be too cynical) because Scotland has always had to export its best brains and recognised that qualifications, whether in engineering or greenkeeping, are essential to successful applications.

Scottish greenkeeper education set the pattern for improvement, departing from the multiplicity of day-release courses taken by a college lecturer with often as little interest as knowledge of his subject, whose teachings to their young staff reduced the more knowledgeable Head men of many courses to apoplexy and necessitated them having to retrain their youngsters to exorcise the heresies of agricultural bias.

The problems do not lie in Scotland - and the problems in Ireland are largely those associated with relatively few, widely scattered Clubs, many with poor resources, and the high cost of travel and accommodation for unsubsidised, centralised greenkeeper education in Dublin.

Even in Wales, where the Welsh Golf Union deals directly with the Clubs, there is general enthusiasm and agreed support from many, if not the majority, for the centralised training scheme at two colleges serving North and South Wales.

The position with regard to English Clubs varies - but, in general, it is less than satisfactory and the reason appears most likely to be that the English Golf Union has no authority over individual Clubs and can only advise County organisations.

Sitting in on liaison committees at some, but by no means all, of the five colleges reveals all too clearly the extent of the problem. The sheer apathy of most of the County Unions who, with a few honourable and enthusiastic exceptions, fail to send a representative - even to a college situated in their County - beggars belief.

Spend money

One is greeted by comments to the effect that if Clubs spend money to train Greenkeepers, they will only lose them as they will go elsewhere for more money. Few accept the fact that most people do not finish their working life at the firm they started with! The (modest) cost of training creates visible shock waves - and when it is pointed out that, even at its most expensive, a two-year training course (12 weeks) costs less than the price of a greens mower, they simply refuse to believe that an Auto-Certes costs what it does!

Whilst it was true that, in the past, some Head Greenkeepers were reluctant to send their young staff for training, not so much because it disrupted work on the course as that it might end up with the youngsters competing in knowledge, this is an attitude which has largely (but not, sadly, entirely) been dispelled.

One could, indeed, be very sympathetic with any Head man faced with losing one or even two of his staff every Friday (yes, some colleges selected Friday for greenkeeper training!) to have their heads stuffed full of heresies such as liming and the need for phosphate and potash, but today the centralised colleges give a

first-class education to the younger men, in courses run by dedicated, knowledgeable enthusiasts and we desperately need more support for their work. This will reduce costs and improve course content.

The Greenkeeper Training Committee is generously supported by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and modestly so by the Golf Unions and from a limited number of other sources. What is needed now is an enthusiastic drive, not just lip service acceptance, for better greenkeeper education in England especially, but the problem is how to get at the consumer, i.e. the Golf Clubs, and break the apathy, the outmoded reaction to education by some County Unions and to drive home the real financial benefits to all Golf Clubs of a better educated and trained greenkeeping staff, in terms of better presentation of courses, prevention and avoidance of problems rather than more expensive cures after the damage is done - and most of all in having available a pool of trained staff from which to select new or replacement staff, instead of the present highly unsatisfactory situation, where Clubs are

more or less forced to poach other Clubs' Head men in the event of their own retiring or departing.

Many of the students who have passed through Elmwood near St Andrews, by common consent the best greenkeeper training centre in Britain, have come in earlier years from England and Ireland. All have found good posts and all have improved their courses and reduced maintenance costs. What we need is not only the same quality of training facilities - which we are well on the way to achieving in the five centres in England, but the same enthusiastic support from the English Golf Clubs as is given to Elmwood (and two other centres) in Scotland.

Direct appeal

Perhaps this may have to be achieved by a direct appeal over the County Unions' heads by the EGU, but what is certain is that golf is as much subjected to the laws of commerce as is any other business, and poor training or even absence of training can be a potent source of financial problems in industry. Better trained staff means better presented courses and such training

benefits every member and might cost them individually only 50p to £1 per year (and hidden in their subscriptions at that).

What we are talking about is investment in the 21st Century. If golf courses are regarded as suffering from being over-played in 1986, this is really nothing to the pressures of golf courses in the next 25 years.

We must train young Greenkeepers to cope with the effect of this predictable extra use in all its aspects. When the experienced, older men retire, as they must in the next decade or so, all Clubs must be able to draw on a pool of experienced, well-educated, capable Course Managers - and, we repeat, there is no man more important on any golf course than a fully trained Head man, and, furthermore, his skill has an immediate and positive effect on maintenance costs.

In the ultimate analysis, it is the duty of all Golf Clubs to support greenkeeper training and to put over to their members the benefits, at no cost to them, of better preparation and presentation, which can only come from experience and education - the two are inseparably linked.

THE COLLEGES IN ENGLAND APPROVED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE GREENKEEPER TRAINING COMMITTEE ARE

Askham Bryan College of Agriculture
Askham Bryan
York. YO2 3PR. Contact: N. Bisset

Cheshire College of Agriculture
Reaseheath
Nantwich
Cheshire. CW5 6DH. Contact: D. Mottram

Hampshire College of Agriculture
Sparsholt
Winchester
Hants. SO21 2NF. Contact: R. Young

Plumpton Agricultural College
Lewes
Sussex BN7 3AE. Contact: D. Fitton

Somerset College of Agriculture
Cannington
Bridgwater
Somerset TA5 2LF. Contact: N. Rigden

CANNES MOUGINS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

invites applications for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be well experienced in all aspects of golf course management and have a proven ability to maintain good relations with staff and members.

An apartment is available if desired. Cannes Mougins is an 18 hole course and the venue for the Cannes Open.

For further details telephone 0787-61635 or apply direct to:

Mr. Lemoine,
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06250 Mougins, France.

The amateur golfer and the superintendent – golf's ultimate partnership

By FRANK D. TATUM, JR
President USGA 1978-1979,
San Francisco, California

WE should start our analysis of this partnership by defining our terms. First, what and who is an amateur? The word amateur derives from the Latin word *amatorem*, which roughly translated means 'one who loves.' Quite simply, therefore, an amateur golfer is one who loves the game.

Using that definition, we draw very different lines around who is and who is not an amateur. For example, I give you Ben Crenshaw as the quintessential amateur golfer. On the other hand, Joe Hustler out there this morning at some golf course looking for a sucker to pick clean or Sam Salesman, whose sole reason for belonging to a country club and whose interest in the game begins and ends with how much he can extract from the playing of it, are anything but amateur golfers.

For our purposes here, we should add a dimension to the definition of amateur golfer – that is, while the word *amateur* takes care of the *heart* factor, there also is a *soul* factor that is encompassed in the designation of *true believer*. True believers are those who understand the metaphysical connections that distinguish the game of golf. Perhaps those connections can best be illustrated by something Alistair Cooke wrote in his foreword to a tour de force on golf written by Sir Guy Campbell, where, according to Alistair: 'Sir Guy Campbell's classic account of the formation of the links beginning with Genesis and moving step by step to the thrilling arrival of "tilth" on the fingers of coastal land, suggests that such notable features of our planet as dinosaurs, the prairies, the Himalayas, the seagull, the female of the species herself, were *accidental by-products* of The

The United States Golf Association session at the annual Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America conference is always a highlight of an interesting week.

Attendance at the GCSAA conference and show is a must and the 1987 venue is Phoenix, Arizona at the end of January.

The USGA programme in 1986 had, as its main theme, how to manage today's golf-course architecture. However, it was a paper by Sandy Tatum that caught most delegates'

Almighty's preoccupation with the creation of the Old Course at St Andrews.'

Having so identified one side of this partnership we are here considering, we need to define whom we are talking about when we identify someone as a golf course superintendent. Obviously, the person can be, and often is, a true believer amateur, but he also, quite distinctly, is something more. He is, for example, someone who regularly starts his day in the middle of the night. While his workplace certainly is air-conditioned and has a lot of sophisticated plumbing, it definitely does not have central heating.

His professional life is a never-ending battle with enemies of infinite number and variety, including an exotic array of fungi and a horrendous army of bugs.

He works with people who think developing turfgrass is a whole lot easier than maintaining a front lawn. They have to think so to retain some measure of self-respect, because our partner manages to develop 100-plus acres of turfgrass to such a condition as to make a typical struggler with 400 square yards of lawn turn green with envy. And then, however, all our hero hears about is two or three patches totalling a relatively few square feet where

imagination as it summed up what golf is all about – not just a game or a golf course to be maintained, but a way of life.

Sadly, the paper was not delivered by Sandy, as he, together with partner Tom Watson, were playing in a rain-delayed pro-am at Pebble Beach.

Sandy Tatum is involved in a new links at Pebble Beach, to be known as The Links At Spanish Bay. His great knowledge of UK links, as a member of several clubs, will no doubt stand him in good stead.

the bugs or the fungus or the golf carts have won a temporary victory in the war he wages with them.

The mortal combats in which he is locked also include those with the most monstrous monstrosity ever inflicted on the game – an infernal piece of turfgrass-consuming machinery masquerading under the name of a golf cart. I resist, reluctantly, the temptation to carry on telling you how I think and feel about those abominations.

Vagaries

As if having to deal with the vagaries of nature were not enough, he has to schedule his maintenance to accommodate a calendar of events that looks something like the schedule of events for the Olympic Games.

Finally, he reports to someone identified as the chairman of the green committee. Now these chairmen of green committees are very important people in relation to this ultimate partnership we are considering. So important, in fact, that it is not a diversion to spend a bit of time identifying them as well.

In their lives beyond the green committee, most of these VIPs are at worst tolerable types and at best exemplary citizens. Some of them maintain those charac-

teristics even after they become chairmen of green committees. But then, others somehow are transformed by such chairmanship and the transformation involves:

- Immediate mastery of the art and science of growing turfgrass that makes obsolete the entire body of experience and knowledge known as agronomy.

- Absolute and ultimate wisdom pertaining to golf course architecture.

- Dictatorial approach to the relationship with the golf course superintendent that has Hitlerian overtones.

We should pause here, lest we begin feeling too sorry for this beleaguered battler with the elements, the fungi, the bugs, the golf carts and the chairmen of green committees and consider the benefits that flow to the superintendent in the pursuit of his profession.

Take, for example, his workplace. To compare the sight and the aroma of a beautiful golf course in the morning sunlight with the settings in which most of us are constrained to earn our livings, puts all of these tribulations I have been identifying in the proper perspective.

His responsibilities, moreover, provide very positive distinguishing features of the profession he is privileged to pursue. It is worth a few moments focus on how those responsibilities affect our ultimate partnership. For example:

- What he does and how he does it determine whether the architect will have succeeded in providing the player with an experience both interesting and challenging.

- Beyond what the architect may have envisioned, the superintendent, by what he does and how he does it, makes fundamental philosophical decisions going to the heart of the game. To illustrate, in a real sense he has the final determination on such matters as:

- How much of a factor should length be in the playing of the game?

- How important should it be whether the ball stays in the fairway or runs off into the areas beyond?

- How important should the factors of bounce and roll be in the player's perception of the shot he is called upon to play?

- How much should proper

striking of the ball matter in terms of whether or not the ball will stay on the green to which it is hit?

- To what extent does it matter to have the pace of the greens at nine feet on the Stimpmeter as opposed to six feet?

I cannot resist noting with regard to those factors that, in each case, the answer essentially is determined by how much water the superintendent chooses to lay on the course. While I will spare you, as I have done with regard to golf carts, the full extent of my feelings on this subject, I am moved to say that the overuse of water is the ultimate cop-out for the superintendent, who somehow has been persuaded that cemetery green provides the proper look for a golf course and, furthermore, that such a cop-out is a gross breach of both the letter and the spirit of this ultimate partnership we are here considering.

True meaning

That brings us to an exposition of what is involved in this partnership and that is the realisation of the true meaning of this game called golf. The pursuit of that thought requires some further definition, because the term golf can have such very different meanings depending on how it is perceived.

Take, for example, the anonymous Oxford don who defined golf as a game that consists in 'putting little balls into little holes with instruments very ill adapted for the purpose.'

On the other hand, when you listen to the lyricism that can make positive poets out of true believer amateurs when they are describing their feelings about this game, it all comes into proper perspective.

For me, the game defines itself in terms of the characteristics required of anyone presuming to call himself or herself a golfer. First, there is self-reliance. When you are out there contemplating a golf shot, calling on the outer limits of your skill, you have no one going for you but you. Then, there is the capacity to deal with your inadequacies. In this connection, I am reminded of the poor soul whose topped shot rolled into the water hazard fronting the 18th green. It was the final humiliation to which he reacted quite understandably.

First, he meticulously saw to it, one club at a time, that all of his

clubs ended up in the water hazard with the ball. Next, he removed the bag from his cad-die's shoulder and deposited that in the water hazard as well. He then headed resolutely for the bar.

Some hours later, after the sun had gone down, he re-emerged from the clubhouse, returned to the scene of his humiliation, removed his trousers, waded into the hazard, located the golf bag, brought it back to the hazard bank, unzipped one of the pockets, removed his car keys and, with suitable ceremony, redeposited the golf bag in the hazard.

And then there is the closely related requirement for the playing of this game of accepting responsibility for your own inadequacies. We are all familiar with the type who refers to the noise being made by some burrowing worm, or the racket being made by a butterfly flapping its wings as the cause of a lousy golf shot.

Related to that is the characteristic of understanding and accommodating the limits of one's ability. Trying too often to execute Nicklausian golf shots is a sure route to a nervous breakdown.

And then there is the strength of character required to blow the whistle on yourself. In a typically perceptive piece, stimulated by an incident at one tournament, a sports writer noted how distinctively different golf, in this respect, is from any other sport. With basketball coaches throwing chairs on to court, baseball managers kicking dirt on umpires. John McEnroe foul-mouthing legitimate line calls and football players trying to get away with mayhem, the writer found it distinctly refreshing to have Sandy Lyle announce, after hitting a second shot from the rough on to the tenth green, that he had played the wrong ball, thereby turning what could have been a three into an eight. When queried about it later, in view of the fact that nobody but Sandy knew that he had played the wrong ball, he simply said that not calling the penalty on himself was unthinkable.

Finally, and in a way summing it all up, the true believer amateur is someone who can and does ap-

Continued on page 21...

TURF PROBLEMS?



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THE CUSHMAN SYSTEM

Featuring the Cushman 3 and 4 Wheel Turf-Trucksters with Huxley and Cushman implements, attachments and accessories for the care and renovation of fine turf, the maintenance of artificial surfaces and all-round transport and load-carrying duties.



Cushman System capabilities include:
A Hollow coring B Spraying
C Transporting D Scarifying
E Mowing F Surface renovation



YOU KNOW you'll be in good company when you select a Cushman 3 or 4 Wheel Turf-Truckster with matching Huxley and Cushman attachments for your all-round grounds maintenance requirements. For the Cushman System is recognised throughout Britain as the number one choice of professionals for the all-season care and renovation of fine turf and artificial surfaces.

The proof is at work all round the country, where more than 1,000 Cushman Systems are helping grounds staff, Local Authority maintenance teams and contractors keep golf courses, sports and playing fields, recreation areas, parks, and all their surrounds, in prime condition –

day in, day out, throughout the year.

And they do it in immaculate style, thanks to the low weight, operating performance and sheer driveability of the Cushman Turf-Truckster and the ease and speed of attachment of the fully-matching implements and accessories from Huxleys and Cushman.

With the Cushman System, you're ready for work in minutes. Just insert two or three pins and, on driven machines, couple up the Truckster's power take-off shaft. For maximum convenience during operations, and when transferring equipment from site to site, the Turf-Truckster has a live hydraulics system with single

The Cushman System at work with

TURF MAINTENANCE



MULTI-DEPTH AERATOR (H84): Designed to carry out complete aeration treatment of all fine turf areas, the 42in wide Huxley Multi-Depth Aerator can be set to work from 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ in to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in deep to suit most aerating needs. Adjustable rear roller and a choice of three blade sizes (see back page) enable quick variation of working depth. Can also be used as a light roller only.



FINE TURF SCARIFIER (H44): Mounted on the Turf-Truckster's three-point linkage frame (H16), the pto-driven Huxley Fine Turf Scarifier has a 36in working width and 52 thin, double-edged blades to remove dead, matted and lateral-growing grasses. Front and rear adjustable rollers give precise control over scarifying depth (max. $\frac{3}{4}$ in), blade spacing is variable (min. $\frac{5}{16}$ in) and the grass box swings over for easy emptying.



TOP DRESSER (C5): Mounted on the Turf-Truckster's chassis and driven by the power take-off, the Cushman Top Dresser produces a precise and even spread of most free-flowing materials across a 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ in width. Capacity is 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cu ft (approx. 1000lbs) and delivery is by a combination of belt conveyor and rotating nylon brush. Application rate is controlled by metering gate, with drive engaged/disengaged from the driver's seat.



GREENSAVER AERATOR (C10): The Cushman Greensaver Aerator, with Weight Box set, is able to perform virtually all hollow coring (with core collection) and shallow aeration operations on fine turf. Three drum types are offered: standard $\frac{1}{2}$ in coring drum (shown here), with trap door for rapid core disposal; $\frac{3}{8}$ in coring drum, with trap door; and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in deep slicing drum. All produce a 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ in x 4in aeration pattern.



TR66C & TR84C HYDRAULIC REELMOWERS: Able to produce a precise cut on both fine and short-to-medium length grass, the Huxley TR66C (66in cut) and TR84C (84in cut) mowers are mounted on the H16 three-point linkage frame behind the Turf-Truckster and driven by self-contained hydraulic systems powered by a pump on the Truckster's pto shaft. All operations – raising/lowering of the machine and reel forward/neutral/reverse rotation – are controlled from the driver's seat. Height of cut is varied on rear rollers from $\frac{3}{8}$ in to 2in. The TR66C has three x 24in reels; the TR84C has three x 30in reels.



MULTI-TINE AERATOR (H34): With its 40in working width, the Huxley Multi-Tine Aerator is able to carry out a full range of aeration tasks. This attachment is available with a choice of 4in solid, 4in hollow or 3in slitting tines (see back page), and has a large diameter drum which helps produce a clean surface finish. The heavy rear roller smooths the surface after solid or slit tining. Raised, it adds weight for hollow coring.



DRAGMAT with HYDRAULIC MOUNTING (H31) or FIXED MOUNTING (H27) FRAME: Developed for the rapid matting of top-dressing materials, the 6ft Huxley Dragmat can be supplied with either a Hydraulic Mounting Frame (illustrated), which allows the complete unit to be raised clear of the ground for transport, or a Fixed Frame which enables use in conjunction with the C5 Top Dresser.



GREENS BRUSH (H33): For general use on sports turf, the switching of golf greens and effective brushing-in of top-dressings, the Huxley 8ft Greens Brush has a spring-loaded frame to follow ground contours. It can be raised and lowered hydraulically from the driver's seat providing precise control over operating height and degree of brushing action, as well as affording convenient movement from site to site.

lever control which lets you lift, hold or lower attachments from your seat, while you're on the move.

And, when you want to transport staff, materials or hand tools quickly and conveniently across turf or tarmac, the Cushman Truckster helps you do it without fuss or bother, teamed with one of the special Huxley load-carrying attachments.

The versatility of the Cushman System doesn't stop there, either. Fitted with the Huxley H16 three-point linkage frame, you can go reel mowing or fine turf scarifying with your Truckster. If required, the H16 hydraulic lift frame also accepts other specialist

equipment to assist with the care and renovation of artificial sports and play areas. Just one more application where the Cushman System will prove its worth.

As an owner or operator, you can rest assured that Cushman and Huxley implements, attachments and accessories have not only been designed and built for the job, they've also been designed and built to last. Engineered to give you outstanding service, performance and economy of operation to ensure that you achieve the highest all-round maintenance standards on your sports, recreation and amenity surfaces, every working day of the year.

Huxley and Cushman attachments

TRANSPORT



SPRAYER (H6): Mounted directly onto the Turf-Truckster's chassis, the 66 gallon (300 litre) Huxley sprayer has a three-section, 19½ft (6m) boom, pto-driven diaphragm pump and colour-coded nozzles. Application rate range meets all turf spraying requirements. Operating controls are grouped conveniently to the driver's right hand and a high pressure hand lance with 50ft of hose are standard.



SHORT DUMP BOX (H5): With its 1,500lb payload, the rugged Huxley Short Box is ideal for handling loose and bulky materials as well as small machines and hand tools. Both hydraulic tipping and tailgate release are controlled from the operator's seat. The unit measures 35in x 52in x 12in internally and it attaches to the Cushman Turf-Truckster using just three pins – please see back page for detail of tipping ram and connecting pins.



CYCLONE SPREADER (C3): Designed to spread fertiliser and seeds across swath widths of up to 40ft, the Cushman Cyclone Spreader has a 300lb capacity and is driven, by flexible shaft, direct from the Truckster's pto. The spreader has a galvanised steel hopper and attaches quickly onto the rear of the H5 Short Dump Box or H7 Longbox. Rotary agitation prevents bridging of materials and output is varied by sliding gate.



LONGBOX/FLATBED (H7): For maximum versatility, the hydraulically-tipped Longbox has quickly removable sides and tailgate enabling it to be used either as a flatbed or pick-up box transporter. Maximum payload is 1,500lbs and internal dimensions are 48in x 52in x 13in. Clip-on, mesh **EXTENSION SIDES (H7a)** – shown above right and on front cover – are available as an option to further extend this useful attachment's load-carrying ability.



MOLEBLADE (H35): Hydraulically-controlled from the driver's seat, the Huxley Moleblade is able to relieve compaction and improve drainage/soil aeration in all problem turf areas. Working depth is adjustable in 2in steps down to 9in and the leading disc coulter and spring-tensioned rear roller ensure minimal turf tear and disturbance. A Weight Box Set (H26) – supplied with the C10 Greensaver – is needed for this attachment.



TURF TRAILER (H40): This low-loading work trailer, with its 1,000lb (approx. 23 cu ft) capacity, was developed by Huxleys for use with Turf-Trucksters and other suitable vehicles. It has a clevis-type tow hitch, special wide turf tyres and a ramp tailgate for the convenient loading of a wide range of grounds maintenance equipment and materials. Internal dimensions are 58in x 42in x 16in.



LOW-LOADING TRANSPORT CARRIER (H32): Fully mounted on three pins at the rear of the Turf-Truckster, the robust Transport Carrier combines a handy ground level loading ability with a useful carrying capacity for general maintenance tools and materials. Internal dimensions are 60in wide x 36in deep. The complete unit is raised and lowered using the Truckster's hydraulic system, controlled from the driver's seat.

The Cushman System with Huxley and Cushman attachments

ACCESSORIES & SPECIAL FEATURES

POWER CONVERTER (C29): Enables electrical equipment, such as a hedge trimmer, drill or light, to be plugged into your Cushman Turf-Truckster on-site, miles away from the nearest mains power supply. Produces either 12 volt DC or 110 volt DC to operate most suitably switched small hand tools. The Power Converter is of compact size, fitting behind the seat, and has fuse protection and 'correct voltage' indicator light.



HEAVY-DUTY 3-POINT LINKAGE FRAME (H16): Equipped with the Huxley hydraulic Linkage Frame, your Turf-Truckster can be used with alternative, specialist attachments for the care of both artificial surfaces and grassed areas, the hydraulically-operated frame enabling mounted equipment to be raised, held and lowered, under single lever control, from the driver's seat. NB: The H16 Frame is required on Turf-Trucksters using the H44 Scarifier and TR66C/TR84C Hydraulic Reelmowers.



PIN CONNECT & LIVE HYDRAULICS: Just two or three pull pins is all it takes to attach Cushman and Huxley grounds maintenance and transport equipment to the rear of your Cushman 3 or 4 Wheel Turf-Truckster. Once connected, you can raise, lower or hold the attachment at any intermediate height from the driving seat, while you're on the move, thanks to the Truckster's standard live hydraulics system. It makes work, and transport, that much easier.



Three different blade sizes are offered for use on the **HUXLEY MULTI-DEPTH AERATOR (H84)**. From the left: Standard 4 1/2in-6 1/4in slicing knives (HUX 023); Special 6 1/4in slicing knives (HUX 050); and Deep 9 1/4in slicing knives (HUX 075).



A choice of three alternative tine types is available for fitting to the **HUXLEY MULTI-TINE AERATOR (H34)**. From the left: 4in Hollow Tines (MT 005); 3in Slicing Tines (MT 007); and 4in Solid Tines (MT 006).

A **FIBREGLASS CAB (A2/B2)** and **CLOTH DOORSET (A3/B3)** are available for both the Cushman 3 and 4 Wheel Turf-Trucksters.



A **HEATER/DEFROSTER (B4)** can also be fitted to take the chill off those wintry mornings. Also shown is the **FULL ROAD LIGHTING KIT (H9)**.

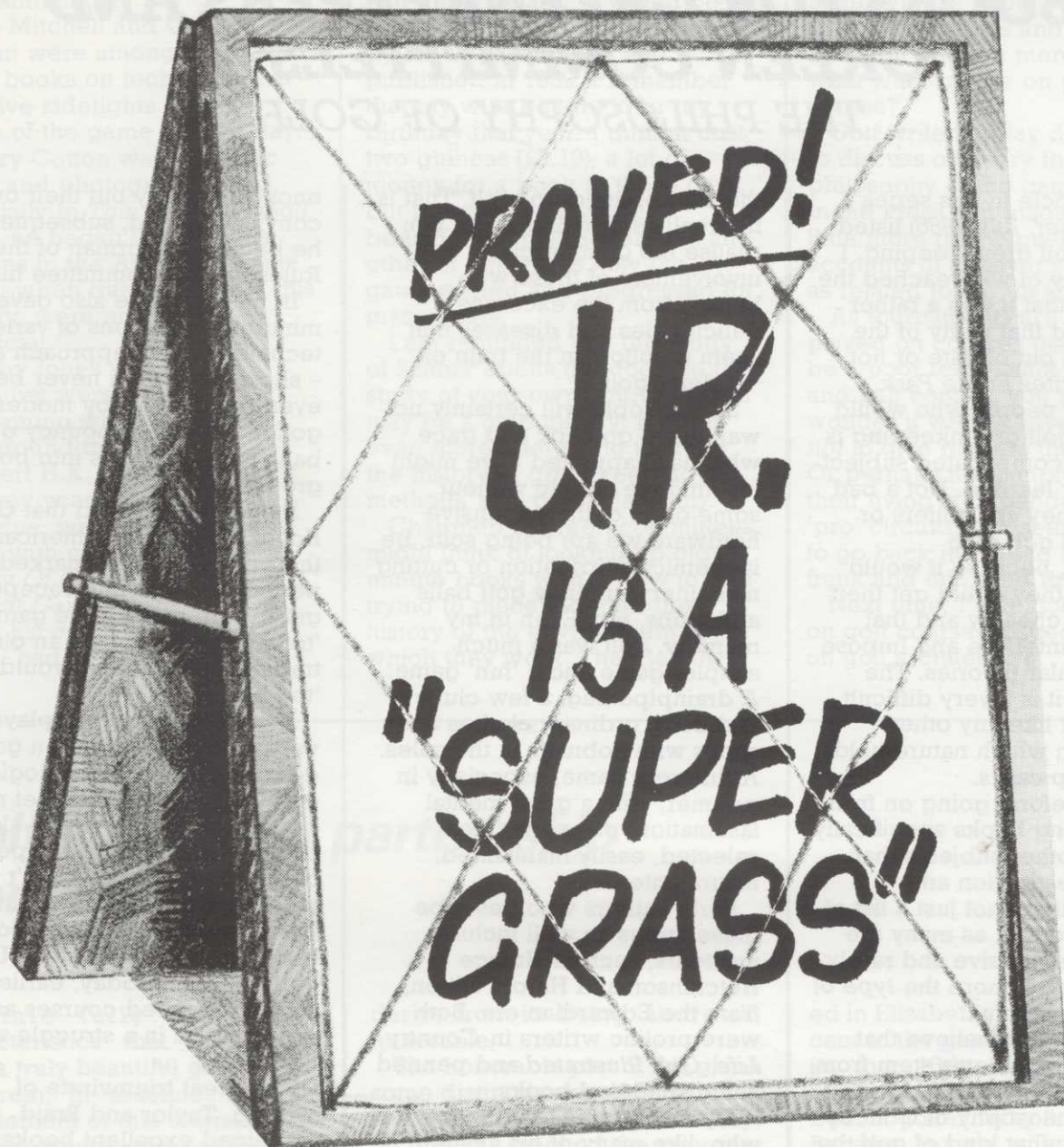
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BOOKS FOR GREENKEEPERS AND GREEN COMMITTEES —

THE PHILOSOPHY OF GOLF

THE first article in this series (*Greenkeeper*, July 1986) listed books on golf greenkeeping. I expect many of you reached the conclusion that it was a rather short list and that many of the books were out of date or not relevant, writes Eddie Park.

There are people who would tell us that golf greenkeeping is really not a complicated subject — one easily learned. Not a bad strategy if they are golfers or members of golf club committees, because it would ensure that they could get their golf course cheaply and that they could interfere and impose their particular theories. The truth is that it is a very difficult subject, just like any other discipline in which nature holds all the trump cards.

I am, therefore, going on from greenkeeping books specifically to suggest other subjects that require investigation and understanding — not just a list of books to acquire, as many are becoming expensive and rarely appear for sale, more the type of book that is helpful.

I have come to believe that many of our problems stem from widespread ignorance of what I term The Philosophy of Golf. By that I mean what kind of golf the golfer is seeking to play and, therefore, what requirements he will ask of his golf course and those who prepare it. We can then investigate if these requirements have changed and make a cautious and knowledgeable approach to the 'crunch' question — Are we being asked to produce golf courses that are not ecologically or financially viable in British conditions?

We must start with some study of the original Scottish game as it evolved on links land and its spread to other British links and, later, to other habitats, some far from ideal.

I know perfectly well that in going back over the years I will be accused of being a 'traditionalist,' as if that is some kind of dirty word, and we should all be bowing down to

the altar of 'modern' golf. That is not really surprising when you realise the commercial involvement of those who benefit from the excesses, deficiencies and diseases that seem to follow in the train of 'modern' golf.

Such people will certainly not want us to go back and trace what has happened — we might just find we can do without some or all of the expensive hardware we are being sold, be it chemicals, irrigation or cutting machinery or fancy golf balls and clubs, etc. Even in my memory, golf was a much simpler game and a 'fun' game. A drainpipe bag, a few clubs and balls, ordinary clothes and shoes with hobnails in the soles. A different game, especially in summer, with a great mental fascination, played on well-selected, easily-maintained, natural sites.

Early authors who describe these things so well include amateurs, such as Horace Hutchinson and Harold Hilton, from the Edwardian era. Both were prolific writers in *Country Life*, *Golf Illustrated* and penned some splendid books.

My favourite is John L. Low who, like many of his amateur contemporaries, contrived to be a member of something like a dozen famous clubs across the country. He edited *Nisbet's Golf Year Book*, which was not just a list of courses, but gave a description of their playing qualities and terrain written by a leading architect or player. Low wrote longer pieces on St Andrews and Hoylake ('the best test of golf in England').

It was variety and skill that counted with these men and they approved of courses that provided a scholarship level examination of the player. A great variety of different strokes were demanded, especially in approach shots.

Low wrote *Concerning Golf* in 1905, lambasting legislators, who had to deal with the problem of the new India rubber balls, for 'being neither prompt nor brave

enough to carry out their own convictions' and, subsequently, he became Chairman of the Rules of Golf Committee himself.

In this book, he also gave minute descriptions of varied techniques with approach shots — shots that would never be even dreamed of by modern golfers with their bouncy golf balls hit by wedges into boggy greens.

Incidentally, I read that Gary Koch, the leading American in this year's Open, remarked that perfect fairways and receptive greens are making the game 'too automatic,' or, as an old traditionalist like me would say, 'too boring.'

Forty years ago, we played a very enjoyable game on good courses and it was ecologically and financially viable. Let me hasten to add that it was also too cheap — mainly at the expense of the greenkeeper. Don't just take my word for these things — delve into any old golf book you can beg, borrow or steal. Unlike golf writers of today, earlier authors featured courses as protagonists in a struggle with the player.

The great triumvirate of Vardon, Taylor and Braid produced excellent books. Vardon, especially, wrote with great style from 1906 to 1933.

Ted Ray, a winner of the British and US Opens, produced *Inland Golf* in 1915, showing how golf was spreading from 'links' to 'courses' and delineated many of the problems that still beset inland courses today.

So, on to the many books by that superb writer Bernard Darwin (1922 - 1952), which have been recognised as the classics they are. I recently came across a large collection of old *Country Life* magazines on a market stall, in which Darwin, like Hutchinson before him and Pat Ward-Thomas later, did an excellent weekly column. His descriptions of play and courses bring the scene alive.

A book that is frequently to be seen is *Golfers Companion*

(1937) by Peter Lawless – a very good anthology.

Abe Mitchell and George Duncan were among those who wrote books on technique that also give sidelights on the nature of the game in their day.

Henry Cotton was a prolific writer and photographer and, especially in *This Game Of Golf* (1948), he began to chronicle changes in the American game which, when transplanted to this country, were not always beneficial.

Bobby Jones and Henry Longhurst were always entertaining while filling in background detail.

Robert H.K. Browning, editor for many years of *Golfing* magazine, was a perceptive writer with one special gem *A History Of Golf – The Royal Ancient Game* (1955).

This list could go on and on, but if I had to select just one

book to take with my records to that desert island, it would be *A History Of Golf In Britain*, edited by Sir Guy Campbell and published in 1952. I remember that my wife bought it for my birthday that year. I think it cost two guineas (£2.10), a lot of money for a book in those days, but it remains a favourite bedside volume. Better than any other, it describes how the game started and progressed for many years.

I am reminded that this study of history opens the doors to the study of your own course. There may be a club history, but it is even more interesting to study the history of greenkeeping methods at a particular club.

Chairmen of green committees might think of looking up old minute books with a view to staff trying to piece together the history of the environment in which they work. The idea that

each generation should start again with its knowledge is plainly ridiculous and wasteful. Why not find out more about what went before on your course?

Golf writers today do not seem to discuss or query the philosophy of the game. Reports in the Press and magazines are little more than blow-by-blow accounts of a player's progress, as related to par, in an event.

As tournaments are frequently played on courses that seem to be a poor test of shot making and ball control, you have to wonder if writers have been told *not* to give readers the details. Or perhaps it is simply because their living is dependent on the 'pro' circuits. We seem to have to go back in time to find a free, frank and informed Press.

Next time, I will look at books on golf courses, especially those on golf architecture.

Golf's ultimate partnership Continued...

preciate fully all of the characteristics that make golf such a truly beautiful game.

Therein, in essence, lies the key element of this ultimate partnership, where one partner, the superintendent, provides the beautifully playable playing surfaces and the other partner, the true believer amateur, mobilises and brings to bear all of the characteristics that make what the superintendent has done worth the doing.

Having so identified and joined this partnership, we need some further definition of its purposes.

First, all of us should join in the mission of preserving and promoting this ancient and honorable game. We should note that promoting and preserving are not necessarily complementary activities. A lot of promoters hovering around this game are anything but preservers.

We should also note that it is worth preserving, not so much because it is ancient (although its antiquity helps to distinguish it), but because its heart and its soul

derive from its being, above all, honorable.

The honorable part of it is given some distinctive emphasis by the fact that, in all of its long history, no one has reached the very pinnacle of this game who was not a person of distinctive character. In considering that remarkable distinction, contemplate the Tom Morrises, both old and young, Vardon, Jones, Hogan, Nelson, Palmer, Watson, and Nicklaus. Is there any other game, or indeed any other activity, that has identified such an array of quality as the very best of their respective times?

While we are promoting, we should be promoting understanding among the partners – on the true believer amateur side, appreciation for all the incredible complexity involved in properly maintaining a golf course, and on the superintendent's side, what a relatively lousy experience it is to slog around an overwatered golf course.

Finally, I am moved to observe that if he had not been so involv-

ed in Elizabethan drama and if access to the game had been easier in the 16th century, William Shakespeare surely would have been a golfer. Why am I so sure? Because anyone with such poetry in his soul could not have resisted the game, given any exposure to it, and, 'To thine own self be true,' has to be the ultimate credo of the true believer amateur.

While to be or not to be true to himself is a choice a golfer can make, no such choice is available to the superintendent in the pursuit of his profession. Nature does not allow him any counterpart of the self-conceded putt or the surreptitiously improved lie. Every decision the superintendent makes, good or bad, is inevitably reflected in the way the golf course looks and plays.

In that sense, therefore, they are unequal partners. In the much more important sense, however, of determining whether all that the game can be and mean is going to be realised, they are not just equal partners, but, indeed, golf's ultimate partnership.

Guy Catchpole retires



Guy Catchpole was given a framed John Campbell cartoon by *Greenkeeper* publisher Michael Coffey (right).

THAT familiar glint in the eye of Guy Catchpole on the eve of his retirement from Ransomes reminded me that he has never lost his dry sense of humour and interest in people during the 25 years I have known him, writes *John Campbell*.

His affable manner and extensive knowledge of the grass machinery business has always been a great asset to the company and has earned him the respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends in the sports and recreation industry.

Guy joined Ransomes in 1948, became manager of the warehouse in Scotland afterwards and was appointed grass machinery sales manager at Ipswich in 1960. Eventually, he progressed to sales director for grass and farm machinery after joining the main board in 1980.

He was responsible for a number of Ransomes feature films, including *The Royal And Ancient Game* and *The Training Of Golf Greenkeepers*. For many years, he took a close interest in the activities of the Institute of Parks and Recreation and was instrumental in Ransomes making a film celebrating the institute's

golden jubilee.

Guy has been involved with many significant developments within the company's grass machinery division, including greater emphasis on machines for the professional user, the introduction of the hydraulic gang mower followed by the all-hydraulic self-propelled mower, forming a countrywide network of specialist dealers, which entailed an extensive programme of dealer training that continues and the purchase of Wisconsin Marine in America, now Ransomes Inc, to provide the company with a base for expansion in US markets and a range of rotary mowers for its worldwide dealer network.

Guy has always maintained an active interest in the affairs of greenkeeping and has done much to further the profession's progress. He is a vice-president of the BGGa and past-chairman of the British Lawn Mower Manufacturers Federation.

A keen golfer, he has served as captain and green chairman of Woodbridge GC, where his wife Myra is captain of the ladies. With more time on his hands, he will undoubtedly do more fishing at

some of his favourite Scottish haunts.

The good wishes of us all go to Guy and Myra for a long and happy retirement. Lang may their lum reek!

Guy's successor

Keir Wyatt, 43, who joined Ransomes' main board this year as sales and marketing director, takes over from Guy. Keir worked with a farm machinery dealer and tractor manufacturer, where he held senior posts in the marketing, selling and servicing of products through a UK and overseas dealer organisation, before joining Ransomes.

"I have been encouraged by the co-operation and help from all at Ransomes and also by our dealers, in this country and overseas," Keir said. He believes Ransomes' improved performance during recent years is due to the company's substantial investment in new product development and the latest in manufacturing technology. "This is a policy we shall continue to further improve our position in today's competitive world markets."



Keir Wyatt.

Greater use is now made of robot and automatic techniques. Manufacture is controlled by a site-based central computer, which incorporates all systems from production control to financial analysis.

Managing director Bob Dodsworth said: "We are proud of our past, but we are neither dependent on it or live in it. We accept the reality of a highly competitive world and to be successful we must continue to offer products that get the job done at a price customers can afford."

Among an interesting range of new equipment is the Ransomes GT triple greens mower, which does not replace the Triplex 171, but is seen as an addition to the range of greens maintenance equipment.

This machine is designed with a low centre of gravity for working on slopes. It is equipped with a Kubota twin-cylinder water-cooled diesel engine (12hp), which drives two hydraulic pumps - one for hydrostatic transmission, the other for the cutting units drive and lift. A digital readout, calibrated in cuts per metre, enables the required cutting ratio to be selected and set for mowing speeds up to 5mph. Transport between greens (7½mph) does not disturb the setting.

Selecting the cutting units for perimeter mowing and operating the back-lapping system are by push-button control. In addition to greens cutting units, the Ransomes GT is available with tee cutting, as well as verticut and



The new hydraulically operated GT triple greens mower.

vibra spiker units. Units are interchangeable without the need for tools.

Other impressive features are the ease with which the grass box on the centre unit can be taken off for emptying and the way the cutting unit itself can be detached from the mower and removed for routine maintenance. By releasing a latch, the operator's footplate and steering console is easily raised making the unit readily accessible.

Most greenkeepers will appreciate the Ransomes GT's good all-round visibility and the positioning of the sophisticated controls.

Another innovation is the new Ransomes TMV (Turf Main-

tenance Vehicle), available with a range of turf maintenance attachments made by specialist manufacturers. Powered by a 20hp twin-cylinder Onan petrol engine, the three-wheeled TMV incorporates hydrostatic drive to the rear wheels, a pto and hydraulic services. It has infinitely variable speed control from 0-16 mph.

The efficient suspension gives the operator a comfortable ride at top speed, with plenty of room for a passenger. In addition to a hydraulically operated ¾ ton capacity dump box, other attachments include slitters, a core tiner, top dresser, seeder, brush and scarifier from Dabro International and Allman an sprayer.



Also new, the Ransomes TMV with a Dabro International slitter.

Greenkeeper players and professional superintendents

By Jim Barclay

LEGEND has it that the first professional golfer to cross the Atlantic over a hundred years ago was fired after one season for refusing to take on the duties of course superintendent. William F. Davis was an assistant at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club when Royal Montreal in Canada hired him in 1881 to be its first professional.

For his fixed wage of \$4 per week, Royal Montreal also expected him to maintain the course single-handed. This probably involved no more than cutting the grass, rolling the greens, and re-seeding the divot marks.

But Mr Davis refused.

Royal Liverpool, with five hundred members, could afford a groundsman to do manual work on the course. At Royal Montreal, with only twenty-five members, it seemed not an unreasonable request to ask Davis to do this.

If Mr Davis had belonged to a trade union, he would probably have sued for wrongful dismissal. On balance, I think he would have lost his case. Precedence was against him. Strictly speaking, he had not been engaged as Royal Montreal's 'professional.' No such post existed. He had been engaged as its greenkeeper. And by custom and practice, a greenkeeper was, among other things, the keeper of the course.

The name greenkeeper was of Scottish origin. Whoever thought of the title and defined the duties of the greenkeeper, was an astute gentlemen or a conniving rogue, depending on which side of the table you were seated.

Consider the skills expected of the greenkeeper. He had to be an expert clubmaker and club repairer, he had to make and repair golf balls, he had to be a good enough golfer not only to teach the game, but also win money-matches against greenkeepers from neighbouring clubs, he had to control a squad of uncouth caddies, some of them children of uncertain age, others 'old, bent and frosted by many winters' and not always sober, he

had to know all there was to know about the upkeep of a golf course, and - if the club could not afford the luxury of a labourer - he had to personally keep the grass short, cut the holes on the green and fill in the holes on the fairway.

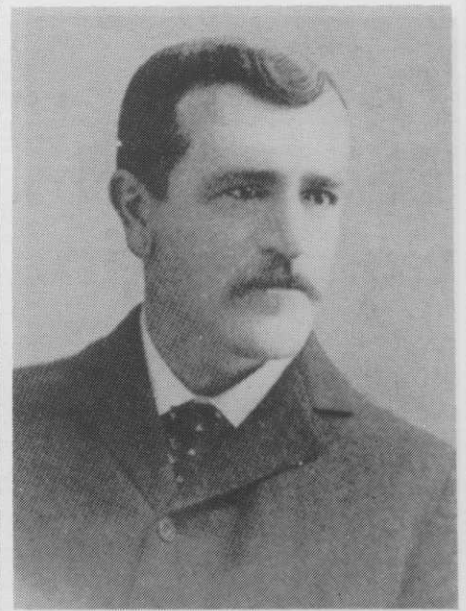
(You will note that there is no mention of 'raking the bunkers.' The concept of raking bunkers to make them easier to get out of is a 20th-century absurdity. It only makes sense in a society that sees nothing wrong in selling radar detectors to motorists to make it easier to get out of speed traps.)

Clearly, a golf club should have been forced, by written agreement, to employ fifteen men, each to his own task, clearly defined and demarcated, with not a scrap of overlapping, at the risk of a strike: golf teacher, match player, clubmaker (woods), clubmaker (irons), club repairer (woods), club repairer (irons), ball maker, ball repairer, grass cutter, hole cutter, divot reseeder, sand-box filler, caddie master, union shop steward and tea maker.

None of these, you will note, is given the title 'professional.' But, in fact, they would all be professionals, in the sense that they could no longer be amateurs, since they would all be making a living out of the game - for a week until the club went bankrupt.

In large clubs, the division of duties into those of today's club professional and course superintendent seems to have been a gradual process. As early as the 1880s, some clubs used the rather grandiose title of 'Resident Professional and Custodian of the Green,' which was at least a recognition of his dual responsibilities. But like all early greenkeepers, this man was a player and teacher first, a clubmaker second and a keeper of the green third.

This order of priority was all wrong for clubs in new golfing countries. At a pinch, members could teach themselves, or be taught by club members from the



William F. Davis, North America's first greenkeeper.

Old Country. And there were plenty of gardeners to cut the grass.

But making and repairing golf clubs by hand was a skilled business, requiring a four-year apprenticeship. In the days of hickory shafts and beechwood heads, a golfer needed a club repairer at hand, or several sets of spare clubs. It was probably for this reason that Royal Montreal did not fire Mr Davis after one season (as legend would have it), but kept him in Canada for twelve years, giving him an assistant to cut the grass. And when Davis left, he was replaced by a professional from St Andrews. Not by a 'professional' as we use the word today, but by a professional clubmaker, who also happened to be an excellent player of the game.

Pattisson Has A New Place

H. Pattisson & Co has completed a major reorganisation of its business, including a move out of London to new premises near the M1 in Luton. The new works are more functional and have enabled streamlining of production.

Pattisson has taken the opportunity to upgrade a number of its products, with much of the outdoor equipment now being plastic-coated for longer life.

The company has produced two new catalogues. The first, already in circulation, details its comprehensive range of golf-course furniture and accessories. The second illustrates the company's range of aeration and grass-cutting machinery.

Pattisson continues to sell on a nationwide basis through its sales force of David Craig and Peter Marshall and agents Browns of Bristol, E.T. Breakwell in the Midlands and, most recently, Richard Aitken in Scotland.

Peter Hampton, based in



Part of the impressive range of Pattisson products.

Wiltshire, has also sold a great deal of Pattisson machinery.

Peter Bell, Pattisson's sales manager, forecasts a bright future. "Although the move cost some production, the new

premises are much more functional, so orders will be despatched more promptly."

Pattisson & Co is now located at 342 Selbourne Road, Luton, Beds LU4 8NU. Tel: 0582 597262.

Howarth Heads Amenity Seed Specialists

Jeremy Howarth has been appointed amenity seeds manager for Inter Seeds, based in Leominster, Herefordshire, where he will develop a specialist amenity seeds division for the company, offering a wide range of grasses, wild flora and fertilisers for the professional market throughout the UK. He was formerly a consultant agronomist with the STRI and, more recently, technical advisor with British Seed Houses.

Inter Seeds is a wholesale seed trading company jointly owned by 11 of the UK's leading agricultural co-operatives, namely: Berks, Bucks and Oxon Farmers, Central Farmers, Eastern Counties Farmers, Farmers Seeds Federal, Farmway, Farmore, Midland Shires Farmers, Preston Farmers, Southern Counties Agricultural Trading Society (SCATS) and the West Midland Farmers Association.

Inter Seeds has secured the ma-

ajor D.S.V. Breeders agency in the UK, enabling the company to offer varieties such as Lisabelle and Lisura perennial ryegrasses, Lifalla and Lirouge Chewings Fescues and NFG Theodor Roemer Strong Creeping Red Fescue, respected in German, Dutch and British (STRI) trials.

There are a number of existing

new varieties in the pipeline, which will undergo evaluation before launch in this country.

Full technical literature on mixtures is available from Inter Seeds, Southern Avenue, Industrial Estate, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 0QF. Tel: 0568 6363.

More New Courses

Golf Landscapes is to construct the Gosfield Lake Golf Club, a 27-hole complex north of Braintree in Essex.

Designed in association with Henry Cotton, it will have a 6,640-yard, 18-hole course, together with a nine-hole, par-three course.

The works, including creating four new lakes and installing an automatic TORO irrigation system, commence this month and seeding is programmed for completion next summer.

The greens will be built to the company's PM green technique, which combines a free-draining sandy rootzone with an under-

lying intensively slit and drained topsoil formation. This construction was used earlier this year at a new public course on Canvey Island, Essex.

And the company is to build a new John Jacobs Golf Centre at Town Farm, High Wycombe, Bucks. An 18-hole public course, 18-hole par-three course and a driving range, with associated earth and drainage works to a clubhouse and car park, give a value of over £½ million.

Seeding is scheduled for next August and there will be a fully automatic watering system to the greens, tees and approaches.

Now Available From ICI...



ICI's Tornado - large and small.

ICI has relaunched Daconil on to the sports and amenity turf grass market. The fungicide contains chlorothalonil, a chemical with the widest spectrum of turf disease control recommendations cleared under the UK Pesticide Registration Scheme.

In addition to controlling all common turf diseases, such as Dollar Spot, Red Thread, Fusarium Patch/Snow Mould and Grey Snow Mould, recommendations are also available for Anthracnose, Take-All Patch, Melting-Out and Damping Off.

Daconil turf can be used at any time of the year and its rain-fast formulation will resist wash-off and provide a longer lasting level of control. After 15 years of documented use worldwide, the fungicide has defied attempts by diseases to build up resistant strains against it.

Earthworms, too, have not developed resistant species and new Tornado, a liquid formulation of carbaryl, provides an effective and economical answer to the control of casting worms.

Tornado is quick acting and provides long lasting residual control, remaining effective for up to six months, and is virtually odour free. Once the spray has dried, play can continue without restriction.

Daconil is available in a two litre plastic pack and Tornado in two and ten litre packs. Contact ICI Professional Products, Woolmead House East, Woolmead Walk, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7UB. Tel: 0252 723670.

New Green Aerator

Claimed to be over 50 per cent faster than leading competitive products, the new Toro Greens Aerator uses hollow tines to punch aerifying holes into greens, tees and collars. Soil cores pulled out by the tines are deposited directly back on to the ground or, by the use of an optional Windrower, moved to compact rows for subsequent pick-up. Toro says the machine can aerify up to 13,000 sq ft of turf per hour.

Powered by a Kohler 4-cycle, 16hp motor, the tricycle-design Toro Greens Aerator features electric start, two forward and one reverse speeds, a disc-type brake and welded steel construction. There's a hand-operated throttle, choke, brake and coring unit hydraulic lift lever.

The coring mechanism consists of four individual crankshafts that

drive four arms, each holding three coring tines. The crankshafts are mounted in precision ball bearings, with the entire coring unit powered by a banded V-belt.

Tines are made of case-hardened tubing - sizes available for specific golf course needs include $\frac{3}{8}$ in, $\frac{1}{2}$ in, $\frac{5}{8}$ in and a $\frac{1}{2}$ in carbide-tipped tine. The entire coring mechanism is also designed to be easily detached and placed on an optional coring head stand for servicing.

The coring width of the greens aerator is 27in, while the 12 individual tines are mounted $2\frac{1}{4}$ in apart from hole centre to hole centre. The coring depth can be set up to 3in and discharge chutes direct the resultant cores towards the rear of the unit, away from the interior mechanism.

New Trencher Unveiled

The new GL Sportsturf Trencher has been added to Golf Landscapes fleet of specialist machinery.

Designed and built exclusively for the company, the trencher, weighing 4 tonnes, is based around a 112hp power unit and mounted on tracks. It features a soil-collection system, whereby spoil is taken directly to awaiting

trailers for removal.

Digging width can be varied from 4in to 12in and to a maximum depth of 4ft. Laser control ensures even and correct grading and allows the company's turfgrass drainage team to instal piped and slit systems to grass areas, without damage to turf, efficiently and economically.



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Farmura Liquid Organic Fertiliser has a record of success built up over 14 years. It is used by many leading venues, including Open Championship courses and the Belfry, Wembley Stadium, Royal Ascot and Smith's Lawn.

Farmura broke into land reclamation following use on different sportsturf sites. It got grass to grow on a green at St Augustine's golf course in Kent, built from rubble and where grass had refused to germinate, and Royal Belfast, where some tees are built on rock.

The Farmura N Service provides for the addition of extra major or minor nutrients. Where a specification or programme calls for a low input of major nutrients, these can be supplied ready mixed with Farmura to produce a semi-organic liquid fertiliser.

Available to specific requirements by quotation, typical additions have been 5-6-6 fertiliser and 6 units of nitrogen per acre (14.8 units per hectare).

Rates of application are usually between five to 15 gallons per acre (56 litres - 169 litres per hectare). Uses include low input management programmes and land reclamation.

Full details on the complete range from Farmura, Stone Hill, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Tel: 023376 241.



The Farmura logo.

The Kenneth Wilson Group has acquired the horticultural supplies business of Fyffes Monro Horticultural Sundries, the UK's second largest horticultural supplies organisation with depots at Aylesford, Cheltenham, Chichester, Ormskirk, Penzance and Spalding.

Gordon Hunter, general manager of Kenneth Wilson Horticulture, assumes overall responsibility for the newly enlarged horticultural division. He is joined on the board by Ian M. Munro, group managing director of the Kenneth Wilson Group.

Lots More From M&B

For the control of leatherjackets and frit fly, May & Baker has launched a new insecticide. Crossfire contains chlorpyrifos to control grass sward pests when applied in either autumn or spring.

Crossfire is supplied in one litre bottles, sufficient to treat almost a full acre.

May & Baker is also now offering Seritox Turf, a new broad spectrum selective weedkiller for amenity turf use.

An aqueous formulation, containing dichlorprop and MCPA, Seritox Turf provides control of a wide range of turf weeds, including buttercup, daisy, clover, dandelion, plantain, chickweed, thistle, sorrel and other common broad-leaved species. Weeds should be treated between April and September.

Seritox Turf's non-volatile formulation makes it environmentally acceptable. Applied at 7L/ha, Seritox Turf is supplied in five litre packs and 25 litre drums.

To ensure accuracy, economy and efficiency of spray operations - whether by powered or knapsack sprayers - Environmental Products has introduced Dyon, a non-toxic, water soluble dye for use with pesticides and fertilisers.

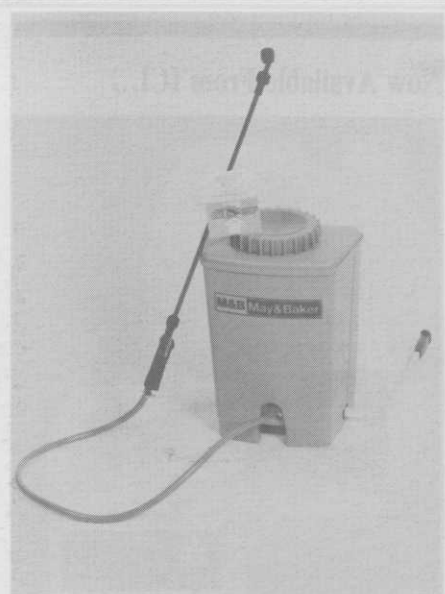
Added to the spray solution, Dyon provides a dark-green tint to vegetation, enabling the operator to see where he has sprayed without costly overlap or missed areas.

Ideal for spot treatment or hand spraying, Dyon's colour lasts overnight to enable operators to continue spraying where they left off. In fact, Dyon will show for up to three days, disappearing with rain, heavy dew, watering or exposure to sunlight.

Dyon shows up uneven spray patterns, leaks and blocked jets, while encouraging equipment to be kept clean before and after use. It can also be used to enhance the appearance of turf for special occasions.

Environmental Products has also introduced a range of spray nozzles in conjunction with Lurmark.

The Lurmark range has been colour coded to May & Baker's range of herbicides, fungicides, insecticides and growth regulators to enable users to easily recognise the correct spray jet



for a particular chemical application.

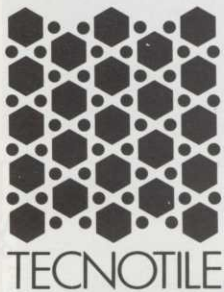
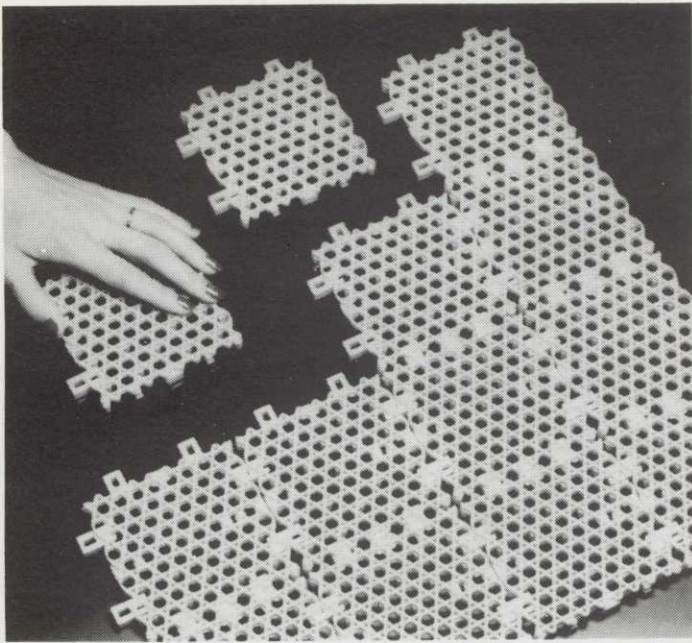
And a knapsack sprayer is being marketed by May & Baker in conjunction with Norwegian world supplier PTP.

Moulded from UV stabilised polypropylene, selected for its low weight and robust, chemical properties, the 16 litre PTP sprayer features a contoured back, shoulder pads and fully adjustable carrying straps for comfort. It costs £46.50 (plus VAT).

Finally, the Hortichem Granule Applicator incorporates a five litre hopper and applies its contents to a three or five metre spread - ideal for chemical spot treatments or applying seed, slug pellets or salt.

The Hortichem Granule Applicator has low-friction nylon gears with adjustable flow rate settings to apply up to 8kg of product and has a recommended retail price of £17.74.





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In addition to the supervisors duties, the postholder will be required to make a direct contribution to the workload of the section.

Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from the Personnel and Management Services Officer, Town Hall, Sankey Street, Warrington (Tel: Warrington 35961 Ext. 32) to whom completed forms should be returned by 17th October 1986.

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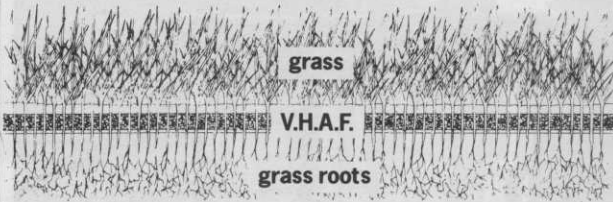
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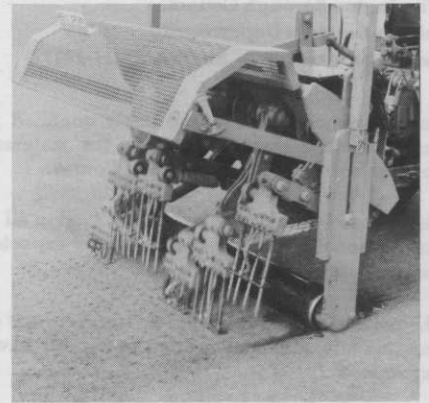
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