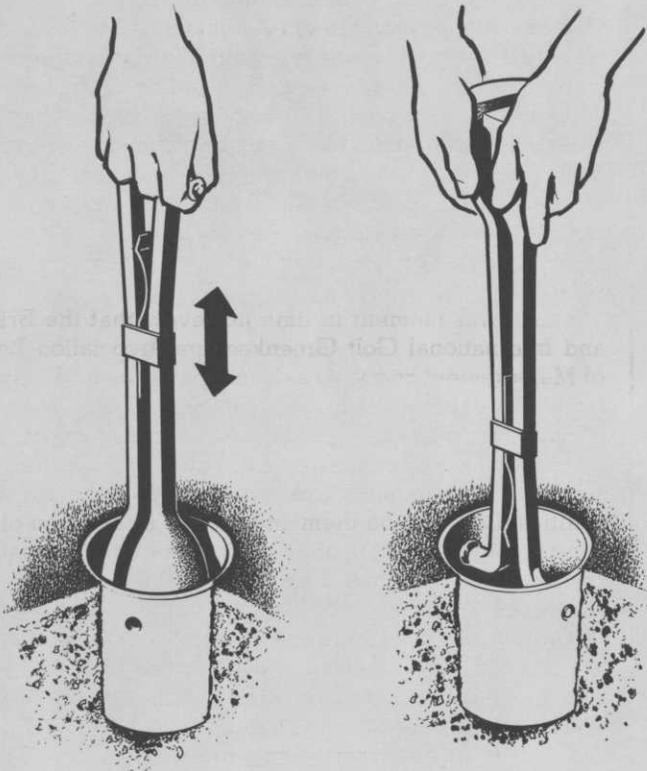


NEW

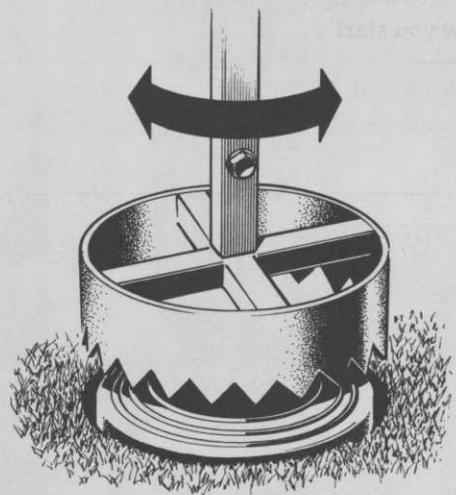
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Cup Puller/Rammer

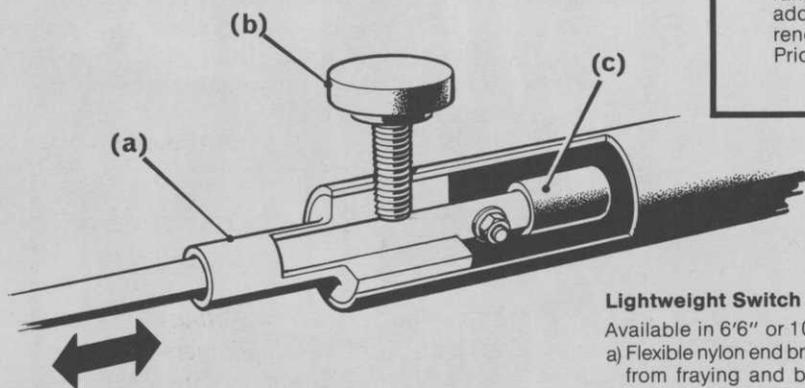
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This issue

MAY 1987

Front cover: The Jubilee Course at St Andrews is to be rebuilt, as part of the Links Managements redevelopment plans. Pictured are Brian Pierson the golf course contractor, Donald Steel the architect and partners Sandy Sinclair and Johnny Salvesen.

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BIGGA, PATIENCE IS ITS OWN REWARD

The greenkeeping profession is about to come of age. 1987 will go down as an historic year for all, from apprentices to golf course managers.

A few months ago, the old Associations, for the second time this century, voted to amalgamate into one proud body, bound by the objectives of promoting *all* aspects of greenkeeping and collaborating with any body or association with which there may be a common interest.

To this end the collaboration with the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews to achieve the formation of one united Greenkeepers Association for the whole of the United Kingdom has been most amicable.

It is at this moment in time however, that the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Board of Management requests extreme patience and support from all existing officials and members. To arrive in haste at decisions affecting the future of BIGGA would be foolish. Chairman, Walter Woods and his Board of Management are very aware of the responsibilities placed upon them and wish to inform you of the progress in all matters of obvious interest to the readers of *Greenkeeper* and members of the greenkeeping profession in the UK.

The search for a General Administrator to handle the affairs of BIGGA is almost over. More than 100 applicants were received for the position, these were vetted by appointed consultants Messrs Crew Butler Ltd., from a job description drawn up by the Board. Those short listed were finally interviewed by a sub committee and the announcement of an appointment is imminent.

The new Administrators main responsibilities will be, to run the Associations day to day affairs, develop education and training, arrange conferences, trade shows and tournaments, to liase with all other professional bodies, and above all to assist members.

The Board feel that this is an exciting appointment for the whole of the greenkeeping industry and trust that the Administrator will receive assistance and support from all concerned.

continued on page 5...



HOLIDAY COMPETITION RESULTS

In the March issue we ran a holiday competition in conjunction with C.M.W. Equipment Company, the golf course accessory & furniture manufacturers. Congratulations to our following readers who have won prizes:

£500 HOLIDAY VOUCHER

K. J. Barber, Head Greenkeeper,
Crowborough Beacon Golf Club

PORTABLE COLOUR TELEVISION

Jeffrey Drake, 1st Assistant,
Salisbury & South Wilts Golf Club

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"Our four greens have to satisfy 10,000 bowlers a year. We've independently compared proprietary slow release fertilizers and, for both our spring and summer nitrogen requirements, Greenmaster Super N proved the best." - Mr. George Smith, Head Greenkeeper, St George's Lawns Bowling Greens, Cliftonville, Margate.



"To maintain good greens under the constant hard wear our golf courses receive, we need fertilizers which work quickly and effectively. The Greenmaster

range gives us the flexibility and reliable response we need." - Mr Ray Mower, Area Superintendent, London Borough of Hillingdon Leisure Services Department.



"Our busy course is played virtually every day and the members rightly expect greens that play well all year. We've found that Greenmaster fertilizers keep the greens healthy, growing vigorously and resisting wear." - Mr Len Arbon, Head Greenkeeper, Woodbridge Golf Club.



"We're proud of the fine reputation our parks have gained. To maintain it we need accurate, reliable and safe fertilizers in the right formulations. The Greenmaster range meets all these needs and, comparing cost per treatment and quality, Greenmaster offers real value for money." - Mr Keith Scrimgeour, Horticultural Manager, Glasgow District Council Parks and Recreation Department.

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GREENMASTER
FINE TURF CARE

continued from page 3...

Every good Association requires a first class public relations and information vehicle sent regularly to all members.

A prospectus formulated by our consultants and the board was issued to a number of golf related publications, for the production of the Associations magazine.

BIGGA decided it wants a single magazine for the greenkeeping industry, to represent its views and to project its message and image.

A sub committee of the Board met with, and listened to, some very professional and well presented cases. In the final analysis, the decision to award a four year contract for the production of the magazine went to Fore Golf Publications Ltd., publishers of *Greenkeeper*. The magazine will be published ten times per year and will be sent to all greenkeeper members.

An editorial panel will discuss the content of the magazine, the panel will comprise the General Administrator, three greenkeepers nominated by the Board Cecil George, Jimmy Kidd and Bill Lawson together with the magazines editor Robin Stewart and Managing Director Michael Coffey.

The Association defined their requirements of a magazine as being practical and "user friendly", appealing to greenkeepers and club members alike. It should provide practical, technical and topical editorial together with enquiry and reply sections open to all those involved in golf. It is the intention that all regional news should appear in the form of a supplementary newsletter instead of being included in the main magazine, the newsletter will be received by members only.

Would all regional secretaries please note that from now on all news should be sent to: The Editor, *Greenkeeper*, 121-123 High Street, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex CO12 3AP. To arrive no later than the first of the month prior to publication.

A request for payment of an Annual Subscription for BIGGA will soon be mailed to those registered as members of one of the three previous Associations, when the General Administrator has taken up his appointment.

Some formalities have still to be finalised to enable the Association to function properly, including an analysis of the membership lists of the old associations members as at December 1986.

The Board of Management fully appreciate the concern the members feel over these matters but would again ask for patience, not panic measures, in the interim period.

Regional committees meantime must organise financial support for the future to permit them to be self sufficient. 15% of all subscriptions collected by the General Administrator will be returned to the area nominated. Already many regions have organised successful events that have raised funds at a local level. Every support for these events will be given by the Board and General Administrator.

To conclude, the regions have never been more important, officials by example, must provide stability at this time to set BIGGA on the right path. We owe it to the Association, its Board, their consultants appointed to assist and the faith the Royal & Ancient has in greenkeepers to handle our own affairs with pride, dignity and professionalism.

Editorial Sub Committee

British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association.

To assist the Board of Management and in advance of the appointment of the General Administrator any person wishing to become a member of BIGGA, who was not a member of one of the three previous associations in 1986, should complete the enclosed application form and send it to:

**The General Administrator,
BIGGA,
Sports Turf Research Institute,
Bingley,
W. Yorks.**

An invoice for a subscription will be sent in due course.

Board of Management

British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association.

Bunker Raking At The Open

The Scottish region of BIGGA are looking for volunteers to rake bunkers at the Open at Muirfield from 16-19 July. Any member can apply for as many days, mornings or afternoons as he wants. The requirement is for 50 greenkeepers per day the morning 'shift' is from 7.15a.m. till 12.30 and p.m. is from 12.30 onwards. One greenkeeper will accompany each match from the 1st to 18th. Substantial luncheon vouchers will be provided as well as an admission ticket — so get your application in early to: J. D. McKean, Scottish Region Bigga, 82 Drumbreck Road, Glasgow G41 9DW. You will be notified by post in good time, so that you can make the necessary travel arrangements.



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**Greens Convener, Douglas Park Golf Club,
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Glasgow. G61 2TJ**

Surrey

The branch wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude for all the hard and tireless work by Danielle Jones on behalf of EIGGA. We feel it a great loss that Danielle's expertise and enthusiasm could not be used in the new association and wish her the very best for the future.

Special thanks also to Alec Bradshaw, past chairman of the Surrey branch, for putting in a lot of time and effort organising branch affairs. We wish Alec well and hope he has a good golfing season.

Congratulations are in order for Paul Pearse, who will now take up the position of head greenkeeper at Staverton Park Golf Club. Paul has been the branch administrator for the past 18 months and has done a magnificent job dealing with correspondence, organising golf events, etc.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul for all he has done and hope he and his

wife enjoy the new appointment.

Congratulations also to Kevin Munt, who takes over from Gerry Coley as course manager at The Wentworth Club.

The Surrey branch wishes Gerry all the very best in his retirement.

Golf dates: August 7 - Sunningdale GC, McMillan Tankard, September 24 - Leatherhead GC, McGillvary Shield, October 28 - Laleham GC, Autumn Tournament and December 22 - Effingham GC, Turkey Trot.

Members should note that the date for the Cresta Cup is June 1 and not June 2 as instructed on entry forms.

Winners of the 1986/87 Huxley Bowl are S. McMillan and P. Pearse, who defeated M. Lower and A. Davy.

The new address of the branch administrator is The Bungalow, Hankley Common Golf Club, Tilford, Farnham, Surrey.

Jim Russell, Branch Administrator

London

First, it is my pleasure to welcome to the branch two new members, George Whitley, head greenkeeper at West Herts, and Derek Lithgow, head greenkeeper at Bushey Hall. We hope their appointments will be long and happy.

Following the April committee meeting, Derek Mason resigned for personal reasons and I would like to thank him for all his help over the past three years. I am pleased to welcome Brian Anderson of Pinner on to the committee and I am sure he will be a great asset to the branch.

At the same meeting, I was appointed temporary administrator until the next AGM. I can be contacted on Northwood 24737. David Low has stepped down as administrator due to pressure of work and family commitments.

I feel sure that all members would like to pay tribute to David for all his tremendous work since the branch was founded four years ago.

You will have been informed about the committee's decision to hold monthly branch meetings starting at The Capriole Room, Park Farm, Northwood on June 5 at 7.30pm. This offers members and their families an opportunity to meet socially and I hope we have a large turnout for this function in support of the event's organisers.

I also look forward to meeting members at the Bushey Squash and Golf Club at 4pm on June 18 for an evening match followed by a pie and a pint at the very reasonable cost of £4 per person. Please notify me by June 5 if you wish to play.

The autumn meeting will be held at North Middlesex Golf Club, Friern Barnet Lane, N20 on Tuesday October 6 at 8.30am, the cost of which will be decided later.

Finally, we would like to send our condolences to the family and friends of George Pearce, who died recently aged 79. George retired in 1981 after 45 years of loyal service on the greenkeeping staff of Muswell Hill Golf Club.

Norman Exley

David G. Allan Oils sponsor a Young Greenkeeper Of The Year Award in association with the Langside College, Glasgow. This year, the award went to Gordon Irvine of Turnberry Golf Courses based on his college results as a final-year student.

Sales manager Don Hamilton said: "We will continue to encourage young greenkeepers via our award scheme and film shows based on maintenance and lubrication of greenkeeping equipment."



George Brown, Turnberry courses manager and greenkeeper Gordon Irvine (middle) are pictured with Don Hamilton, sales manager of David G. Allan Oils.

BRITISH & INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

I wish to register as a member:-

Position Head/Assistant Greenkeeper

Name

Club

Address (Home)

.....

.....

Tel. No. Post Code

Trade Member

Company

Address

.....

Tel. No. Post Code

Position in Company

Region you wish to join

(TO BE COMPLETED BY PROSPECTIVE MEMBER OR ADMINISTRATOR)

I understand I will be invoiced for my subscription in due course.

Signed

Return to: The General Administrator, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, W. Yorks.

JUBILATION FOR PIERSON

The Links Management Trust of St Andrews have awarded a substantial contract to Brian Pierson to carry out major work on their Jubilee Course.

The Jubilee Course at St Andrews was opened in 1987 on the day when Queen Victoria's jubilee was celebrated, but it was regarded then as the ladies' course, an alternative to the gentler challenge on the ladies' putting green. In 1912, the course was extended from 12 to 18 holes and, in 1939, Willie Auchterlonie, then club professional to the R & A, with a few men began its construction.

By 1946, they had made a pleasing course on the bayside of the dunes, not over-demanding, but ideal for beginners and high-handicap players, so wrote Pat Ward-Thomas in his book 'The Royal & Ancient'

Now the Jubilee is to undergo a major facelift, which will transform the course into a testing layout of about 6,700 yards, an increase over the present course of some 700 yards. Donald Steel, of architects Cotton

Pennink and Steel, was commissioned by the Links Management Committee, as part of its re-development plans for St Andrews, to advise on how the Jubilee Course could be upgraded.

Donald Steel feels that the course offers greater potential than any other he has been involved in altering. The Jubilee has no par fives which, it is felt, are essential if the course is to become a balanced test for the modern game. Additional length had to be added and the land has been found within the boundaries of the Links Trust ground.

The new design is a figure of eight with the course's main feature being the skilled use of the previously disregarded central sand dune. There is also a much greater variation in the direction of play than at present. The redesigned course will introduce some outstanding holes with both greens and tees varying in height.

The 3rd is the first exciting new hole, a par five of 550 yards, it uses the present 16th and 15th

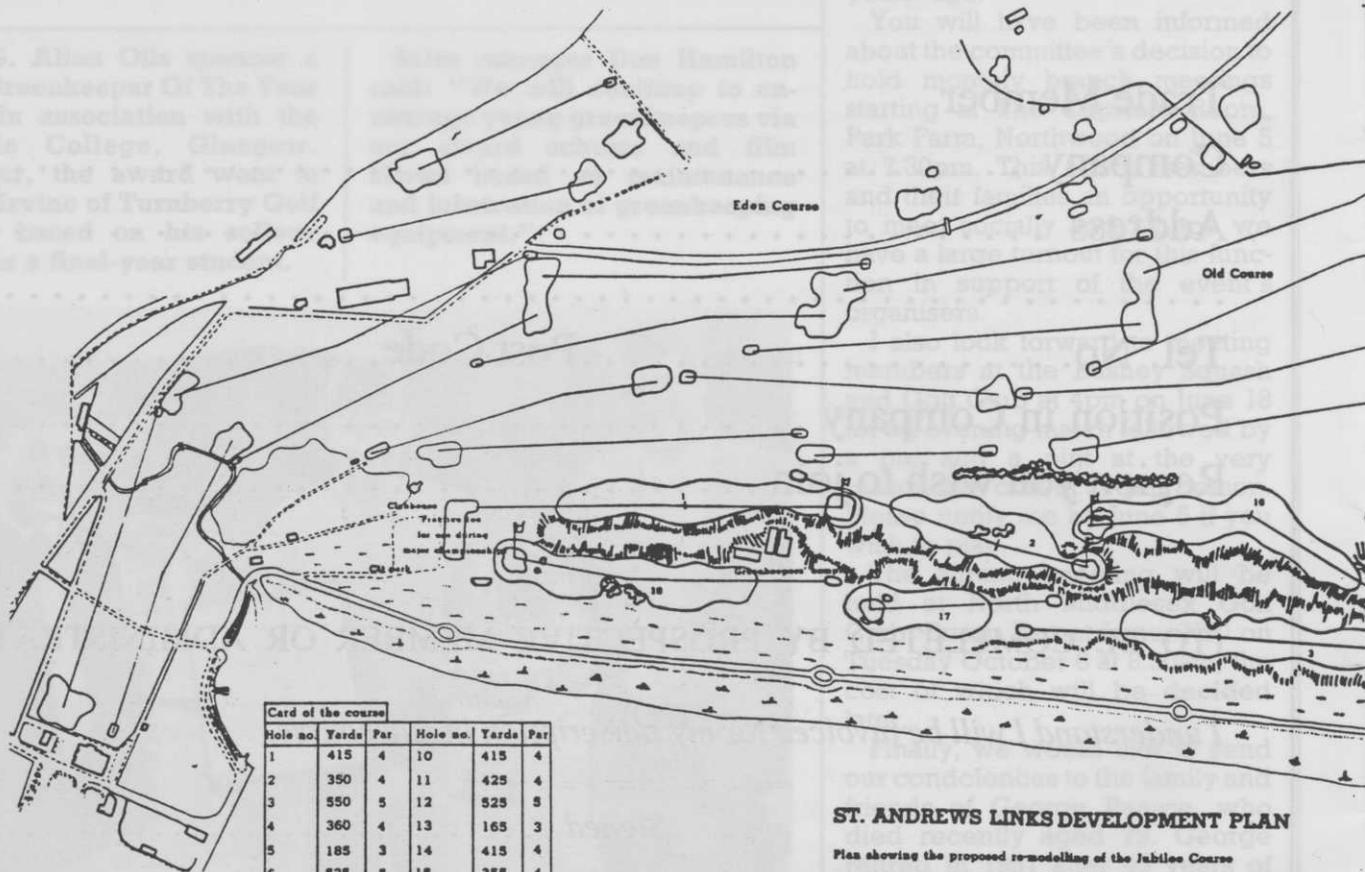
holes. The 6th, also, is two existing holes strung together, the 5th and 6th, to make another genuine par five of over 500 yards.

Both the 9th and 10th will break new ground, the latter being a stiff par four with a green guarded by a lone dune, although a final resting place for the green has yet to be found. A considerable amount of clearance work and contouring will have to be done by the Pierson team to get this part of the course to blend in with its surroundings.

For this work, the Links Management Trust have been fortunate in acquiring a substantial amount of topsoil from the excavation of a local swimming pool, reputed to be the site of a leper colony!

The 13th is an excellent short hole of 165 yards played from an elevated tee into the prevailing wind to a green backed by a gorse-covered dune. The 15th is regarded by Donald Steel as the star attraction with a tight line, between a huge dune on the right and severe gorse on the left, into a green set in a hollow.

The finish is also exacting with the 17th being a par three of 220 yards off the back tee and the 18th a par four heavily bunkered on the



Card of the course			
Hole no.	Yards	Par	
1	415	4	10
2	350	4	11
3	550	5	12
4	360	4	13
5	185	3	14
6	525	5	15
7	380	4	16
8	360	4	17
9	175	3	18
3300		36	3320
			3300
Total		620	71

ST. ANDREWS LINKS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Plan showing the proposed re-modelling of the Jubilee Course

Prepared for

THE ST. ANDREWS LINKS TRUST

by

COTTON, PENNINK, STEEL & PARTNERS Ltd.

left of the driving area.

The specification for the contract was produced by Jim Arthur, who will visit the course during the alterations.

Brian Pierson faces a daunting task in radically altering part of the home of golf, but with assistance from Links Supervisor Walter Woods, his task will be made easier. Work has already commenced on green site clearance under one of Pierson's golf course construction Managers Nigel Booker. Walter, who knows every inch of St Andrews, has already pinpointed areas from where the construction team will be able to obtain suitable material for the creation of the "new dunes" and rolling contours, which will ensure the course retains its unique status as part of the home of golf.

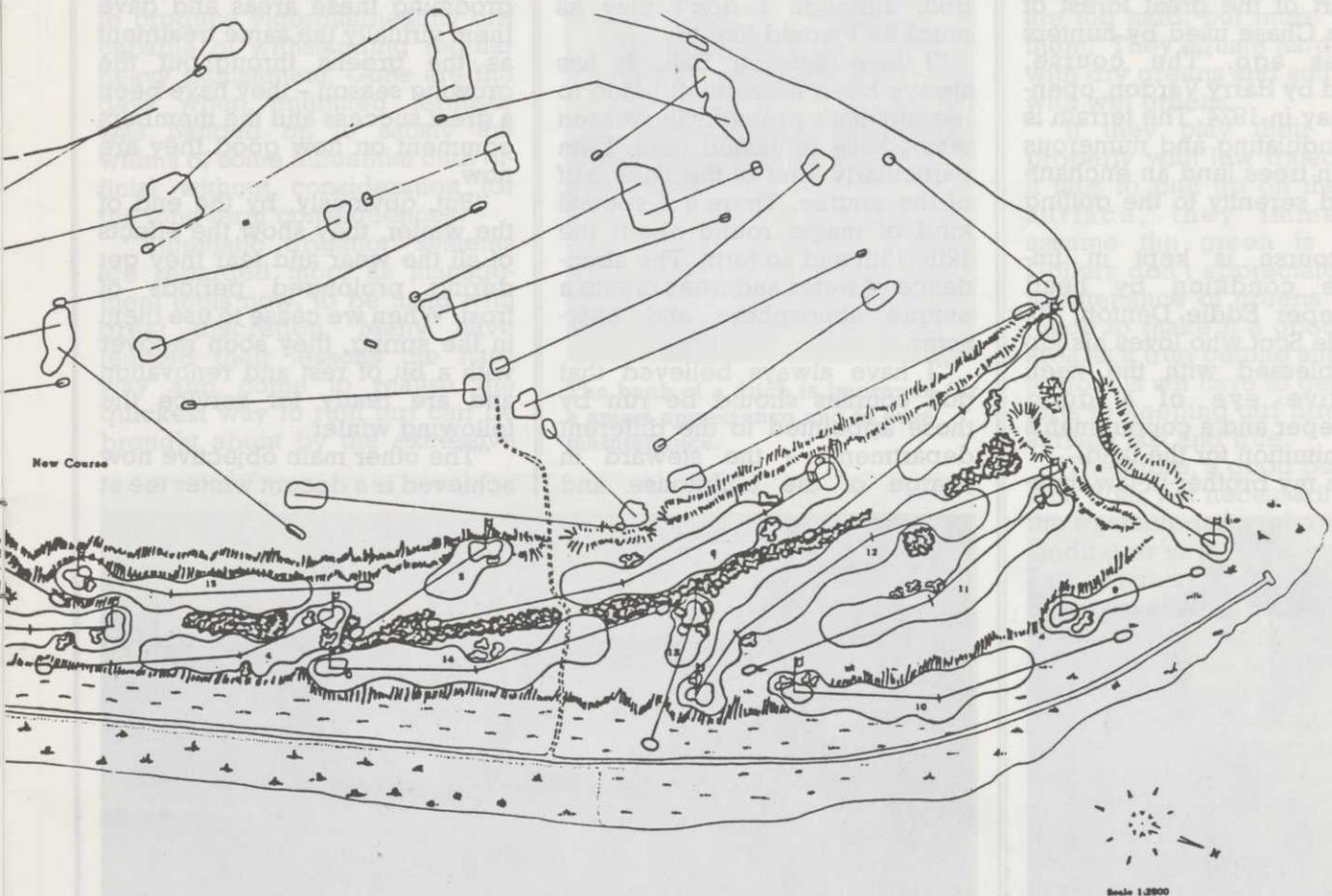
Construction will take well into the autumn and by the time Brian Pierson hands back the Jubilee Course to Links Management Trust secretary Alec Beveridge, it will prove a stern test. Stiffer than in the early 'fifties when John Salvesen, a partner in the design company, completed the course, never taking more than five at any hole with only a putter!



Messrs Pierson, Woods, Salvesen, Booker in discussions.



The central dune looking down the proposed 15th.



Out On The Course

**John Campbell meets
fellow Scot Eddie
Denton, head
greenkeeper at
Brocton Hall GC...**

"If there is a lovelier clubhouse or a prettier course in the Midlands, then I have yet to find it," wrote the late Tom Scott, editor of *Golf Illustrated*, about Brocton Hall Golf Club, Stafford. The mansion house, for generations the home of the Chetwynd family, dates back to George I and his successor, who frequently stayed there. It is said a ghost haunts the clubhouse, though few confess to having seen it!

The magnificent estate was once part of the great forest of Cannock Chase used by hunters centuries ago. The course, designed by Harry Vardon, opened for play in 1924. The terrain is gently undulating and numerous specimen trees lend an enchantment and serenity to the golfing scene.

The course is kept in immaculate condition by head greenkeeper Eddie Denton, 50, an erudite Scot who loves his job and is blessed with the keen perceptive eye of a good greenkeeper and a countryman's natural intuition for the land.

"When my brother-in-law mov-



Head greenkeeper Eddie Denton.



The stately clubhouse at Brocton Hall Golf Club.

ed from Scotland to become pro/greenkeeper at Brocton Hall, I decided to pack up my apprenticeship in engineering to join him as assistant greenkeeper in 1954. I have remained here ever since," Eddie said. "I was never wildly ambitious and little realised that I would eventually become head greenkeeper. My wife Joyce is a local girl and we have two grown-up daughters, Susan and Helen. My main hobbies are fishing, gardening and golf, although I don't play as much as I would like to.

"I love Brocton Hall. It has always been a beautiful place to me and that's probably the reason why I have remained here. I am particularly fond of the back half of the course. There's a special kind of magic round about the 12th, 13th and so forth. The abundance of water and trees create a unique atmosphere and character.

"I have always believed that golf courses should be run by those appointed to the different departments - the steward in charge of the clubhouse and

catering, the pro selling golf equipment and giving lessons and the head greenkeeper being fully responsible for the course. Sometimes, there are too many self-appointed experts - if a club has 600 members, they may all consider themselves well informed about the jobs of stewards, professionals and greenkeepers.

"A few years ago, we decided to make proper temporary greens for use during frost in the winter. We spent more time grooming these areas and gave them virtually the same treatment as the greens throughout the growing season - they have been a great success and the members comment on how good they are now.

"But, obviously, by the end of the winter, they show the effects of all the wear and tear they get during prolonged periods of frost. When we cease to use them in the spring, they soon recover with a bit of rest and renovation and are ready for service the following winter.

"The other main objective now achieved is a decent winter tee at



The 18th fairway at Brocton Hall.