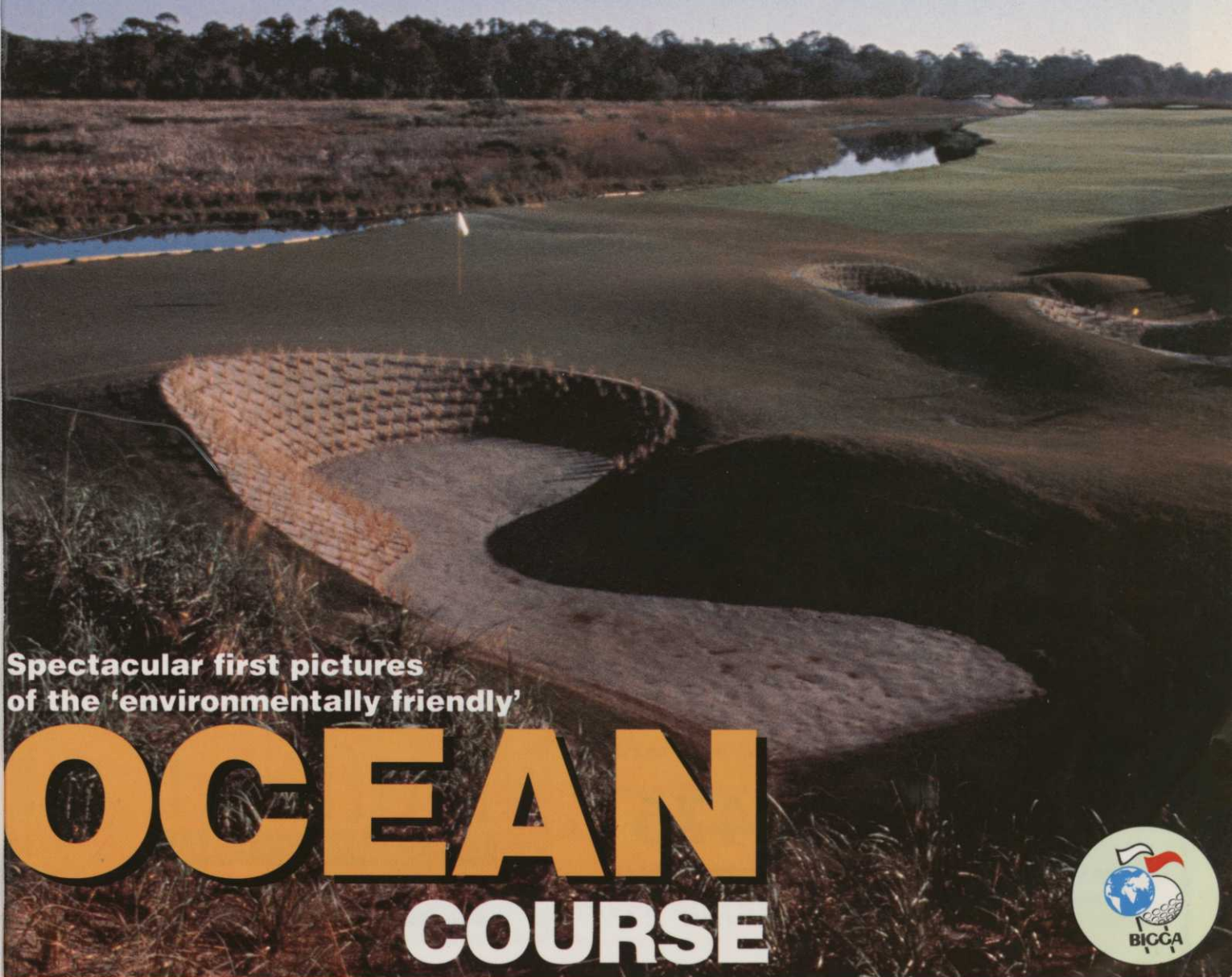


JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1991

GREENKEEPER

International



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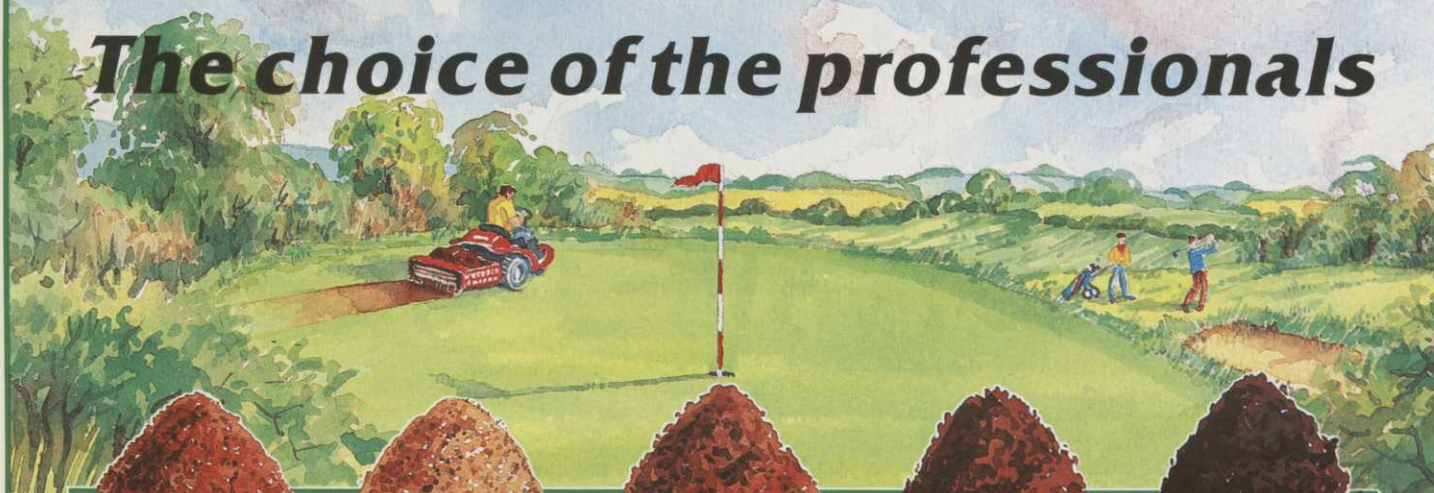
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Official publication of the
British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1991



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EDITOR

David White
Tel: 0323 891291 • Fax: 0323 895593

DESIGN/PRODUCTION EDITOR

Tim Moat
Tel: 0904 610611 • Fax: 0904 643074

SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER

Bill Lynch
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ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

Carol Dutton
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PRINTING

Hi-Tec Print, Unit 7, Universal Crescent,
Houghton Road, North Anston Industrial
Estate, Dinnington, South Yorkshire S31 7JJ
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GREENKEEPER

International

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Native grasses frame the par-four 13th, at the spectacular Ocean Course in South Carolina.

WELCOME TO GREENKEEPER *International*

**From The Rt. Hon.
Viscount Whitelaw
K.T., C.H., M.C., D.L.**

As we enter 1991 I am delighted to learn that BIGGA will now be producing its new 'in-house' publication, appropriately titled 'Greenkeeper International'. A members' magazine is most important for all greenkeeping personnel, for it is the Association's main means of communication with its membership.

It should enable members to keep abreast of developments throughout the profession and, equally important, keep members informed on key educational issues and proposals.

This is vital in terms of providing opportunities for course managers and greenkeepers to gain the qualifications and undergo training which will be essential to a successful future, both for themselves and for their chosen profession.

A highly professional team has been brought together to produce the new magazine, with an emphasis on quality of production and content. Do remember that this is your publication and your contributions will be vital to its success. Do not be afraid to voice your opinions, for there are many problems facing the profession and these should be aired through the columns of the magazine.

Approached constructively, I am sure there will subsequently be a much greater awareness and understanding of these problems within the game of golf in its wider aspects.



Your Association has made great progress in the last three years and greenkeepers now have a truly professional body to represent them. Nevertheless there remains much work to be done and for your part you should encourage many more greenkeepers to join and thus strengthen still further the power of the Association.

I shall look forward to reading the new magazine and to seeing it contribute in a positive manner to the further enhancement of BIGGA's standing within the game. I wish 'Greenkeeper

International' every success.

**Neil Thomas, BIGGA's Executive
Director comments:**

Many members will be aware of the increasing problems experienced in recent months with the production and quality of the Association's magazine. Your Board of Management was faced with a number of serious matters relating to the magazine and, with the best interests of the membership in mind, a decision was made in December to terminate arrangements with the then publishers.

Furthermore, the Board resolved to produce its own 'in-house' publication under the all embracing title of 'Greenkeeper International', this to be produced with a solid emphasis on editorial content and concentrating on quality rather than pure size.

A highly professional team has been brought together, with advertising under

the control of Bill Lynch and Carol Dutton. Both had worked on the previous magazine and are now established as staff members of the Association. Another name familiar to many from earlier days is David White, who needed little tempting to return as our new editor.

Production will be the responsibility of Tim Moat of Headline Communications, York. Tim's company has produced many of our Association publications and is noted for its experience in magazine production.

This first issue of 'Greenkeeper International' is a joint edition covering January and February and we shall revert to our normal monthly formula with the next issue in March.

These have been exceptionally busy times for us at head office, though the adrenaline generated in producing this first issue has given us all great enthusiasm and the urge to go forward with publishing what is – in a very real sense – BIGGA's 'own' magazine.

Please take note of your President's message, for your contributions will be vital to the magazine's success. We look forward to hearing your views of this first issue – be they on design, quality or content.



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Flying Divots

France's inland revenue service to set golf tax?

In France, the fact that golf is played mainly by wealthy A B socio-economic classes, has been quickly recognised by the ever-grabbing French equivalent of our own Inland Revenue.

There is a proposal before their Government to impose a tax on expenditure incurred in playing golf. The elements of the declared expenditure would be subscriptions, travel, equipment and 'nineteenth hole' imbibing. In fact, all outgoings in connection with participation in the game. Suspect declarations are anticipated, for with only some checkable, eg subscriptions, the rest will be on trust. The degree of trust demonstrated by the French tax collector is craftily contained in the proposal: "when a golfer's expense declaration is submitted, the department will double it..."

United States go from course to course

It's no secret that Americans are building new courses at a rate which leaves Europeans staggering.

Over 300 were actually opened for play in 1990, with close on 200 more nearing completion and a further 200 in an advanced planning stage. Despite gloomy world recession forecasts there seems to be no shortage of funds, especially for US resort course developments, where the cost of play is not nearly as high as many would have us believe.

It therefore comes as no surprise to learn that the USGA Green Section are launching a \$2.8million research programme directed at coming to grips with anticipated environmental problems and in producing a cheaper and more durable turf. It is also declared, in a recent U.S. report on world golf, that golf is booming at a far higher rate in Europe.

Britain's prospective developers, especially those in the tardy public sector, should now be addressing the escalating access to play problem, for if building programmes are ignored, shelved, or pitifully undercapitalised, the bubble here will surely burst.

Fulford's poplars to be felled

One of European golf's landmarks is set to disappear very soon.

The line of 68 poplar trees, widely seen and always admired on TV whenever the Benson & Hedges International Open was held at the Fulford, York venue,

GREAT NUMBER PLATE GAME

The lengths some people will go to 'enrich' their cars with personal number plates seem to know no bounds.

Numbers like A1 or RR1 command six figure price tags and even, Heaven forbid, such unlikely items as E L V I S or R O B I N have prices more akin to works of art than mere registration plates.

The practice is now officially encouraged by the Department of Transport. We were amused to see in The Times recently that registration B I G G A was for sale... at only £10,000! You'll be pleased to know that the official coffers remained firmly locked.

are scheduled to be felled.

The Lombardy poplars, planted in 1935 and now some 120 feet high, are to the left of the first fairway, visible for miles around the course in Heslington, a village on York's outskirts.

Two of the trees snapped off near the base in high winds earlier this year, leading to a survey being carried out and advice given by an aboricultural expert.

Each tree was drilled, with 21 being found sound, 28 in a primary state of disease and 19 totally rotten.

Consideration was given to having the trees pollarded to a height of about 20 feet, but, after assimilating further expert information and advice, the Fulford Committee has decided to have them all felled, at a cost of around £6,000.

A Committee spokesman said, 'A lot of us find it very sad, but I am afraid it is inevitable. When poplars are planted it is as certain as night follows day that about sixty years later they get rotten and have to be removed.'

'We have yet to decide which type of trees will replace them, but poplars are out, as a future Committee in 60 years time would be faced with the same problem'.

Where brown is just beautiful

At the rather grandiose and somewhat pompously self-titled 'Golf Summit '90' held in California (where else?) recently, it seems that some of the authors of golf course generated wealth and opulence – the architects – are having second thoughts.

Citing the high costs of golf in Japan – up to £260 per round – and the average costs of construction of new courses in America at over £2.84million – not including such 'necessities' as clubhouse and amenities – the architect Perry Dye, son of notable Pete and Alice, has suggested that a move away from green is a good way to rein in the escalating charges levied at the public.

'It's time for golfers to wake up,' says Dye. 'Brown is beautiful and always has been. The great Scottish links are as brown as it gets. We as golf leaders need to go back and talk brown. We need to talk about our environment – something we haven't done in 20 years.'

'We should start in the direction of less water and less chemicals as soon as possible. Get to moving the ball over to better turf and play winter rules in lieu of what we can do to the environment to keep grass green. The change must come from within the industry.'

We are not sure of the GCSAA view to such comments, wise though they may be, for the American greenkeepers have long advocated as an official association policy: 'keep courses green.'

East meets west on the course, but cold war remains for would-be Russian golfers

Those pukka Californian wheeler-dealers get everywhere, though I doubt if they could have imagined the vast amount of Soviet red-tape that needed trimming before the long overdue Moscow Golf & Country Club could become a reality.

No less than fifteen years in the making, after numerous false starts, the course is at last scheduled to open in 1992 – to foreigners only!

Charismatic Boris Yeltsin has lobbied long and hard for more sporting facilities in the capital and will no doubt be frustrated by the decision taken to ban play to local citizens, a miserly touch no doubt cooked-up by the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Californian company, American International Golf

Resorts Inc., jointly concerned in the venture.

The 6,600 yard course, designed way back in the mid-70s by Robert Trent Jones II, is being financed by the Californian group and a consortium of investors and will include a huge hotel and a clutch of swanky villas.

The whisper in official circles is that some 75 per cent of western multi-national firms with Russian interests are putting up the cash, prompted perhaps by the distinct lack of recreational facilities available for foreigners in the capital.

Nevertheless, our sympathies lie with poor old Ivan, who must wait in vain for a chance to join the golfing jet-set.



North Scotland section members, still cherishing fond memories of a fine day of golf when they played their Autumn Outing at an immaculate Turriff Golf Club in mid September, were horrified to learn that on the morning of September 29th the River Deveron, which adjoins the Turriff course, rose and fell in a flash flood which at its height was 13" above normal, and at its highest level for 32 years.

At 5m the menacing roar of the river in full flood could be heard, even in the distant town of Turriff, heralding a trail of devastation that included the loss of 64 sheep from the fields up stream from the golf course.

Hay bales, trees, debris and livestock were flushed away in the ripstream as the river banks disappeared and within no time at all eight greens on the course were under water.

That the course was only closed for eight days speaks volumes for the fine work carried out by head greenkeeper George Geddes and his staff who, when faced with the mammoth task of clearing trees, branches, silt and a particularly nasty tide mark of straw and mud, came through with flying colours. A month later only the heavily silted 14th green – pictured above just after the disaster – remained unplayable.

BIGGA/ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year is announced

And so it came about, on the first Monday of December, seven tried and trusted men, all good and true, arrived at Aldwark Manor knowing that only one last test remained before one of their number would be awarded the coveted title of 'BIGGA / ICI PREMIER GREENKEEPER OF THE YEAR', together with an all



Roger Mossop, Marketing Manager of ICI Professional Products, left, presents Anthony Davies with the ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year Award. BIGGA Chairman Ivor Scoones looks on.

expenses paid trip to attend the GCSAA Convention and Trade Show in Las Vegas in February 1991.

Since the early spring of 1990, following a sponsorship incentive from ICI Professional Products, BIGGA members had been competing for the title of the UK's Premier Greenkeeper.

The competition, which was in three stages, was well supported by greenkeepers from across the regions, with the basis of the award being submission of a paper of up to 3,000 words entitled 'A Year in the Life of My Golf Course'. A panel of experts drawn from BIGGA and ICI selected the seven greenkeepers who submitted the best papers; and arrangements were made to visit their courses to assess both course presentation and management. These assessment visits, undertaken by Jack McMillan and ICI's Patrick Goldsworthy were, to the greenkeepers surprise and some apprehension, undertaken without the greenkeeper in attendance.

Now to the final hurdle, a testing personal interview before a panel of experts comprising John Millen, Chairman, BIGGA Education Sub Committee, The Executive Director, Neil Thomas, Jack McMillan, Golf Course Consultant, and ICI's Professional Products Technical Manager, Patrick Goldsworthy. The interview stage was tense indeed, with each candidate being quizzed for over thirty minutes on a wide

range of technical, commercial and general industry topics. The quality of candidates was so high that making the final selection was a near impossible task, for the marks from stages one and two were so close as to make the interview crucial to the result.

Ultimately the winner was selected and the runners-up decided, the judges final decision being based on the total marks achieved in each of the three stages. The final criteria in making judgement was for a candidate who offered a wide range of skills not only in the technical knowledge of greenkeeping and course management but also the skills of man management, leadership and team building. These qualities, coupled with abilities in long term planning, presentation and communication, together with a caring feeling for the environment, indicated that Anthony Davies, Head Greenkeeper at Prestbury Golf Club in Cheshire best fitted the criteria and he was declared the worthy winner.

Second place was awarded to Martin Jones, Course Manager at Tadmorton Heath Golf Club, with Kerran Daly, Course Manager at Salisbury and South Wiltshire Golf Club a close placed third.

The remaining candidates, Bernard Findlay, Portstewart Golf Club; Richard Barker, Kirby Muxloe Golf Club; Hamish Brough, Broomieknowle Golf Club and Nigel Potter, Saddleworth Golf Club were all awarded equal runner-up places.

All the awards were made following a presentation dinner at which BIGGA Chairman, Ivor Scoones, before the presentation ceremony said the award 'will come to represent an important aspect of BIGGA's educational programme.'

'It is clear that the high standards demonstrated at today's interviews are an indication of the improving quality of greenkeeper education. BIGGA's priority is the education and training of greenkeepers and much effort has been directed in the last three years towards improving standards, with the help of our approved colleges.'

In responding to Ivor Scoones' comments, Roger Mossop said, 'We strongly support the industry through sponsorship in the belief that a company should put back into industry a significant proportion of that which it takes out, particularly in the area of education and training.'

Roger Mossop presented Jack McMillan with the ICI Annual Award made to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the industry.

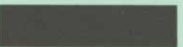
Richard Fry

● Entry forms are now available for the 1991 ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year Award.

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Going green on the greens

For the second year running greenkeepers have had more than their share of problems, be they on modest nine-hole courses or those that stage international events. The second year of drought has put immeasurable pressure on the greenkeeper, who is still expected by the committee to maintain good quality playing areas.

Droughts, of course, present major problems and these past years have almost equalled those experienced in 1976. What the greenkeeper certainly does not need is problems with machinery, though economic pressures may be upon him to curtail costs. Expenditure on, say, a new greens machine will probably cost somewhere in excess of £1,200 and he may experience difficulty in getting authority for such a purchase.

Thus he is faced with the need to ensure his existing machinery is in tip-top order so that greens can be up to the standards expected by every player.

His problems do not end there, for the cost of maintaining professional equipment, which demand specialised skills, is heavy. Current rates are in the region of £25 an hour which, adding the cost of spares, may see a cost in excess of £200 for a complete overhaul or rebuild of an existing engine.

It is worthwhile studying the economics of such a move at this stage for two reasons:

- 1) In such a rebuild the existing ignition and fuel systems are unlikely to be replaced and in the case of the ignition system it could probably be the old style of contact breaker point magneto assembly, with its need for regular maintenance.
- 2) It is also likely the engine was designed to run on four star petrol and would be of a side-valve design, both of which contribute to higher running costs.

The greenkeeper should therefore seriously consider the advantages of fitting a modern O.H.V. engine which can offer a number of immediate benefits, not least one of a full manufacturers warranty covering the complete unit for probably a full 12 months or even longer. Let us therefore study the benefits of modern technology which the greenkeeper can find in any of the modern breed of general engines now offered at a price often less than the cost of a rebuild.

In a survey carried out some years ago over 80% of users demanded, as the most important feature, ease of starting. Modern design can provide this in several ways:

- a) Automatic decompression – which means the most gentle pull on a recoil starter will bring the engine to life.
- b) Transistorised ignition systems which produce a much fatter spark at the plug. Even if a plug is fouled

through dubious fuel having been inadvertently put in, the engine will start without hesitation.

- c) The electronic ignition is maintenance free, with no contact breaker points to check, adjust or replace.

The high reliability factor of these new systems enables many manufacturers to offer extended guarantees against failure.

All leading engines manufacturers now produce O.H.V. design engines for greenkeeping machines. The O.H.V. engine generally uses anything up to 30% less fuel than a side valve unit, by virtue of a more efficient design. A simple calculation will show how much fuel is used in a year and the savings thus generated. The second saving is that modern O.H.V.

engines are designed specifically to run on unleaded fuel and immediately one has a substantial saving per gallon used. In a year some courses could easily save the cost of an engine installation.

An important environmental factor is the lower noise level of modern machines. These have had to be produced by the makers in order to meet EEC power noise regulations, a factor now also covered by health and safety regulations whereby the operator must not be subjected to excessive noise levels.

With few exceptions most professional machines in use will have similar mounting details, making engines interchangeable. The new breed of

engines were originally inspired by the Japanese but now all leading companies making engines for greenkeeping machines produce them to the specifications outlined. These include aluminium engines with sleeved bores, hard chromed piston rings, full journal bearings, inlet and exhaust valves of very high quality steel and on the whole a very compact design, but with a much improved power to weight ratio. It is a fact that machines fitted with modern replacement units invoke a reaction from the user that the machine 'performs better than new'.

To summarise, the greenkeeper can expect to achieve advantages in performance by saving fuel, together with a machine that starts easier and runs quieter. He will experience lower exhaust emissions because he is using less (unleaded) fuel. He can expect better performance for less effort and above all will have greater reliability, for these units are essentially long-life.

Most leading manufacturers offering engines also offer advice regarding interchangeability, either direct or through their dealer networks.

Finally, the greenkeeper, who is so much a down-to-earth person with an awareness of mother earth, will know he is using a product that is environmentally friendly by design.

KEN POOLE studies the economics of replacement engines for greens machines and concludes that for reliability and peace of mind, investment could be well worthwhile



The Suzuki V120 3.8pm OHV unit, RRP £229+VAT, is typical of the breed of modern engines



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THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GREEN

Mr Lidwell (not his real name) is the green chairman at a busy course in the Midlands. That he is a serious 'thinking man' became immediately apparent when he first told us of his involvement and of how he had committed his thoughts, words and deeds to paper. In our quest for greater understanding and harmony between club employee and club official, we shall be publishing his papers as a series of articles. In this, his first, we learn of his introduction to committee life.

Golf club members offer to serve on committees for several reasons. Some aspire to be captain for the social standing that they believe goes with the job. Some see themselves as avenging angels who, by their very presence and power of argument, will be able to transform greens, tees and fairways to such an immaculate standard that county players will trill with delight and demand that it becomes the focal point of the county representative games. Fortunately, by far the greatest majority offer to serve because they want to put something back into the game. Whilst most members offer a silent 'thank you' to those who volunteer to give time to serve on the committee few could name or identify their representatives.

Some years ago I was invited to make up a four ball by three senior members of my own club. We drew for partners and fixed a small wager on the result. It was after eight holes, when my partners and I were three up, that the more senior of the other team made his first tactical move. He claimed I was playing far too well for my handicap and he would have to report me to the chairman of handicaps. My partner smiled and went on the offensive by advising our venerable opponent that this young fellow (age is relative) was the very chairman that he would be looking for.

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THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GREEN

Later, after serving on both house and handicapping committees the captain asked me if I would accept the job of green chairman. My jaw dropped a little and I stared at him. Although an honour, it was a surprise. 'Will I what, and why me?' These were the first questions that came to mind. He reminded me that I was a retired manager and had both skills and time in which to do the job. With a knowing look he went on to explain that the present chairman would not be standing again as he was required to devote more time with his wife and family. In my eagerness to please I failed to recognise the significance of this statement, although I did, many times, later on.

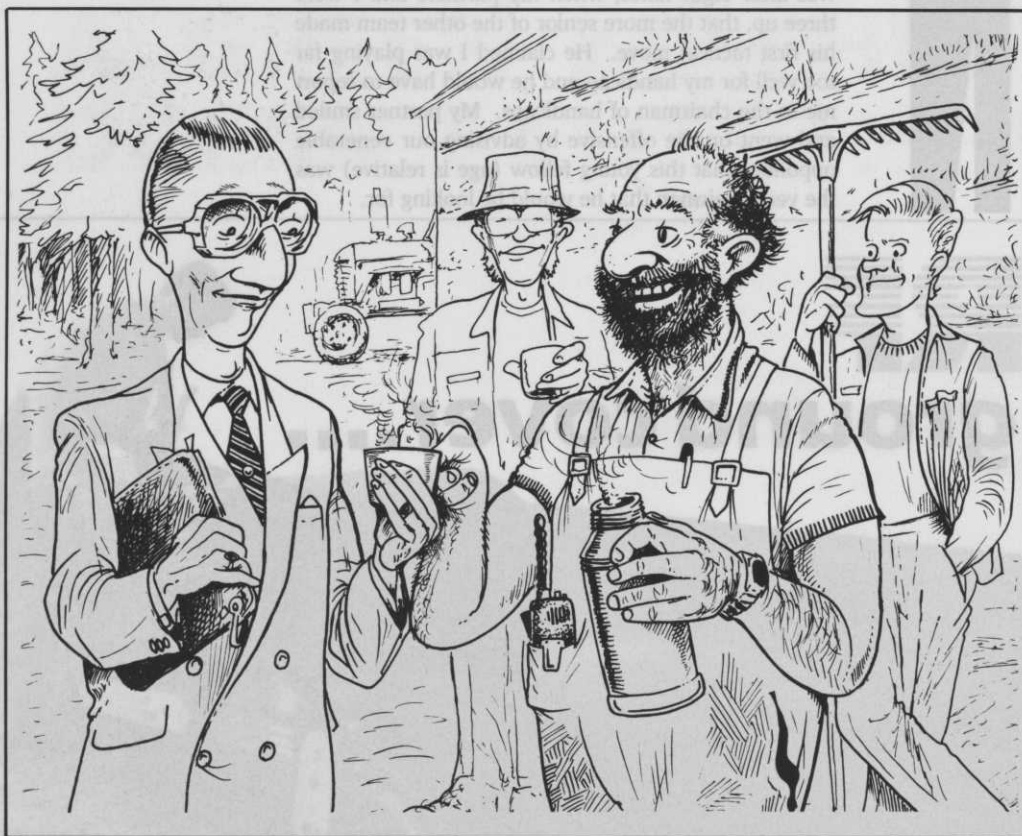
I prepared for my term of office by having a deep think about the two jobs. As I saw it, the green chairman was required to interpret the policies of the committee and pass them to the greenkeeper. He then would use his professional skills to put those interpretations into practice. I wondered how he saw it? In the hope of not proving to be a complete idiot, I read through my gardening books, including an old copy of 'Be Your Own Lawn Expert' by Dr D G Hessayan. While the reading helped I very soon realised that looking after a golf course was quite different from cultivating a small lawn at the back of a house.

Now I had to meet the greenkeeper. I had three main worries. Would we 'get on', would I be able to make a contribution to our discussions and how

der and produce a hooked shot. You do hook the ball don't you? I was about to ask for the remedy but he cut me short. 'Never mind about that now, what is important is, how are we going to get on?'

As our working relationship was obviously going to be important we discussed it at length. We agreed that because of my obvious interest I may from time to time make suggestions regarding work on the course and that if at any time he felt I was encroaching on his area of responsibility then he would tell me. We also discussed the chain of command from the greenstaff, through him, to me and eventually to the captain. We both agreed to use this method of communication at all times – it served us well.

'Right', he said, 'now that we have those problems sorted out what am I going to call you? Do you want me to call you by your Christian name or Mister?' Years of management training flashed in front of me, the new thinking was for managers to get closer to the producers. Many times I had read 'call your staff by their Christian name and don't be afraid to take off your jacket and help out'. I suggested that he called me Charles. He pondered a moment and suggested that he use my christian name when we were together and Mister if his staff were in our company. He went on to suggest that it would give me an edge in case I ever had to tell them off. I didn't necessarily agree with that statement but I went along with his suggestion.



On a lighter rule we discussed our job titles. I commented that he was called a greenkeeper (singular) while I was called chairman of greens (plural)? He reached for his Association magazine, thumbed a few pages and found several references to the more enlightened title of chairman of green (singular). We agreed to use it. However we both realised it would be many years before some of the older members would accept this modern terminology. From his magazine we also discussed the various categories of BIGGA membership and he promised that if I did well in my new post he would consider allowing me to join as an Associate member.

By now I realised that I had been out manoeuvred. While I had chosen the time, Jim had chosen the place of our first meeting, poured me his own life-saving brew and had the first input to our working relationship. He had obviously put as much thought into our first meeting as I had.

would the members view the results of my efforts.

I left a message with the secretary to arrange a meeting with the greenkeeper for 11.30 am on the first day after the AGM. Although we had never actually met we knew of each other. He of course had been pointed out to me many years ago and I felt sure that his 'grapevine' would have informed him of the new chairman of green.

We eyed each other at close quarters and shook hands, he called me Mister and I called him Jim. He smiled and offered me tea from his flask. 'I've watched you playing', he said, 'your stance is too closed which will force you to drop your right shoul-

As we had a little time before the mid day break Jim gave me a tour of the mess room, equipment storage shed and workshop. We exchanged thoughts about the machinery and its use on the course. As we walked I remembered the words of the captain, 'You were a manager in industry, come and use your skills for us'. I took out my note book and realised that despite the good work in previous years there a number of interesting projects waiting to be done, but first I needed to meet the greenstaff.

● Next month, meeting the staff and discussions on duties and responsibilities.

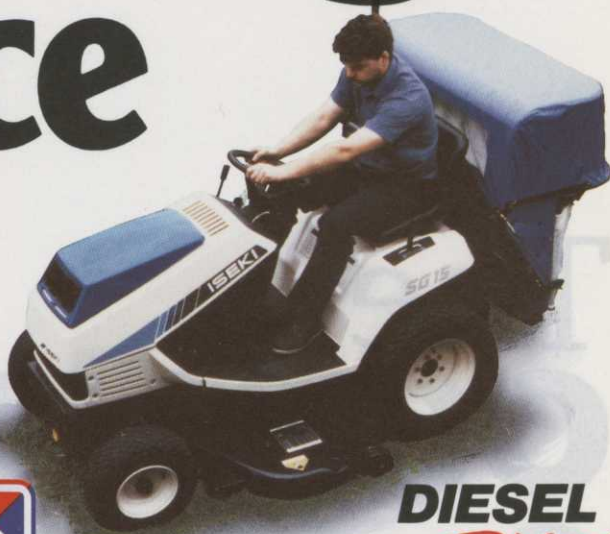
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It's in Carolina and nothing could be finer...

DAVID WHITE reports on the

spectacular venue for this year's Ryder Cup.

Exclusive Greenkeeper International

photographs by MIKE KLEMME

The OCEAN Course

The pessimists can depart, the folks who thought it shouldn't even be considered dismissed, for the new Ocean course at Kiawah Island, South Carolina is already earning huge praise, even before being officially opened for play.

In a game so ancient that it often questions its own origin, acclaim is something earned over time. Great players earn their acclaim over a career, and courses more often attain greatness over decades than overnight. Yet in a sport which so honours tradition this newcomer is earning praise from all who see it.

Designed by noted architect Pete Dye, The Ocean Course is carved from nearly three miles of oceanfront sand dunes along the extreme eastern end of Kiawah Island. All 18 holes, as well as the clubhouse and practice area, offer breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean, with ten holes playing directly along the beach.

Destiny appears to be holding a place amongst the best in the world for The Ocean Course, but in another area, far removed from the sports world and Ryder Cup ballyhoo, the infant course is already







Main picture, previous page: The back nine – providing a memorable finish with the last five holes situated directly along the beach. Small picture, an aerial view of eastern tip of Kiawah Island, with the new Ocean Course stretching along nearly three miles of beach. This page: The first hole – a par-four of 395 yards from the back tee with a large waste bunker right of the fairway.

being acclaimed as a critical success.

In an age when environmental impact studies command such attention, The Ocean is earning acclaim from scientists and environmentalists for its sensitivity to nature.

Course designer Dye, who already has 10 courses ranked among the top 199 in either *Golf Digest* or *Golf Magazine* (U.S.) went to great lengths to ensure that The Ocean Course would blend with its oceanfront setting.

But it is behind-the-scenes efforts – such as the installation of a unique internal drainage system that recycles irrigation water while protecting adjacent wetlands from run-off, or the creation of acres of saltwater and freshwater wetlands, or the building of dunes and the extensive planting of native grasses – that have environmentalists singing Dye's praises.

The Ocean Course is the first golf course to be built with a complete internal drainage system. This is achieved through a series of drains and underground pipes, all water falling on tees, greens, fairways etc flowing back into the irrigation system. More than 14 miles of pipe have been installed under the course to recapture irrigation water and allow recycling.

'Even if the marsh is only three feet away', Dye explained, 'the water drains back into the golf course, into these catch basins and down into a major series of pumps underneath the course'.

Through these pumps, Dye is able to keep the water table at two feet above sea level, the same level as the fresh groundwater. This leaves a minimum of three feet of dry sand for filtering water that doesn't reach the fair-

way drains before this water reaches the groundwater table.

Although they figured on retrieving 50,000 to 100,000 gallons at most, they are picking up 300,000 gallons of fresh water each day, about 50% of the water needed to irrigate the whole course.

'When you figure the cost of water', Dye said, 'in the long run the installation cost – between \$150,000 and \$200,000 (£78,000 – £104,000) amortizes itself... over a five year period you save that much in water costs'.

'From the Coastal Council's point of view, this also solves the only thing they could object to, the fear that some of the pesticides or chemicals supplied are getting off into the marshes or surrounding areas. By monitoring this, and recycling this water all the time, we know exactly what we're doing as far as what we are putting on the golf course'.

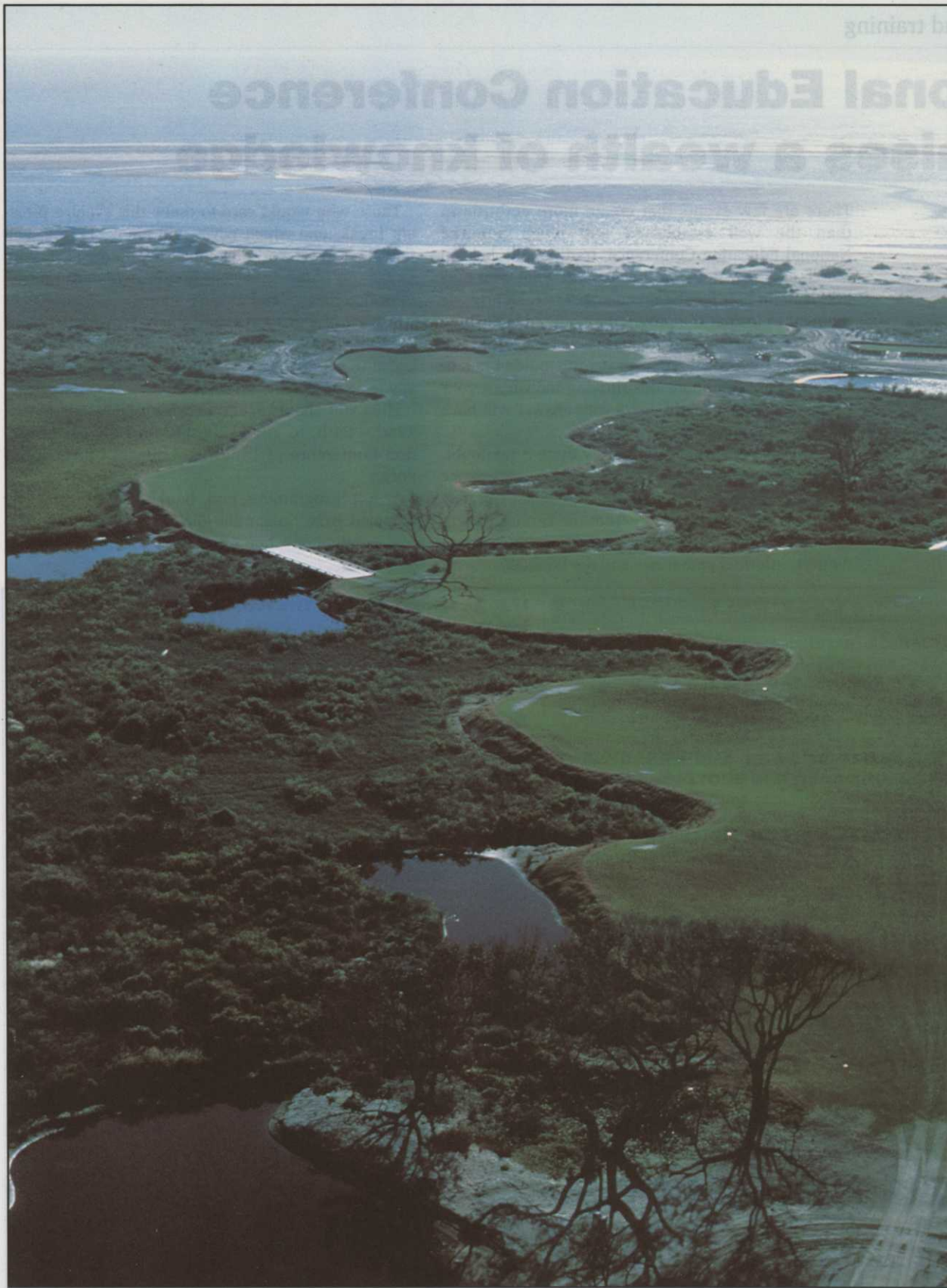
All of this was worked out as Dye was building The Ocean Course.

'I went to the Coastal Council and explained the theory of what we were doing and constantly kept them updated', he said. 'When they saw the first hole

going in that way they could see something was going to happen here that would set a precedent for them with other courses in sensitive areas'.

Dye created a vast system of freshwater wetlands within the interior of the course. These lagoons have been planted with native grasses and are part of the irrigation system. The grasses help to filter the water before it is pumped back onto the golf course. And the sand that was excavated from these lagoons was used to elevate the fairways so that every hole offers a view of the ocean. Altogether Dye has created more than 22 acres of

'It is behind-the-scenes efforts that have environmentalists singing Dye's praises'



The 475-yard, par-four fourth hole could prove to be one of the most difficult on the front side, as both the drive and approach shot must carry the saltmarsh.

freshwater wetlands within the course.

Dye has ordered extensive plantings of sea oats in the dune areas and will continue to plant through the spring of 1991. The grasses, including sea oats, panic grass, American beach grass, papsalum and sweetgrass (used locally for basket weaving), help preserve the dunes against forces of erosion. These same grasses are used in some bunker faces and along the perimeter of the tees.

Tees and fairways are planted in 419 hybrid Bermuda. Tifdwarf, a much finer strain of Bermuda, has been used on the greens, collars and approaches.

'We have tried desperately not to create a maintenance monster on this course', he said. 'The fairways, tees and greens, we think, can be maintained with four different types of mowers'.

Dye said the sea grasses will be controlled with irrigation and spray, eliminating another area that would require maintenance on a conventional course.

These efforts have combined to make The Ocean Course at Kiawah a most unconventional course, one that will serve as a standard for all courses built in environmentally sensitive areas.

National Education Conference promises a wealth of knowledge

There are few events that create more enthusiasm than the well established and much admired National Education Conference, traditionally held in March and now in its third year. But what, you may ask, is there in it for the greenkeeper? Take just one moment to look at the programme offered over three days, see just how many subjects there are that are important to you, ask yourself if you wouldn't like to learn much more about this thriving industry – your profession – and I might guess your answer will have to be a resounding 'yes'.

That you will benefit enormously there is no doubt, for there is such a wealth of knowledge, experience and good old-fashioned know-how in which you may tap. This will come not only from the various lecture sessions but also at leisure during the many lunches, dinners, informal gatherings and the banquet.

Those who would care to make this event a pleasant break, one which wives will enjoy sharing, will find the City of York has much to commend it, with its famous Minster, elegant houses, wonderful museums, fine theatre and modern shops.

Success breeds success and this year, with yet more speakers and the promise of an even more significant learning experience, the cost to delegates has actually been reduced!

Thus you should make provision NOW for March 22nd – 24th, to attend the BIGGA National Education Conference at Langwith College, University of York.

A full programme and booking form may be obtained from Samantha Flint at BIGGA Headquarters. Telephone her on 03473 581 or fax 03473 8864.

FRIDAY 22 March

9.30 am REGISTRATION in Langwith College

12.00 pm LUNCH - Langwith College

CONFERENCE COMMENCES

Chairman: Mr Gordon Child, Regional Administrator, BIGGA South West and South Wales Region

1.20 pm Introduction - George Malcolm, Vice-Chairman, BIGGA

1.30 pm **'THE INFLUENCE OF SOILS AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ON ANAEROBIC ROOTZONES'**

Roy L Goss, Extension Agronomist-Emeritus, Washington State University

2.10 pm **'SOIL SCIENCE AND THE GREENKEEPER'**

Dr Richard Gibbs, Senior Lecturer, Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture

2.50 pm **'SANDS AND BUNKERS'**

David Stansfield, Agronomist to the R & A, Sports Turf Research Institute

3.30 pm Coffee

3.50 pm **'THE ROLE OF THE GOLF COURSE ARCHITECT'**

Donald Steel, International Golf Course Architect

4.30 pm **'THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY OF GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT'**

Larry W Gilhuly, Director Western Region, USGA Green Section

5.10 pm **QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL**

5.40 pm Close

Transport to Centre of York for Ladies

- Depart College 1.15 pm

- Return to College by 6.30 pm

SATURDAY 23 March

9.00 am **'THATCH'**

Dr Bill Adams, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth

9.40 am **'GOLF DEVELOPMENT AT THE GLENEAGLES HOTEL'**

James Kidd, Estates and Golf Courses Manager, The Gleneagles Hotel

10.20 am **'PREPARING GOLF FOR THE 21st CENTURY'**

George Shiels, Vice-Principal, Merrist Wood College of Agriculture and Horticulture

11.00 am Coffee

11.20 am **'THE GOLF COURSE - FROM CONCEPTION TO COMPLETION'**

Mr G Hodson, Lindum Turf and associates.

QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL

1.00 pm LUNCH

2.00 pm **'THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT - HIS STATUS, ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES'**

Steve Cadenelli, President, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

2.40 pm **'GREENKEEPING IN NORWAY'**

Tor Senstad, Secretary, Norwegian Greenkeepers Association

3.20 pm Coffee

3.40 pm **'THE WAY FORWARD' DOCUMENT AND SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS'**

Nick Park, as Chairman of the R & A / Unions Sub-Committee chairs a Question and Answer Session.

Other members of the Committee will also participate.

4.20 pm **'GREENKEEPING IN THE YEAR 2010 - WHO ARE WE TRAINING AND FOR WHAT?'**

Dr Hugh Nunn, Head of Horticulture, Warwickshire College of Agriculture

QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL

5.00 pm Close

5.30 pm Transport to Centre of York for Ladies

- Depart College 9.30 am

- Return to College by 5.00 pm

SUNDAY 24 March

9.20 am **'IT'S A MATTER OF QUALITY'**

Larry Gilhuly, Director, Western Region, USGA Green Section

10.00 am **'BENT GRASS IN THE UK'**

Ken Siems, Course Manager, East Sussex National

10.40 am Coffee

11.00 am **'PURE SAND GREENS AND PENCROSS AT COLLINGTREE PARK'**

Peter Jones, Course Manager, Collingtree Park, Northampton

11.40 am **'ARE THERE ALTERNATIVES TO ANNUAL MEADOWGRASS?'**

Roy L Goss, Extension Agronomist-Emeritus, Washington State University

QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL

12.20 pm **'SUMMING UP'**

Ivor Scoones, Chairman, BIGGA

1.00 pm Lunch and Depart

Transport to Centre of York for Ladies

- Depart College 9.00 am

- Return to College by 1.00 pm

THE 1991 NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE IS ORGANISED BY THE BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH LINDUM TURF AND ASSOCIATES.

Sparsholt's education partnership

Following the successful launch of the new National Diploma in Golf Course and Sportsground Management, Sparsholt College, Hampshire are seeking the co-operation of employers who can offer employment to students in their middle year industrial placement.

The new course is full-time extending over 3 years, with the middle year undertaken within industry as industrial placement. Course Tutor, Bob Young has outlined the following:

Students will be available from late June 1991 for a period of one year. During this year students are treated as employees. Pay is at the employers discretion but following national guidelines. The aim is to provide an opportunity for students to gain further experience within the golf and sports turf industry.

In addition the student will continue to undertake assignment studies and the employer will be asked to monitor a complete work experience programme.

For further details or confirmation of job availability, please contact: BOB YOUNG, SPARSHOLT COLLEGE, WINCHESTER, HANTS, SO21 2NF.

Tel: 096 272 441



From left: Mike Henson, Jacobsen's International Administration Manager; Stuart McCollm, nominated the Most Outstanding Student by delegates; Tom Carter, VP; Jacobsen International Operations; and Peter Daynes, IOG National Chairman.

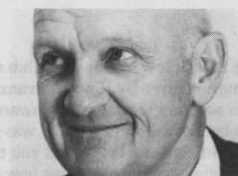
Top Student of the Year

A meteoric career pattern has emerged as a result of Stuart McCollm's wisdom in taking the education path to career progression. Following spells as a greenkeeper at Inverness, Invergordon and, more recently, St Andrews, Stuart took time out to attend Oatridge Agricultural College (a G.T.C. approved college) on a full time course in Sportsturf Management. Whilst there he was voted Top Student of The Year.

Following this he was invited to attend the 2nd Jacobsen sponsored IOG Educational Seminar and was nominated the Most Outstanding Student by his fellow delegates.

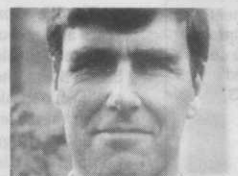
Since leaving college Stuart has worked on a Jack Nicklaus construction site in Hertfordshire and has recently returned from Germany, having successfully completed the construction of an 18 hole course. He is now managing a new division of Tunnel Land Engineering, specialists in the upgrading and reconstruction of established golf courses.

TOP SPEAKERS FOR EDUCATION CONFERENCE



Dr Roy Goss is the first of many experts who will address the gathered ensemble at the BIGGA National Conference.

His subject will be 'The Influence of Soils and Management Practices on Anaerobic Rootzones'. Dr Goss has a degree in Agriculture, a Bachelor of Education Degree and a PhD, all from Washington State University. His field of expertise is most varied, having worked closely with golf course superintendents on problems of construction, specialised soils, drainage, turfgrass nutrition, turfgrass diseases, insects and weed control.



George Shiels is Vice Principal of Merrist Wood College and consultant to the PGA European Tour. His most recent work has focused on the creation of the first externally validated professional qualification for professional golfers with the PGA and he is currently involved in construction of PGA European Tour courses.



There can be none better than Dr Richard Gibbs, Senior Lecturer in Sportsground Management and Turf Science at Myerscough Hall, to address on his chosen subject: 'Soil Science and The Greenkeeper'. Dr Gibbs has a First Class Honours Degree in Agricultural Chemistry and a PhD in Soil Science.



Peter Jones will address us on 'Pure Sand Greens and Pencross at Collingtree Park, Northampton'. This is the exciting new course owned by the British company; International Resort Holdings Plc, where he is now Course Manager. In a golf career spanning sixteen years Peter has travelled extensively and has worked with golf course architects on both sides of the Atlantic.



Pictured at Aldwark Manor, from left: Brian Hurtley, Vice-President-Director, Kubota (UK) Ltd; David Hannam, Course Manager, Wetherby Golf Club; Andrew Boyd, Course Manager, Bridlington Golf Course; David Golding, Education Officer, BIGGA; Neil Thomas, Executive Director, BIGGA.

Kubota continues support for BIGGA

Kubota have contributed £10,000 over the past two years to help BIGGA introduce residential management courses as part of their national drive to enhance the standing of greenkeepers.

The continued support by Kubota and the Greenkeeping Training Committee will ensure that the supply of professional greenkeepers satisfies the growing demand in the ever expanding golf industry.

Attendance on the BIGGA courses allows delegates to gain credits towards completion of the Master Greenkeeper's Certificate.

David Golding, BIGGA's Education Officer, commented, 'It is only through formal training and qualifications that the standard of British and International greenkeeping will continue to improve'.

Conducting the seminars are experts from organisations such as the Sports Turf Research Institute, Time Manager International, The Health and Safety Executive and the Golf Course Wildlife Trust. Subjects covered include; the management of golf greens, tees, fairways and bunkers, together with computing for the course manager, budgeting and accountancy, health and safety, conservation, pesticide management and turf diseases.

Kubota will continue to support BIGGA in their training programmes and Brian Hurtley,

Vice President - Director, Kubota (UK) Ltd, said, 'Head greenkeepers and course managers will have an increasingly important role to play in golf clubs and BIGGA programmes not only provide expert training but also allow delegates from the UK and Europe to exchange knowledge and ideas'.

Proficient proficiency

At a time of rising costs, the Hertfordshire Proficiency Tests Committee have succeeded in maintaining stable prices for tests over the past three years.

Following recent restructuring, registration is now computerised and any previous delays now minimised, enabling them to undertake testing not only those in their own county but also applicants from neighbouring counties, up to a maximum of 50 miles radius. Pesticides and other category based tests are extremely cost competitive, with full details to be found in their current advertisement in this magazine.

AROUND THE GREEN

MID ANGLIA

The first of our winter series of events took place at Beadlow Manor Golf Club on November 27, also our AGM.

The meeting proper was preceded by a presentation given by Howard Evans, the pensions advisor to BIGGA, and this proved to be most informative and is something that I would recommend to all other sections. Thank you, Howard, for making such a long journey to be with us throughout the day.

The AGM was attended by some 30 or so members of the section and it was satisfying to see many more present after last year's poor turn out.

I will report on the AGM more fully at a later date, but can briefly tell you that all reports were approved by members present. The Committee was re-elected en bloc, with the exception of John Wells, who was elected as our new chairman, being proposed by present chairman Gerald Bruce. I am sure you will join me in thanking Gerald for his hard work during his period of office. The chairman closed the meeting by proposing a vote of thanks to Beadlow Manor for allowing us the use of their facilities.

The Christmas Texas Scramble was held at South Beds Golf Club on December 6th where a large turnout of members and guests again enjoyed the hospitality of this friendly Club. A full report will appear next month.

GEOFF SMITH



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Fife Regional Council — Education Committee

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SOUTH WEST AND WALES REGIONAL SEMINAR AT SOMERSET COLLEGE, CANNINGTON, NOVEMBER 1990

Somerset College was the venue for a gathering of 150 people in what proved to be an excellent day for our region and an encouragement to us all with students from both Cannington and Sparsholt College in attendance.

Speaking first was Nick Rigden, the Head of Horticulture at Cannington and a man who has been involved in education and training since 1968. A horticulturist trained at Writtle College, he has over the past 12 years developed a deep interest in turf culture. It was he who instigated greenkeeper training at Plumptre before moving to Somerset to bring the same to Cannington, (both being BIGGA approved centres of learning) and he was able to give us an insight into his greenkeeper training programme.

Next was Peter Wilson who, as Chairman of the EGU Golf Course Committee, gave a paper on The Way Forward. Peter, who started his golf at Ganton, was a scratch player for many years and a county player for both Yorkshire and Lancashire. His commitment to golf has been remarkable, with one of his main interests being handicapping. As a member of the BIGGA Board, the R & A Greenkeeping Panel and Chairman of the STRI there could be none better qualified to speak on The Way Forward and his most enlightening paper was well received.

Our third speaker was Dr Peter Hayes, who is Director of the STRI and a serving member of the USGA Turfgrass Research Committee, the Greenkeepers Training Committee and the NTC Committee. His long specialist experience in grass and golf course agronomy was much in evidence and his address on the research work carried out by the STRI was clear and precise, leaving no one in doubt that here was a man on top of his profession.

Following a lively question time with an excellent lunch, we moved to the address given by Roy Brighton. As a key figure in Time Manager International, an organisation dedicated to encouraging people of all levels to make better use of their time and talents, Roy's paper - Management of Time and People - was so good that no one could take their traditional afternoon nap! He is so full of enthusiasm and wit that you just have to sit up and take notice, and his accuracy is such that everyone at some time must have felt a twinge of conscience. Roy is one of very few who can make 45 minutes feel like no time at all.

Jack McMillan, our last speaker, needs no introduction. Having now joined the International Golfers Club following nine years as head greenkeeper at Sunningdale, Jack advises and helps young greenkeepers. With his wealth of experience gained whilst travelling the world, he was an ideal choice to talk on The Changing Face of Greenkeeping.

After question time the day ended with BIGGA Chairman Ivor Scoones giving special thanks to Somerset College, the traders who took part, myself in the chair and to SISIS, who sponsored the seminar.

GORDON CHILD

SOUTH WALES

December 12 saw the occasion of our AGM and Christmas Competition at Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club, held due to the generosity of the committee of the Club, to whom we offer our thanks.

The AGM was well attended, with retiring chairman, Huw Morgan, opening the meeting before handing over to Hugh Parry, the new chairman for 1991. Steven Evans was voted in as vice-chairman with Phil Swain remaining as administrator and taking over the finances from Paul Robinson. Paul held this job for over 14 years and in recognition of his great contribution he was presented with a tankard by grateful members.

Huw Morgan is now chairman of golf and the social sub committee, taking full control of the handicapping in the hope of cutting down the number of 'bandits'. Steven Evans is chairman of the education sub committee and will be responsible for organising lectures and seminars. He insists that they will be well attended, a view endorsed by this reporter!

We shall be holding a knock-out competition from April through September and details may be found in September 'Around The Green'. The closing date for entries is Feb 28th, with an entry fee of only £3.00. Let me know if you are interested.

The competition results were as follows: Winner of the Vitax Shield and decanter and glasses - donated by Allan Stow - L Hallett with 36 points. Second; M Stokes with 35, followed by T King (35), H Parry and H Morgan (33), I Morris and B Price (32) M Jones (31), and P Long, T Thompson, and B Kitcher all with 28. All players from second through twenty fifth received a bottle from the prize table and we are thankful for the prize donations received from Vitax, Avoncrop, Birds, Munro's, Rigby Taylor, Celtic Mowers, Maxwell Hart, Sta-Brite, Colin Murphy, Tacit, Euroturfcare and Westernlugs.

The only player to score two on a par three was L Walter and he received a prize of golf balls. Our funds were swelled by a successful raffle and our thanks go to Colin Murphy for doing such a grand organising job.

We would be the poorer without trade support and I extend sincere thanks to all who supported us throughout 1990 - long may you continue with your generosity.

Finally we were sorry to learn of Steve Elms departure from Tredegar Park and wish him well in the future. His departure heralds a change for yours truly, who is taking over at Tredegar Park - it's all swings and roundabouts in 1991!

PHILIP SWAIN

● Continued on Page 50

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of their own*



DX Tee Ground Mats

Aldwark Manor is the home of BIGGA... it is also the hotel golf course upon which Maxwell Hart have recently supplied SOKO DX Tee Ground mats for every single teeing area, this following year long trials of the DX mats on selected tees.

This most popular winter mat, for which Maxwell Hart are sole UK distributors, is available in two sizes - 90 mm x 1800 mm x 15 mm and 1250 mm x 2000 mm x 15 mm - and includes a design that incorporates the highest specification nylon artificial turf pile, integral rubber shock padding and tee peg holder and slots that are incorporated into the structure. The result is a mat that is spike resistant, offering excellent club head/turf pile interaction.

● Pictured above at Aldwark Manor, from left: Richard Gamble; Head Greenkeeper, Andrew Law; Maxwell Hart Northern Area Manager, David Golding; BIGGA Education Officer, John Taylor; Maxwell Hart's Northern Sales Manager, Geoff Platt; Golf Director, Aldwark Manor (with club in hand).

Westurf '91

The South West and South Wales Region of BIGGA have a knack of doing things with flair and style and the WESTURF Turfcare Trade Exhibition, now approaching its third successful year, is no exception. Born of a desire to actively promote a regional exhi-

bition especially for those in the West and South West, the exhibition has established itself as one that rises to the big occasion whilst still retaining the friendly element of a county fair.

This year sees the prospect of WESTURF 91 being both bigger and better than ever before, with the promise of both local traders and many internationally known manufacturers in attendance.

Firmly established at the easy to reach location of Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol, the event will again take place there on 1 May from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm.

Unlike so many exhibitions, WESTURF 91 is a show where costs are kept within very acceptable limits and it is to the credit of organiser Gordon Child that this year sees the inclusion of a stand manned by The Institute of Groundsmanship, for the bond between greenkeeper and groundsman is one to encourage and nurture.

There is still time for traders, local and international alike, to take space and a call to Gordon Child will bring full details. To coin a phrase of Gordon's, 'the trade wanted it, the public have delighted in it and the region thrives on it'. It should not be missed!

Call Gordon Child on 0803-844056 for more details.

Kawasaki brochure

Kawasaki advise us that a brochure, entitled, 'Recommended Replacement Engines' has recently been pro-

**TRADE
TOPICS**

duced, listing a wide variety of commercial equipment and offering suggestions of suitable Kawasaki engines that will replace an original fitment.

Noisy equipment is not easily tolerated and a solution may be found by fitting a larger capacity engine that produces the necessary power but at lower operating speeds than the original. The Kawasaki FC Series of vertical shaft OHV engines are very compact and can therefore often replace smaller capacity units, giving the operator more torque for less noise - while in addition Kawasaki has paid careful attention to noise reduction.

Rufford's new range

Rufford Top Dress Supplies Ltd is a name totally familiar to BIGGA members, not only as suppliers of fine products but also as one of the Association's more generous sponsors.

We at Greenkeeper International are always pleased to publicise a success story and never happier than when broadcasting one that involves BIGGA sponsors, for we feel in some small way we share in their success. Thus we take pleasure in learning that following the opening earlier in 1990 of their new and now fully operational quarry at Warrington, Rufford quite justifiably boast a complete range of products that will meet the most diverse needs of any Golf Club.

The 'Number Two' range, produced at their Warrington quarry, comprises top dressings, soils and sands, all of which are now well established.

Recent scientific tests have confirmed the high quality of the materials at the Warrington Quarry and two championship courses have already used the Rufford 'Number Two' dressing.

The new quarry at Warrington is vastly larger than the Rufford Quarry, with enormous reserves of soil and sands and with the installation of modern processing plant is able to grade sand to produce an ideal product for all types of drainage, hollow tining, bunkers and also as an ideal product for dressing sand-only greens.

Commenting on the new range, Managing Director, Peter Jefford said 'with the development of a courser top dressing, Rufford 'Number Three', being available shortly; and with individual requirements becoming more specific, we can now satisfy most needs'.

This means that Rufford not only provides a full range but also a number of choices to suit customer budget and course stipulations. They guarantee a consistency of quality and service for a minimum of

twenty years.

BIGGA/ICI 'plan' together

In a unique collaboration with BIGGA, ICI Professional Products have produced a free 1991 work planner for every member.

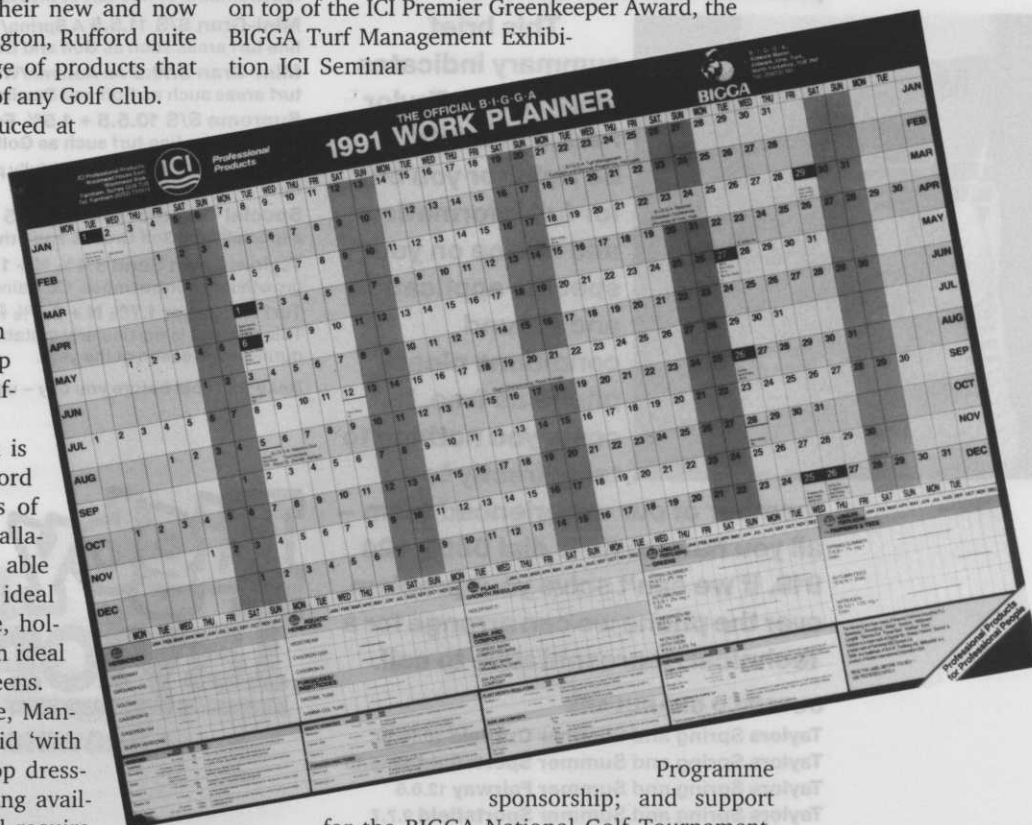
This colourful 30" x 20" wall planner illustrates the complete year at a glance and highlights all major BIGGA events. In addition, a valuable seasonal guide to the use of pesticides is featured together with details of products and their chemical active ingredients.

Double laminated, the work planner is both hard wearing and resistant to moisture, making it suitable for workshop or office use. The planner may be written upon and can be wiped clean if a dry felt tip is used.

Announcing its introduction, Neil Thomas; BIGGA's Executive Director stated: 'Once again ICI Professional Products have initiated a major new work aid for greenkeepers. This complete planner may be used as a work activity, appointment or holiday record aid, it highlights important dates and is an immediate source of product use information'.

'This new and exciting ICI initiative comes on top of the ICI Premier Greenkeeper Award, the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition ICI Seminar

**TRADE
TOPICS**



Programme sponsorship; and support for the BIGGA National Golf Tournament. There is no doubt that ICI Professional Products are not just taking from our industry but ploughing back a great deal of money, expertise and enthusiasm into important areas like education, training and industry development. They fully deserve our support in return'.

TALK TO RIGBY TAYLOR

Information for Professionals

FERTILIZERS

Whatever your turf requirements the team at Rigby Taylor will be pleased to discuss a Fertilizer that's just right for the job. Through experience and careful control we've created a wide range of turfcare products – but deciding which one is best for you, needs careful selection if it's going to provide maximum benefit.

This brief summary indicates which Rigby Taylor Fertilizer might be right for you but for full information and advice on your specific application and ground conditions please phone us free. It costs you nothing to talk directly to a

member of our experienced team – all you have to do is dial 0800 424 919. If we can't solve your problem over the phone we can arrange for a Technical Representative to call.

OUTFIELD GRANULARS

Taylors Spring and Summer Outfield 20.10.10
Taylors Spring and Summer Sportsfield 10.15.10
Taylors Spring and Summer Fairway 12.6.6
Taylors Spring and Summer Sportsfield 9.7.7
Taylors Spring and Summer 27.5% Nitrogen
Taylors Spring and Summer 7.7.7
Taylors Pre-Seeding Fertilizer 6.9.6
Taylors Autumn and Winter Sportsfield 3.12.12

MASCOT MICROFINE (Nitrogen derived from IBDU)

18.0.0 + 6% Fe A high Nitrogen Spring/Summer Fertilizer.

14.4.7 + 2% Mg Specially designed to provide balanced nutrition for turf.

12.0.6 + 2% Fe + 2% Mg Specially formulated for Spring/Summer use on fine turf, producing a growth response within seven days of application.

8.0.0 + 4% Fe + 2% Mg A Spring/Summer Fertilizer, with extra iron for green up and hardening of turf.

4.0.8 + 2% Fe + 2% Mg Formulated for use as an Autumn/Winter feed.

FINE TURF FERTILIZER

S/S2 14.2.7 + 1% Mg An Organic fine turf Fertilizer, formulated with an analysis to comply with modern approach to the nutritional requirements of fine turf in the Spring and Summer.

A/W2 4.4.8 + 2% Fe An Organic fine turf Fertilizer, formulated with an analysis to comply with modern approach to the nutritional requirements of fine turf in the Autumn and Winter.

Mini-Gran S/S 11.5.5 A Spring/Summer Fertilizer designed for fine turf areas such as Golf and Bowling Greens.

Mini-Gran 3.10.5 An Autumn/Winter Fertilizer designed for fine turf areas such as Golf and Bowling Greens.

Supreme S/S 10.5.5 + 1.5% Fe A Spring/Summer Fertilizer. Balanced for fine turf such as Golf Greens, Bowling Greens etc.

Supreme A/W 3.9.6 A carefully prepared Autumn dressing for fine turf.

Special Organic 'N' 8-0.5-0.5 + Fe Finest materials blended especially for Golf Greens and other fine turf areas.

Taylors Lawn Sand 5.4% N + 1.5% Fe Designed to promote growth and control moss. Contains ferrous sulphate.

Turf Hardener 1.7% N + 2.5% Fe + Mg + Trace Elements

This product is particularly suitable for Autumn but may be used during any Season of the year.

Read the label before you buy – use pesticides safely.



Rigby Taylor



A GROWING FORCE IN LEISURE



Let us SPRAY



JON ALLBUTT questions the unfortunate tag of 'that nondescript piece of a small agricultural unit' for sprayers –

and suggests what to look out for when buying new

The Hardi 300 Amenity Sprayer, mounted on a Cushman



SPECIFICATION FOR A NEW SPRAYER

- 1 A sprayer that will be compatible with a Cushman, tractor etc, and one that is easy to fit.
- 2 Controls that are positioned in such a way that you don't rick your neck when checking pressures or switching on and off.
- 3 A balancing valve on each boom control to stop a pressure surge when you switch one or more boom sections off in a narrow space.
- 4 A pump capacity to give from 250 to 1,100 litres per hectare at 2 bar pressure.
- 5 Diaphragm check valves for drip free spraying.
- 6 Nozzle triplets fitted to the boom to save fiddling with nozzle changes each time you change products and water volumes.
- 7 A selection of nozzles to give the wide range of outputs listed in 4), with an easy to follow reference chart!
- 8 Made of rugged construction with fittings that don't leak!
- 9 Bout markers to make an easy job of spraying irregular shapes accurately. Whoever heard of the perfect rectangular fairway or green?
- 10 A cage or basket to hold the pesticide safely and allow mixing away from the yard.
- 11 A fresh water bottle on the side for washing hands on site.
- 12 Available from a supplier who has a good, fast spares service.
- 13 Boom end guards to stop the inevitable damage to end nozzles on uneven ground.

It seems to me we never give the choice of sprayer the same amount of thought as, say, choosing a new mower or tractor. The sprayer is often part of a package, or a nondescript piece of a small agricultural unit. Sometimes we even opt for something that is second hand and usually cheap!

All that has changed now; for we need to know so much more about the task of spraying, perhaps not out of choice, but because new legislation has required us to be properly trained. Now we look at our old sprayer with new eyes; there it sits in the yard or shoved into a corner, the pump still attached and not cleaned out since it was last used. What was it used for? Can't remember!

Now that we see the shortcomings of the unit we wonder how on earth we managed to get away with it.

We now understand terms like calibration and spray quality, we can pick a nozzle to give the right output in litres per minute. In many cases the sprayer is, and always was, inadequate for the job and we appreciate the need for a unit that will meet the requirements of the Code of Practice. Our priority is to do the job quickly and accurately using a pressure and spray quality that will avoid drift problems - even if the wind speed is just a touch higher than it should be.

There are a number of sprayers available now with a range of different features. The problem is to choose the right features that will do the job within the budget.

'...The sprayer needs the flexibility to apply widely different water volumes and travel over some very uneven ground...'

In amenity horticulture, and greenkeeping in particular, the sprayer needs the flexibility to apply widely different water volumes and travel over some very uneven ground. In making a decision you might use the specifications Page 29 as a guide, circulate it amongst suppliers and wait to see what they offer.

Allman have a range of sprayers to fit most vehicles, including the Cushman. They are often basic and need extras to make them flexible enough to cope with all turf situations. There are two ranges of nozzles available, high and low pressure, so be careful when ordering. Remember the objective is to have water volume output and spray quality specified on the label at the lowest pressure. Unless you specify, your sprayer is likely to be delivered with high pressure nozzles.

After many trials and discussions with greenkeepers, Hardi have just launched their new 300 Amenity Sprayer designed to fit the Cushman and incorporating all the above points. The interesting thing is that it is not an all-new sprayer with untried components, rather it used the best of their agricultural range put together to give an easy to operate machine of high quality. Hardi score a first by incorporating a bout marking system on a sprayer priced at under £2,000. Hardi offer several pump options, the most useful being the RP*** Roller Vane unit. This has several

advantages in that it is easy to put on and off, simple to clean and delivers more than 1,000 litres per hectare at low/mid pressure. Ideal for spraying wormkiller, fungicides, wetters, fertilisers and soil conditioners.

For those sites without a Cushman, Hardi offer the BL300 to the same spec to fit any tractor. With minor modifications, it may also be used as a trailed or skid mounted unit.

Where larger sites suggest a bigger unit, look at the Hardi NK range with a larger tank and boom, together with the same controls.

Electronic controls are available as an optional extra, enabling these to be brought into the cab for easier use and greater safety.

At the most recent IOG Show, Ransomes were showing a new sprayer from the USA, designed to fit the Cushman. At that time it had not been completed for the UK market, having no operator handbook or details of pump output and nozzles. I expect these to all be well sorted out in time for the new spraying season.

● The author is a technical consultant to the leisure and amenity industry. He is perhaps best known to greenkeepers as a technical trainer of those who apply pesticides, and in assisting with COSHH assessments.

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FACES and PLACES

● Delight is shared by us all at the recent announcement that our President, Viscount Whitelaw, has been appointed by The Queen to the highest order of chivalry in Scotland.

He is appointed Knight Companion of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle. Lord Whitelaw, who was born of Scottish parents in Nairn, joins just 15 other Knights Companion of the Order.

His appointment, especially appropriate for one so deeply involved with golf, was made by tradition on St Andrew's Day.

● A little merry-go-round has occurred recently in the Northern Section with Fulneck's Benny Hill taking over from Chris Raper at West Bowling. This in turn has enabled Mick Rooks of Woodhall Hills to take over at Fulneck. We wish them all good fortune.

● We at Greenkeeper International join with all members of the Sussex Section in wishing Nick Beadle every success as the new Head Greenkeeper at Peacehaven Golf Club. Your editor, having watched the Peacehaven course turn from green to coffee brown over the past drought stricken year, is sure that Nick will find his fresh task a most challenging one.

● Willie Blair tells us of considerable natural curiosity generated over the appointment of a young lady greenkeeper at Rathno Park.

The mystery solved, Miss Heather MacKinnon has become a member of The Association and the 'East Scottish lads now look forward to welcoming her at forthcoming meetings. We join with them in wishing her good fortune in her new post

● Greenkeeper International joins with Ayrshire Section members and students at Ayr College in congratulating Alan MacWilliam, Portpatrick Golf Club, on winning the Best Student of The Year Award. The trophy is presented annually by the BIGGA Ayrshire Section.

● Trevor Neale, formerly an irrigation engineer with Rand & Sons, has joined irrigation consultants Philip York & Partners as Technical Co-ordinator.

Trevor, 33, will be responsible for providing technical support to each of the senior irrigation consultants at the partnership, with his new role placing great emphasis on involvement with fine turf irrigation projects.

● Golf & Irrigation Services Ltd (GIS) is the name of a new creative force in golf course consultancy, design and management, set up to respond to the industry survey which suggests that 700 new courses will be required by the end of the decade to meet demand.

Currently working on several assignments in Western Europe and the Middle East, they are also closely involved in the design and construction of the new Harvington Lodge Golf and Country Club at Evesham, Worcestershire.

● Supaturf Products Ltd have appointed Stephen Seymour, 26, as Area Sales Manager responsible for Lancashire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Shropshire, Merseyside and North and Mid Wales.

Stephen has been National Karate Champion for the past 8 years and was World Champion in 1987. We wish him well.



Trevor Neale



Alan MacWilliam



Derek Ganning

● With full backing from the PGA and the EGU, The RecMan '91 exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham on February 26 - 28 will, for the first time, feature a major area looking at the provision for golf development, aptly titled 'Golf Development in the 90s'.

In addition, the RecMan '91 Conference (a Sports Council venture) will

stage seminars entitled 'Planning for Golf' and 'Managing Golf', both run in conjunction with the PGA. Details from The Exhibition Manager on 081 742 2828.

● Greenkeeper International is delighted to join the many friends of Derek Ganning in congratulating him on his being awarded the British Empire Medal in the recent Queens Honours list.

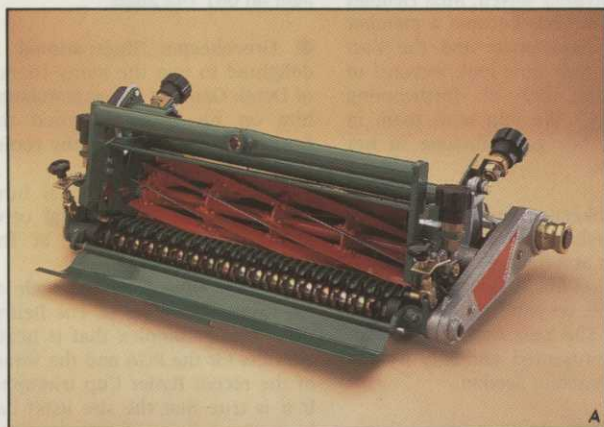
Derek received his medal from Lord Aylesford at a special ceremony given in his honour at The Belfry in November.

Derek is known far and wide as the Course Manager of The Belfry, the 36 hole complex that is headquarters for the PGA and the venue of the recent Ryder Cup triumphs. If it is true that the site itself has been the subject of adverse criticism, it can equally be said that Derek Ganning has unfailingly delivered playing conditions that are clearly above reproach.

Whilst not knowing the criteria applied in the awarding of such honours, we are in full accord with the wisdom of such thinking, recognising as we do that Derek Ganning has been a true ambassador for the profession that he loves and serves so well.



THE NEW GT RANGE



A The micro-precision Greens Unit with Verti-Groom attachment.

B The GT Champion's electronic control panel.

C 3-way adjustable seat with flip-up armrests



B

It takes years to perfect the greenkeeper's art.

But you can still pick up a few useful pointers in a week. Particularly if you spend it at the wheel of a new Ransomes GT.

If you'd like to try it, you only have to ask.

Choose the GT Champion, with its second-generation electronics, or the GT Classic, with simple but effective hydraulic controls.

See for yourself the perfectly-groomed finish achieved

THERE'S NO SHORT CUT TO PERFECT GROOMING



by the 9-blade Greens Units, with their Verti-Groom attachments to control lateral growth and thatch.

And try for size the superb new driver's seat: generously upholstered, fitted with flip-up arm-rests, and adjustable every which way.

For all the details of both machines (and a week's loan of one) simply ring Trevor Knight at Ransomes, or return the coupon. And see how, just for once, you can take a short cut to perfection.



Please send me full details of the new Ransomes GT range, and ask my local dealer to contact me to arrange a week's trial without obligation.

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G.I. 1.91

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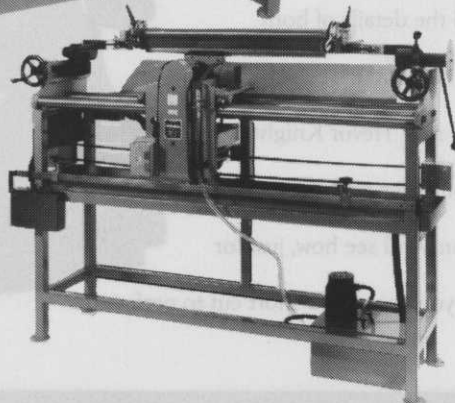
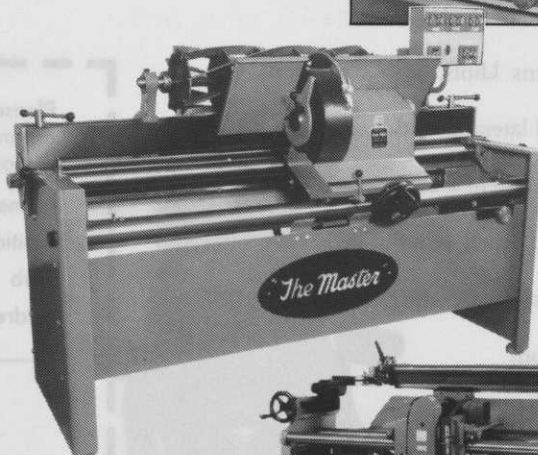
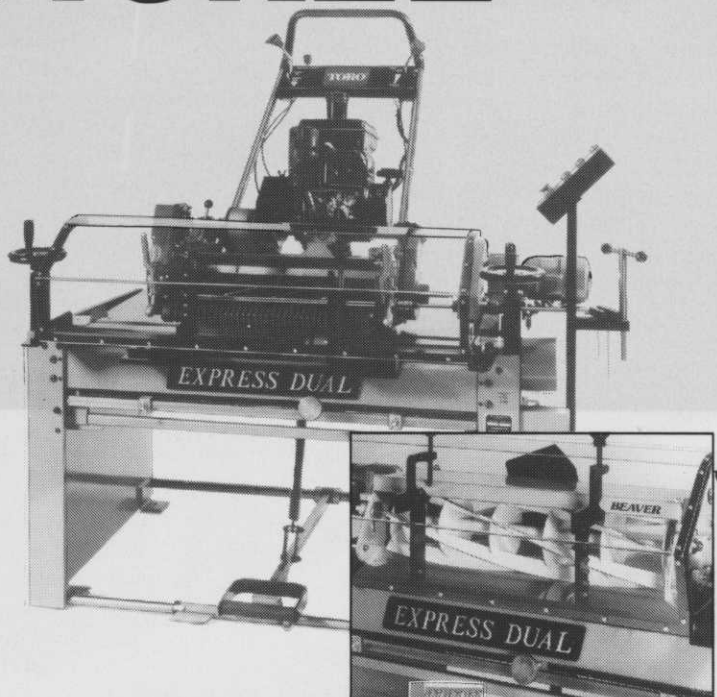
In fact, in our work shops at the moment we have Express Duals ready to go to America – the Atterton is well proven on the other side of the Atlantic too!

Our customers tell us the reasons we are still in demand 100 years on – our dedication to service, the quality of build, the value for money – they all add up to the finest Grinders available today.

We have constantly changed and adapted our manufacturing techniques to combine the best of yesterday's skills with the benefits of tomorrow's technology.

But more important than all that we are first and foremost Grinding enthusiasts and are happy to talk and give advice whatever your grinding requirements.

The Atterton Master leads the field – The Express Dual a technological revolution, in-situ and separate cylinder grinding – The Anglemaster, a bottom blade grinder to complement the best in cylinder grinding machines.



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To The Editor

I have been a greenkeeper for twelve years, a member of the Northern Section of BIGGA and a serving Section committee member for some time, and a keen attendee of the many winter lectures and year round golf competitions organised for the benefit of our section.

I write to express my disgust at the miserable attendance for the recent lecture on Controlled Release Fertilisers, given by a staff expert from Sierra UK Ltd at West Bowling Golf Club on November 7th.

Why am I disgusted? Because only three Committee members and nine greenkeepers deemed it worth attending!

Imagine the scene. We have an interesting subject, of importance to all who gain their living from greenkeeping, covered in an informative and entertaining way by an expert. He has travelled from Kent to address an audience that might have been a potential 200 or more. He is faced with a gathering of twelve.

The Northern Section has nearly 300 members and I think it is high time they took a positive interest in winter lecture subjects and not only in playing golf competitions.

Those who did not attend, for whatever lame reason, must feel that they have let their section down.

So come on you chaps, let's make these meetings worthwhile by lending support for a couple of hours. Quite apart from the benefits gained, they offer a grand opportunity to meet old friends and join them for a drink or two.

BRIAN D CARR

Head Greenkeeper, Howley Hall Golf Club

To The Editor

The game of golf has, over the ages, been widely known as one where good manners and impeccable behaviour are synonymous. May I therefore point out an unacceptable face which appears to be creeping into the game, at club administrative level.

Youngsters these days spend a lot of time trying to become proficient at their chosen vocation. Upon leaving, they obviously apply for jobs and send off applications. Sadly I have to report that young dedication is not always matched by good administration at certain Golf Clubs.

When a Club advertises a post, for example in this magazine, surely it is only good manners for the secretary to reply to the application – even if it be rejection of the possibility of an interview.

I have come across a number of cases in the last year or so of Clubs simply not bothering to reply. One young lad had made 11 job applications with only one reply, a situation I find disgraceful, don't you?

So, all you secretaries and managers of Golf Clubs, a heartfelt plea to please reply to all the youngsters – and indeed to all others – who write in the hope of making their career in this wonderful sport of golf.

MALCOLM HUNTINGTON

York

● Malcolm Huntington is perhaps better qualified than most to comment on good sporting manners, being a sports journalist, a top level tennis umpire and an Olympic Games official. Like most sports writers, he is in admiration of golf's good manners, witness as he is to many fiery and temperamental outbursts in other sports.

Letters

To Neil Thomas

My name is Jonas Ogvall. I am twenty years old, and I live in Gothenburg, Sweden.

I have been working at Delsjö Golf Club for superintendent Jerker Tobiasson over the past three summers and have found this most interesting and enjoyable. I would like now to learn more about the care of a golf course and I think there is much to be learned by working outside Sweden.

I therefore wonder if you can help me to obtain a job at a golf course in Great Britain. I would be free to work from now until the end of April 1991.

I have played golf for some seven years and have a handicap of 3. Apart from playing a great deal I have recently become a member of the green committee.

JONAS OGVALL

Konsertvagen 13, S-435 44 MOLNLYCKE, Sweden
● Is there a head greenkeeper or course manager that can help? – please make contact with Jonas directly.

To David Golding

I write to thank you and BIGGA headquarters staff for the In-house Management Course which I attended most recently.

The organisation was excellent and the course content was exceptional; from Nick Bisset's humorous look at communications to the very serious subject of health and safety by Graham Oddy, which gave us food for thought. The 'hands-on' experience Fred Robinson gave to us with computers provided more than a glimpse into the future of greenkeeping management, and leaving 8 computers with us for a whole week showed great trust!

All in all it was a very enjoyable time, if not a little exhausting. In fact, the only disappointment came in discovering that only 35 greenkeepers had registered for the Master Greenkeeper Certificate. Does this mean that only 35 greenkeepers in the country consider themselves under qualified?

I believe this certificate programme will become the pinnacle of education for greenkeepers in the future, but only with their utmost participation.

PETER GEE

Nevill Golf Club

To David Golding

May I take this opportunity of thanking BIGGA for the splendid hospitality I received at Aldwark Manor during the finals of the BIGGA/ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year Award.

I would also like to express my thanks to ICI for sponsoring this event and long may it continue.

Finally, my sincere thanks are extended to the other finalists for their support – I feel we were all winners of this award.

ANTHONY DAVIES

Head Greenkeeper, Prestbury Golf Club

Opinions expressed in these columns are not necessarily shared by the editor of BIGGA and the Association accepts no responsibility for them.

Letters to the editor are welcome on any topic related to the practice or pursuit of greenkeeping. Write to the editor, Greenkeeper International, 13 Firle Close, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 2HL. Letters should be signed.

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SEASONAL MISERY IN THE SHAPE OF TURFGRASS



Individual Poa plant with rotted base – characteristic symptoms of anthracnose.

DISEASES

Severe attack of anthracnose. Note the yellowing Poa in the sward.



Early symptoms of fusarium patch disease.



Extensive damage caused by fusarium patch disease.



As most greenkeepers are aware, there are several disease problems of fine turf that may be damaging and disfiguring during the winter months. Two such diseases, namely anthracnose and fusarium patch, are particularly troublesome especially where annual meadow grass (*Poa annua*) forms significant proportion of the sward. In this article NEIL BALDWIN describes the cultural and environment conditions that favour outbreaks of these diseases, and gives details of the most effective prevention and control methods available for greenkeepers to follow.

Curse of the yellow patches

Anthrax, caused by the fungus *Colletotrichum graminicola*, is seen throughout the winter as yellowing individual annual meadow grass plants in the sward. In cases of severe attack large patches of affected turf may develop which cause serious damage to the putting surface. At later stages of disease development small black pin-head sized structures may be seen at the base of the plant which is rotted

(figure 1) and consequently diseased plants may be easily removed from the sward.

Fusarium patch disease (*Microdochium nivale*), a common and familiar sight to most UK greenkeepers in the winter months, is probably the most damaging and disfiguring disease in golf greens. Whilst the characteristic symptoms of orange-brown patches with paler centres caused by the disease are probably

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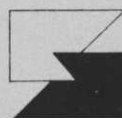
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recognised by most greenkeepers, the appearance of fusarium patch in its early stages of development are not familiar to so many (figure 2). However, it is essential that fusarium patch is identified in its earliest stages as it is then that control methods are the most effective.

The cultural and environmental conditions that favour the development of anthracnose and fusarium patch diseases are categorised in table 1 below:

Thus, with an understanding that both diseases are favoured by the presence of Poa and surface wetness, it is not surprising that these diseases may occur concurrently during the winter months.

An old problem, and a new one

Whilst fusarium patch has been recorded for over 20 years on golf greens, anthracnose is a comparatively recent problem. As with most turf disease problems, the increasing incidence of anthracnose in recent times may be associated with the changes in golf course play and greenkeeping practice.

In particular, two factors have probably played a role in the development of anthracnose. The high numbers of rounds played on many of our courses has led to wear and compaction problems, which in turn has led to a stressed annual meadow grass sward. Current trends in greenkeeping practice advocate fertiliser programmes based on nitrogen only, together with minimal irrigation, which again stresses annual meadow grass.

Of course the aim of these practices is to stress the undesirable meadow grass so that bent (*Agrostis* spp) may thrive. However, a stressed Poa is highly prone to anthracnose disease. In situations where the Poa content of the sward is low, anthracnose may be thought of as beneficial as it selectively removes this plant species from the green. However, where the Poa forms a significant proportion of the sward, (figure 2) the disease may be considered a serious problem and thus require control.

Integrated Management of Anthracnose & Fusarium Patch

Integrated disease management is defined as the complimentary use of cultural, biological and chemical methods to maintain disease at an acceptable level. These are listed in table 2. It is clear that the good turf management practices of Poa reduction, adequate fertiliser programmes and regular aeration, will have a beneficial effect on the turf to the detri-

Tackling the old and new threats

ment of disease development. As both anthracnose and fusarium patch are primarily diseases of Poa, biological control: ie choice of disease resistant varieties of grass, is not appropriate.

Due to the widespread occurrence of Poa in golf greens throughout the UK and the cold wet nature of British winters, in many instances both diseases may occur even if all attempts are made to prevent outbreaks by cultural methods. Thus the careful and judicious use of fungicides may be necessary to maintain greens to a good standard.

There is only one fungicide currently Approved for use against anthracnose, namely chlorothalonil (Daconil Turf Fungicide). For fusarium there are several Approved fungicides that may be considered. During the winter months it is the contact fungicides that give the best results as they have eradivative properties. Also systemic fungicides, (table 3), if applied in the late autumn/early winter period, may inhibit the development of fusarium patch.

Further suggested reading: 'Turfgrass Pests and Diseases' (1990) 72pp including 32 colour photographs. £5.50 including postage from: STRI, Bingley, West Yorkshire, BD16 1AU.

● Dr Neil Baldwin, the author of this article, is well known to our readers as the Sports Turf Research Institute's Plant Pathologist.

Table 1

Conditions that favour disease outbreak

| Anthracnose | Fusarium Patch |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Predominance of annual meadow grass in sward. | |
| Surface wetness and poor sub surface drainage. | |
| Cool ambient and soil temperatures. | |
| Low fertility conditions | High fertility conditions |
| Both acid & alkaline conditions | Alkaline turf surface |
| Compaction | Humid atmosphere conditions/dew |

Table 2

Integrated disease management

| Anthracnose | Fusarium Patch |
|--|--|
| Reduce/eliminate annual meadow grass in sward. | |
| Maintain adequate fertility. | |
| Ensure good surface/sub surface drainage. | |
| Relieve compaction | Do NOT apply materials |
| - slitting/vertidrain | - containing lime. Avoid |
| Fungicides - chlorothalonil Approved | - late season fertiliser |
| | - applications or uneven/excessive top dressing. |
| | - Fungicides: see text. |

Table 3

| Systemic Fungicides | Contact Fungicides |
|---|---|
| benomyl (Benlate) | chlorothalonil (Daconil Turf Fungicide) |
| carbendazim (Fisons Turfclear and Mascot Contact) | iprodione (Rovral Green) |
| thiabendazole (Tecto Systemic Turf fungicide) | quintozene (Brassicol wettable powder) |
| thiophanate-methyl (Mildothane) | cinclozalin (Mascot contact) |

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Drainage: a vital role to play

An awareness of the increased demand for improved standards of sportsturf surfaces is one that rings especially true for golf courses. Players rightly expect better surfaces as standards of play improve. Increasingly these expectations grow higher and golfers want facilities year round, not just in the summer months. For financial reasons golf course owners also want to increase the intensity of use and extend the season and it is not surprising that much of the £100 million spent each year on maintaining Britain's courses is devoted to the improvement of playing conditions.

Against this background drainage obviously has a vital role to play, for efficient drainage is an essential in maintaining a good playing surface.

Loss of use due to waterlogging or turf damage can result in a games backlog, dissatisfied players and even serious financial losses, whereas an efficient drainage scheme will eliminate waterlogging, reduce compaction, allow easier maintenance and more flexible management of valuable resources. This in turn will result in improved soil structure, fewer weeds, better sward and more economical use of fertilisers.

The Land Drainage Contractors Association (LDCA) recognises the need to promote and maintain high standards in drainage and regards as equally important that professional design and expert installation are essentials to successful drainage schemes.

LDCA SPORTSTURF DRAINAGE SECTION

The specialised nature and requirements of golf course drainage and the need to use experienced contractors with the necessary special equipment caused the LDCA to form a Sportsturf Drainage Section some 3 years ago. Membership of the Section identifies contractors who are experienced in sportsturf work, employ experienced staff, operate appropriate equipment and use BSI materials installed to the high standards laid down in the Association's 'Guidelines for Sportsturf Drainage Installation'.

These guidelines have been compiled by the LDCA to assist those involved in specifying, designing, installing and maintaining drainage works for amenity use.

Members of the Section undertake to supply and use materials to the recommended standards and to maintain the standards of workmanship contained in the Guidelines.

The LDCA is a trade association whose members include drainage contractors, manufacturers and suppliers of drainage machinery, pipes and other products.

In March the LDCA Sportsturf Drainage Section is holding a seminar at Ascot Racecourse to present aspects of design, machinery and materials for sportsturf drainage with accounts of costs and benefits from user case studies.

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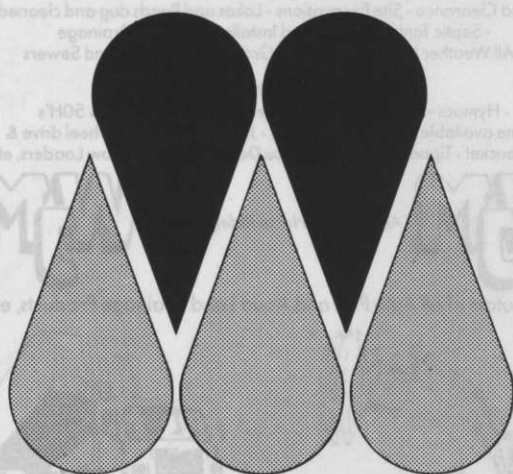
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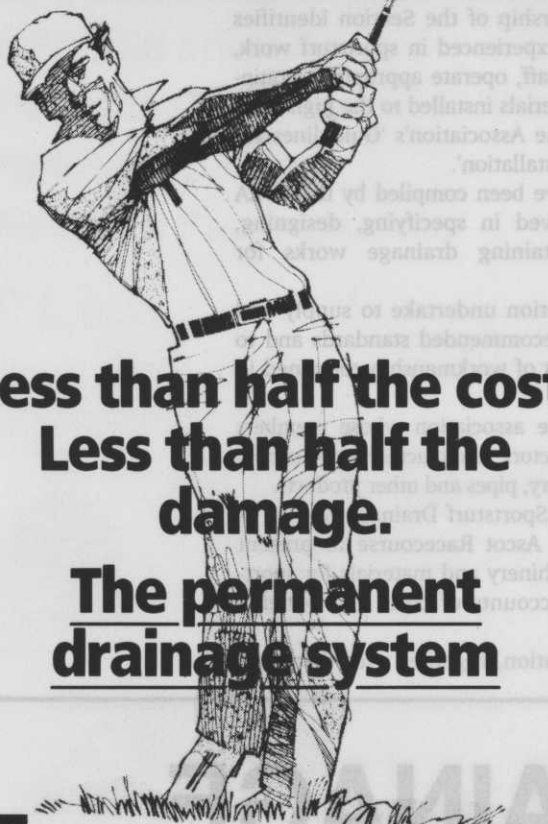
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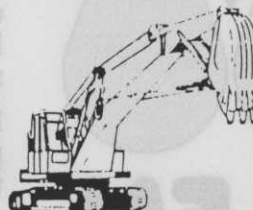
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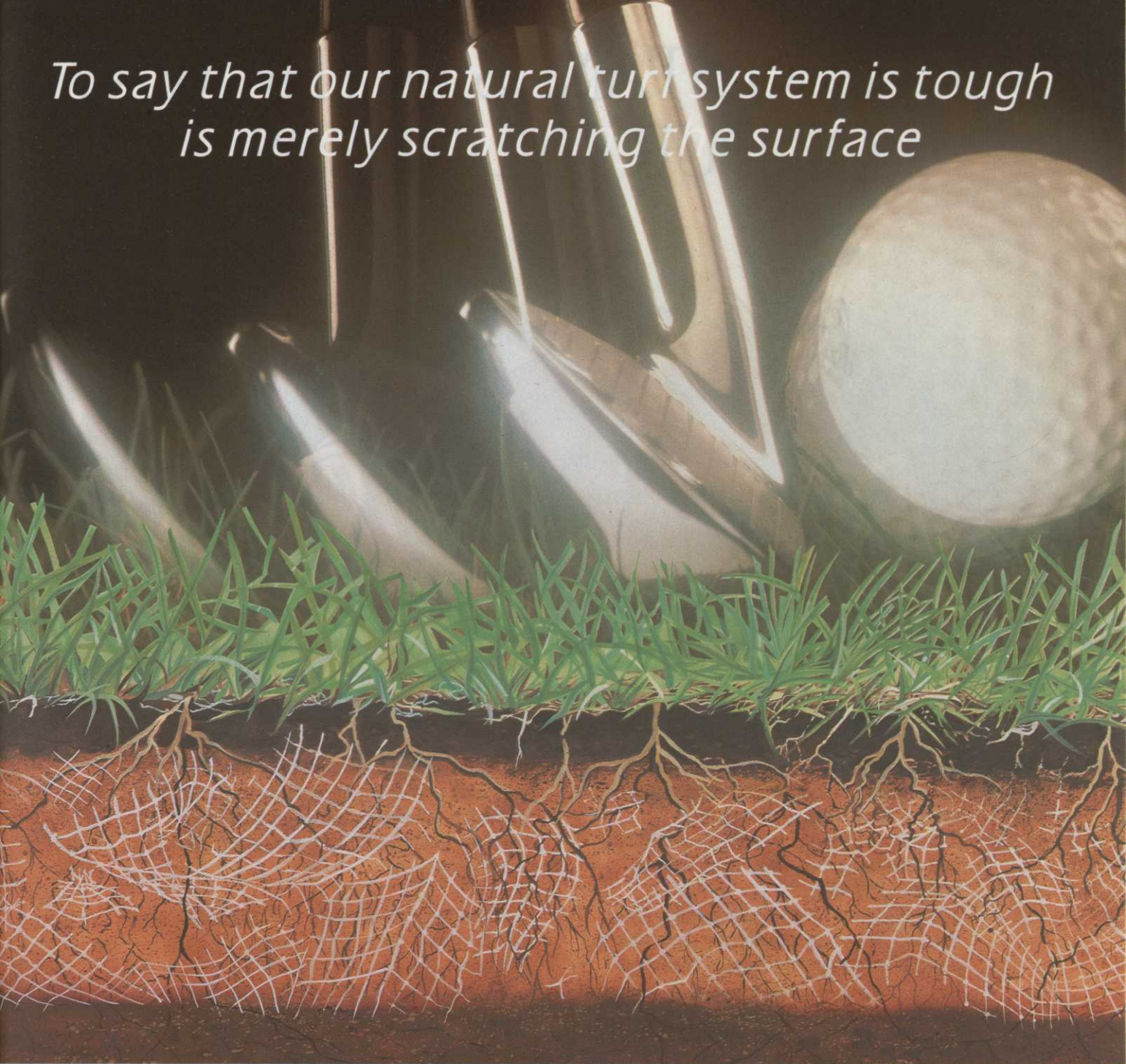


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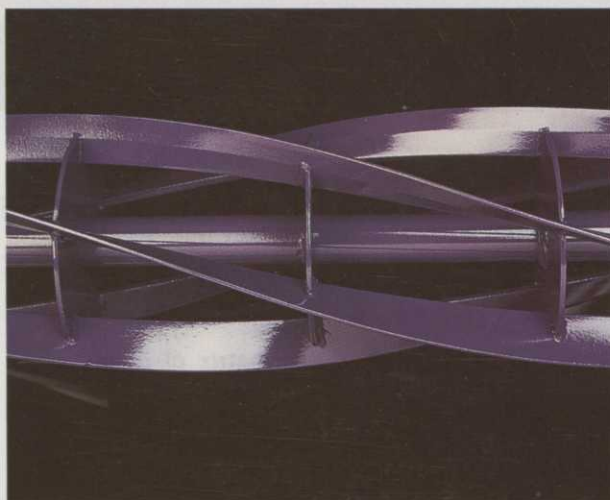
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Praise for 'the man with a mission'

The making of golf history has ensured that the name of Park will forever be remembered, Old Willie Park being the first ever winner of The Open Championship in 1860, and again in 1863, 1866 and 1875. His son Willie Park Jnr. was no mean golfer either, winning The Open in 1887 and 1889 before becoming the first in a long and distinguished line of golf course architects, producing such masterpieces as Sunningdale Old, West Hill and Huntercombe.

Eddie Park, pictured, was not, to my knowledge, descended from Old Willie. There is no doubt however that he is deserving of equal praise and recognition for his great contribution to a lesser known and far less feted part of the golf scene – the good management of the golf course.

There can be few greenkeepers who have not heard the name Eddie Park, though perhaps younger ones will be less aware of the huge service this man did for our industry and for the wisdom he expounded throughout his lifetime.

Eddie, who died just under two years ago, was considered by all who knew him as one of the country's leading experts on greenkeeping and course maintenance,



REAL GOLF
– the collected articles of Eddie and Nicholas Park – (hardback, 168 pages with many colour illustrations) is published by Quick & Sons. It may be obtained, at £19.00 post inclusive, from: Nancie Park, Hardknott, Lindrick Road, Woodsetts, Nr WORKSOP, Notts, S81 8AY.

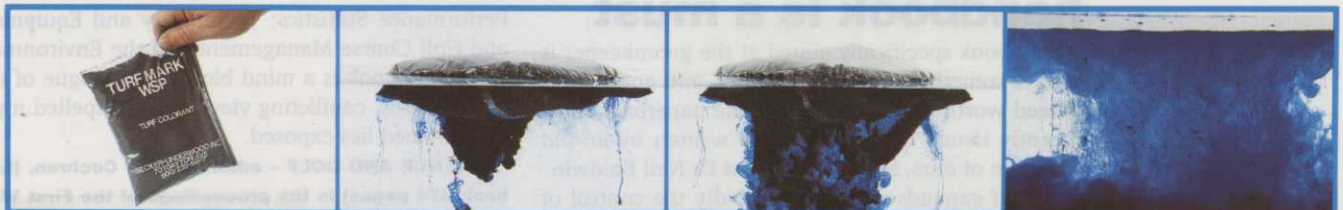
an expertise culled from enthusiasm gained over a lifetime of golfing and gained, not as one might imagine through greenkeeping or as an agronomist, but as one for whom course maintenance was a hobby.

Eddie Park was actually a dental surgeon, though early exposure at St Bees school in Cumberland gave him an everlasting passion for golf and his first chance to become actively involved when, at the age of 16, he looked after the maintenance of the school's small course.

The bug had hit, and thereafter Eddie Park became a man with a mission, the betterment of golf conditions in Great Britain. A talented student and a compulsive reader, his knowledge grew and his eloquent words widely respected, for he was no paper tiger, rather the quintessential practitioner.

Throughout his life he was a member of four clubs, latterly associated with Lindrick Golf Club, of which he was Captain in 1975. He was also a prolific writer on the subject of course maintenance and improvement and it is for this reason we fete him here.

Much, indeed most, of Eddie's writing was in the form of magazine articles and he was widely published in Golf Monthly and Greenkeeper. Many greenkeepers were wise enough to keep copies of his articles, together with the equally important writings of his son Nicholas, and to this day will often produce a



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photocopied fragment in order to put across a particular point to a new chairman of green.

But magazines are by their very nature disposable and easily lost, spoiled or mislaid. Now, through the good grace and infinite good sense of Mrs Nan-cie Park, the complete collection of her husband's articles – including some hitherto unpublished pieces, are available in book form under the beguiling title of **PURE GOLF**.

And what a brilliant book it is, crammed to capacity with informed comment and properly researched data that should – indeed must – be required reading for anyone involved in the preparation or management of a golf course.

This reviewer is in no doubt that the book will quickly become a standard work of reference for the greenkeeping profession, especially those set on a turfgrass management course at a BIGGA approved college. That it might be obligatory reading for EVERY club member who serves on a green committee, will, I believe, be the devout New Year wish of every thinking greenkeeper. If committee men choose to ignore it, and miss the fundamental importance of good husbandry that it preaches, it will be at their peril.

Pests and diseases handbook is a must

A new book specifically aimed at the greenkeeper is always something that we applaud, and applause is indeed worthy for the concise little paperback most recently issued by the STRI and written by an old favourite of ours, Plant Pathologist Dr Neil Baldwin.

As golf expands even more rapidly the control of pests and diseases plays an ever more important role in fine turfgrass care and we are well aware that demand for guidance is continuous.

Thus the writer has concentrated his information specifically at the pests and diseases which occur on cool season turfgrasses – essentially the UK and western Europe – and applies his practical skill in identifying both symptoms and treatment of the bacteria and viruses that are able to cause such serious damage to turf in the UK.

The range of pest problems, considered minor when compared to some that are experienced in areas other than western Europe, are largely confined to exploring and seeking solutions to earthworm casting and a few insect species such as leatherjackets, millipedes, frit fly and wire-worms.

Essentially a practical guide, this is no dry – as dust tome for the scientist or boffin, rather an informative and well illustrated practitioner's manual which the greenkeeper will turn to again and again for guidance when identifying a problem, or for simple reassurance that he is on the correct path to eradication.

This is the third completely revised edition of the booklet, much expanded to incorporate new information gleaned from recent research.

TURFGRASS PESTS AND DISEASES – By Dr Neil

Baldwin (72 pages including 32 colour photographs) is published by The Sports Turf Research Institute, BINGLEY, West Yorkshire, BD16 1AU. £5.50 post inclusive.

How to settle those 19th hole arguments

The first World Scientific Congress of Golf was held in July at St Andrews, bringing together many of the great practitioners and researchers in an attempt to bridge the gap from both directions. It has become clear that scientific information about golf is increasing, whilst at the same time players and their coaches (and indeed golf greenkeepers) are being confronted with problems where science can help to provide a solution.

I am not a scientist, nor do I have a particularly scientific background, but I found the technical matter and corresponding data gathered within the articles published of huge interest. Quite apart from the sheer fun of discovery there is pleasure in actually knowing something; rather than just thinking you know, and a few hours spent in study will arm the reader with material to settle any nineteenth – hole argument (and indeed many of the clap-trap claims made by equipment manufacturers).

Sub-divided into four sections: Human Factors; Performance Statistics; Technology and Equipment; and Golf Course Management and the Environment, the whole book is a mind blowing catalogue of new found truths, conflicting viewpoints, dispelled myths and damned lies exposed.

SCIENCE AND GOLF – edited by A J Cochran, (hardback 374 pages) is the proceedings of the First World Congress of Golf Published by E. & F. N. Spon. £28.50.

History brought to life at Royal Liverpool

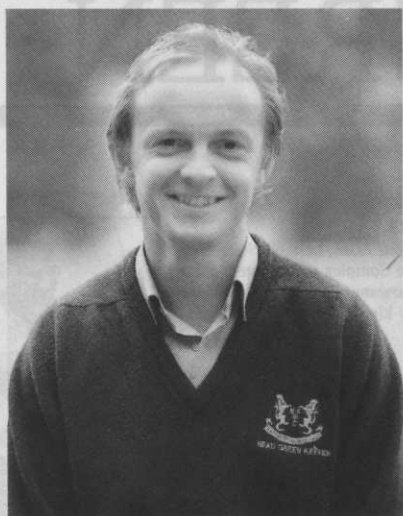
The Royal Liverpool Golf Club has been the venue for The Open and other major championships from its infancy. It is steeped in history and has produced many distinguished players.

Many truly great writers have written enthusiastically about the links. This is the life of those links and the golfers who have played over it.

The early history is brought to life by Bernard Darwin and Guy Farrar, with fascinating Open accounts woven by the winners themselves. These include Harold Hilton, Sandy Herd, J H Taylor, Walter Hagen, Bobby Jones and Fred Daly.

But this anthology is not just about great events. The Royal Liverpool Club features equally strongly and in time to come this book may well be regarded as the finest anthology published about a Club and its golf course.

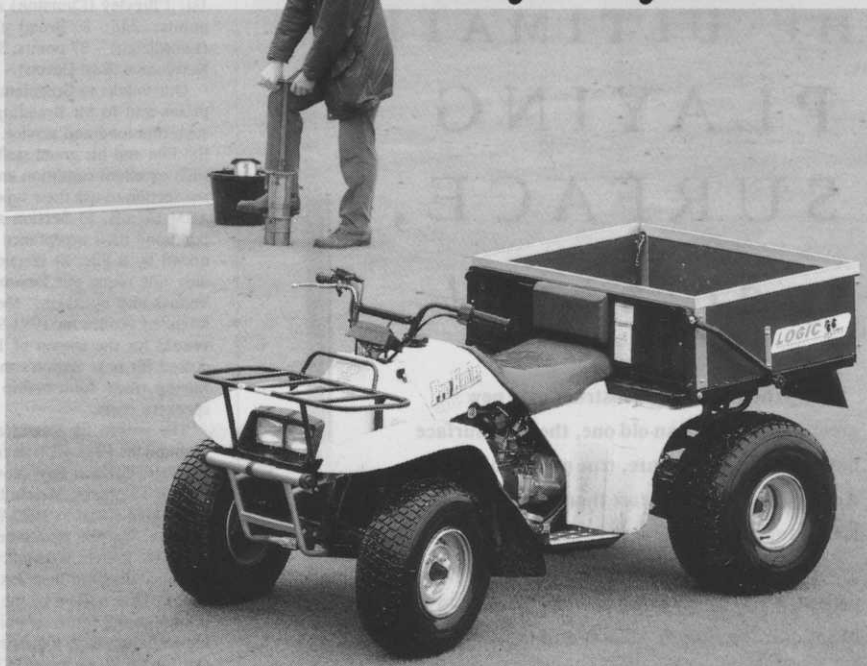
GOLF AT HOYLAKES – edited by John Behrand and John Graham, (hardback 171 pages) is published by Grant Books, Victoria Square, Droitwich, WR9 8DE at £22 post inclusive.



Mark Root
Head Greenkeeper
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AROUND THE GREEN

DEVON AND CORNWALL

Over 60 members attended our AGM, held on November 13 at the Pingle Glen Leisure Complex near Exeter. First on our agenda was the Foursomes Competition for the TORO Trophy, with prizes kindly donated by Greenlands SW Ltd.

Results were:

1st: J Breyley (Churston) and N Pring (Padbrook) - 39 points; 2nd: K Broad (Fingle Glen) and M Pike (Elfordleigh) - 37 points; 3rd: G Child (Churston) and P Newcombe (East Devon) - 36 points.

Our thanks to Greenlands SW Ltd for the donation of prizes and to Mr Bredding and his staff for providing such fine food and service. A special thanks must go to Bill Pile and his green staff for presenting the course in such excellent condition and to Fingle Glen for allowing the section to use their superb facilities.

AGM Details: 1) Section accounts: These were circulated and their acceptance proposed by J Mitchell, seconded by B Pile. 2) Election of Regional Officer: With only one name put forward, Jeff Mills was elected. 3) Venues and Speakers: Members were informed of the intended venues for 1991-92 and were asked to propose venues for the season of 1992-93. Speakers were discussed for next season's meetings and the possibility of raising trade sponsorship to help cover some of the speakers' costs.

The season for Devon and Cornwall runs from October through April and our programme for 1991-92 is as follows:

October: Carlyon Bay; November: Bude - AGM; December: Okehampton; February: St Enedoc - M Jones; March: Bigbury; April: Launceston - Guest Day.

Looking ahead to 1992-93 our programme is:

October: Warren; November: China Fleet - AGM; December: Okehampton; February: Per-ranporth; March: Woodbury; April: Launceston - Guest Day

Concluding our business, the Chairman read aloud a letter from our Regional Administrator. This, backed by the R & A relates to training and pay of greenkeepers, thus ensuring the sound future of golf courses in this country. If any member is experiencing trouble with their Club regarding this matter, the letter can be sent to their Club by contacting Gordon Child, Archways, Churston Ferrers, Nr Brixham, Devon. Tel: 0803 844056.

Our Christmas meeting, returning again to Oakhampton Golf Club, was attended by 85 members and guests, with members playing a Greensome Stableford for the P J Flogg Trophy. We are grateful to the Club for use of their facilities and to Richard Wisdom and his staff for a course in excellent condition. Winners were N Pring and R Hall, scoring a brilliant 25 on the back nine. Following a superb Christmas Lunch Patrick Flegg of P J Flegg Ltd presented the prizes to: 1) N Pring (Padbrook) and R Hall (Padbrook) 48 points; 2) D Parr (Truro) and K Kellow (Falmouth) 41 points; 3) R Whyman (Bude) and B Ridgeway (Fingle Glen) 40 points.

Our entertainer was the very funny David Jade, who was presented with an Association tie. Thanks to generous donations, we held two Christmas raffles, the first being for the Avon Crop and Monro Hampers. These were presented by Rod Feltham and Mike Berriman to winners N Stonelake and R Hall.

RICHARD WHYMAN

NORTHERN

A glorious day brought out 30 or more members to our annual Christmas golf day at South Leeds Golf Club. Nearly everyone was a prizewinner of some sort and I hope everyone enjoyed the day. After a hearty meal many people stayed on for the section AGM, during which some new faces were voted on to the Committee. I hope the newcomers will gain wisdom from the old hands still serving and put their knowledge to good use.

The new Committee is:

President: W Mountain; Chairman: P Taylor; Vice Chairman: B Carr; Secretary/Treasurer: B Lupton; Committee:

G Oxley, M Lealman, D Cockburn, A Gamble, C Garnett, G Hope, T Jarvis and E Paley

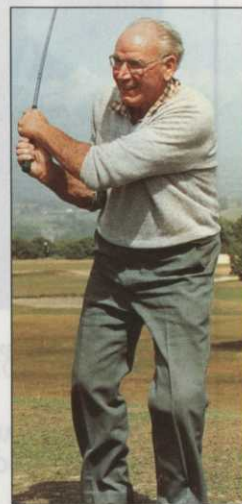
Committee man Graham Hope has the champagne on ice with much to celebrate. First his marriage to Diane and now a new job, moving from Moor Allerton to be head man at South Leeds. Last, but not least, I understand that the patter of tiny feet is expected in the not too distant future.

Golf is now finished until Spring and our only chance to meet together is at Winter lectures. What a pity more people do not support both their section and our speakers on these occasions. Our lecture in November unfortunately clashed with a football match on TV and despite being a video recording age, only 12 people, which included trade or retired members, could be bothered to turn up. It is very disappointing for all concerned that these events are not better supported, as a great deal of work goes into organising them on YOUR BEHALF. Please, in future, do try to get along to these events, if only to enjoy a chinwag and a pint. Bring along your assistant or even a Club Committee man.

Some dates to note are:

Wednesday, February 13th, 2.00 pm at West Bowling Golf Club, Bradford. Eddie Stead will talk to us on four wheel drive tractors. A provisional booking for March 20th is that of EFG Halifax and Iseki, both of whom will talk to us on their product ranges. I do sincerely hope to see more faces this year and also look forward to seeing many of our members at BTME in Harrogate during the week commencing January 21.

BOB LUPTON



John Breyley - Churston Golf Club. One of the Toro foursomes winners.

• Continued on Page 52



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● From Page 50 EAST MIDLANDS

Playing our old rivals the Midlands Section, at Whittington Barracks Golf Club in October for the Rigby Taylor Challenge Shield, our plan of action was to play competitively and fair. The Midlands had other ideas!

Play was tight in the morning on a course in excellent condition (well done Trevor and his staff) but THEY stuffed us so full of food at lunch that we were obliged to let them borrow the shield for a year. If any Midland player can provide a course plan of the last five holes to Graham Arnold, he would like to see it, as he didn't manage to get that far all day! Our thanks go to Rigby Taylor for a marvellous time, together with gratitude to the steward and stewardess for superb service and dinner care.

Kirby Muxloe Golf Club was the venue for the Breakwells Tournament, with the winners spoils going to that crafty Leicestershire fox Richard Barker. In second place was Paul Loffman with Neil Woolfrey third. Many thanks to Breakwells for a super day out and likewise to those who provided such a lovely meal.

We held our AGM at Charnwood Forest Golf Club on November 26th and express thanks to the Club for course courtesy and use of the clubhouse, the greenstaff for an enjoyable course, and the caterers for 'inner care'.

Play for the Maxwell Hart Shield was won by J Bedford (One Up) with D Perkins 2nd, G Arn 3rd and M Emery 4th. The Trade and Associate's prizewinner was G Thurman.

The following were elected:

Chairman: Richard Barker; Vice Chairman: Dave Perkins; Secretary: Gordon Mitchell; Committee: Paddy McCarron, Graham Arnold, Nick Danvers, Nick Root, Walter Cole. Regional Reps: Nick Danvers and Gordon Mitchell.

Our thanks are extended to all traders who supported us throughout the year with prizes. We are most grateful and look forward in anticipation of your continued support for the coming season.

GORDON MITCHELL

KENT

We closed our 1990 activities with the Turkey Trot competition and AGM at Ashford Golf Club on November 29th. Despite some cold weather we had a fine day, made even more enjoyable by Willie and his staff preparing the course so well and the provision of a fine hot meal that was so welcome, thank you all.

This is one competition when we all take away a prize, but the leading players, not for the first time were D Kelso, North Foreland and C Lusher, Darenth Valley.

In giving thanks we must not forget Bernard Dibbams of Rigby Taylor for the extra prize of the all important turkey. I understand the voucher included a trip to Norfolk, at Bernard Matthews' expense, to select the bird. Only snag being you had to catch, kill, pluck and stuff it - in any order you saw fit!

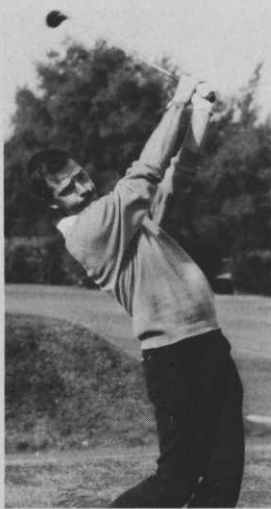
The AGM followed golf, at which the present Committee were re-elected (no extra ballots needed here). One minor change sees the treasury duties passing from John Millen to David Wood. Echoing the sentiments of our last AGM, the point was raised about our section having a large membership - on paper - but that only a hard-core of 20/30 or so regularly attended our functions. The point was made that short of dragging individuals along there seemed little else that could be done to encourage better attendance. We have tried many ideas to appeal to our 'sleepers', but new suggestions would be most welcome. At the end of the day the Association is 'ours' and it is up to us all to put something in, in order to get the best out.

The question of the magazine, Greenkeeping Management, was also raised, namely the poor editorial quality, late delivery, and omissions and delays in articles appearing concerning our section. The point was made that the Association was more than aware of the problems and were actively involved in a complete overhaul of the publication.

As we enter a new year a reminder that our seminar at The Woodland, Swanley, is on February 27th. Also planned are our Spring and Autumn Meetings, respectively at Sittingbourne and Knowle Park. There is also a possibility of a visit to Ransomes factory, with the assistance of Paice and Sons. Members will receive details of these and other planned events nearer to the decided dates.

A New Year wish... may we please have some 'normal' British weather, and PLEASE, PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR SECTION.

PAUL COPSEY



Richard Barker, winner of the Breakwells Tournament at Kirby Muxloe.

SOUTH WEST

A very happy and prosperous New Year to all BIGGA members and officials. 1991 must be the year of opportunity for the Association, a golden chance to continue building success from the very firm base already achieved.

It cannot be done without the work and support of ordinary members and each and every one of us must try to make a contribution. This may perhaps be achieved by encouraging a wavering work colleague to join us, or by attending more meetings, lectures, seminars etc. Maybe you could volunteer to serve on your section committee if you have the available time and wherewithal. Any contribution, however small, will be welcomed with open arms by your section and region officials.

The SW Section AGM was held at Lansdown Golf Club, the Section headquarters, on November 21st. Our thanks to this busy club for allowing us the use of the course and monopolising the clubhouse during the afternoon lecture and our meeting.

Competition results were:

1st: C Fudge (4) 33 points; 2nd: N Pring (3) 33 points; 3rd: P Worster (4) 32 points; 4th: N Wilson (9) 32 points; 5th: S Frankom (23); 32 points; V Lewer (12) 32 points.

Our grateful thanks to Maxwell Hart, Monroe's and Peter Hampton for the prizes, also congratulations and thanks to head greenkeeper John Thomas and his staff for preparing the course.

With 24 members in attendance at the AGM, the following officers were elected to serve in 1991.

Chairman: R Gates; Vice Chairman: J York; Secretary: P Worster; Match Captain: D Everett; Regional Board: R Williams and I Scoones; Committee: P Cox and L Millar.

FIXTURES FOR 1991

25th May: Iseki Qualifier, Bristol and Clifton Golf Club; 29th May: Greenkeeper/Amateur, Westbirton Golf Club; 25th July: Summer Competition, Filton Golf Club; 3rd October: Match V South Wales, St Pierre Golf Club; 11th December: Christmas Luncheon, Shirehampton Golf Club.

PAUL WORSTER

MIDLANDS

Our Christmas Tournament, played in December at the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club, was made all the more pleasurable by the great job that Alan Kite and his staff had done in presenting his course in such nice condition.

The weather, bright and sunny all day, made for some excellent scoring and it was good to see Steve Wood, who has not had the best golfing year, putting matters to rights. His winning score of 40 points was sealed following an outward nine of 24 points.

After a most enjoyable day of golf we sat down to an excellent meal, for which we must thank the catering staff. Sutton Coldfield Golf Club have allowed us to use their course and facilities twice during 1990 and we thank them very much.

Mike Hughes was the overall aggregate winner for 1990 in both gross and nett placings and we offer him our hearty congratulations.

I know a lot of people will join with me in saying how nice it was to see Bob Pilisbury back playing golf with us again following his accident earlier in the year.

Finally may I wish everyone much success and happiness in 1991.

DEAN CLEAVER

SUSSEX

Our Turkey Trot held at Littlehampton in December was a great success, being blessed with a fine sunny day and a good turnout of both members and guests.

Our thanks go to Littlehampton Golf Club for the courtesy of the course and to the caterers and stewards respectively for excellent food and sterling work behind the bar. Opinion had it that the head greenkeeper and his staff must have worked very hard to present the course in such good condition after such an extremely dry summer. Many thanks Dave.

The event was a Stableford team event with four players in each team, the best three scores counting, the results being:

AROUND THE GREEN

BEST TEAM: G Barr, 34 points; R Day, 33 points; R Short, 32 points

TRADE/GUESTS: C Sutton, 39 points; D Sutton, 38 points; P Ward, 36 points

Longest Drive: 7th Fairway: R Day; 17th Fairway: G Ogilvie

Nearest the Pin: 6th green: M Butrymovicz; 8th green: R Jones; 16th green: R Elderfield

Best Out: G Barr; Best In: C Sutton; Worst Out: A Ford; Worst In: Yours Truly

DICK BULL

AYRSHIRE

The Ayrshire AGM has just passed, almost unnoticed, with our membership seemingly happy with the efforts of the 1990 Committee. Before handing over the chair, outgoing Chairman George Brown thanked the Section for sending him to such far-flung places as Florida, Japan and Portugal to spread the word about new greenkeeping standards being set in our area. He wished the new chairman Charlie (Chic) White every success in his travels during his time in office and welcomed Derek Wilson, Bogside, who was elected as Vice-Chairman, together with Bob McKay, Prestwick St Nicholas, who was elected to the Committee.

The Ingleston Show (SCOTSTURF) once again proved to be a great success. Our section had a tremendous turnout, with 75% of Golf Clubs represented.

The Ayr College continues to produce excellent greenkeeping students, but is it not time for BIGGA to provide a certificate for those who successfully complete the required number of modules to a high standard?

Also, please, please, can we have a photograph on our membership cards and a business card supply service?

Finishing this month, it seems to me that we are in for a spell of weather much colder than over the past few years, which might just give us a bit of peace sufficient to get on with the renovations necessary after yet another heavy year of playing pressure. On that subject, I find it most annoying to read of our greenkeeping profession being slated by yet another golf professional, especially one who, in my opinion, cannot play to a high standard and has no understanding of the modern day pressures with which the greenkeeper must contend.

Month after month I issue the plea for material for this report, if only to prevent my own ramblings, and again I ask you to please contact with any snippet that will be of interest to our members.

DUNCAN GRAY

NORTH SCOTLAND

The one day conference held by the Section on December 5th at The Agricultural Hall, Aberdeen, must surely go down in history as one of our most successful.

With an extremely high class field of speakers covering a broad spectrum of topics, every one of the 160 attendees must have left feeling they had reaped considerable benefit. A breakdown of those attending revealed 95 greenkeepers, though NOT all BIGGA members I fear, 25 from the trade and 40 others, made up of club officials, golf professionals and other interested parties.

The conference began with Dr Tom Kavanagh of Dublin University, who gave his usual witty, entertaining and informative address, on this occasion featuring developments of golf courses in Ireland under construction or of those recently completed and of the mistakes that had been made.

From the STRI, Dave Boocock followed with a very interesting talk on golf course maintenance in the North of Scotland, paying particular attention to the timing of some of the remedial work necessary.

Following coffee, Roy Brighton of Time Manager International left his audience with a realisation of how easy it can be to improve the quality of life with just a little more planning and effort. In turn Roy was followed by Stig Persson, immediate past President of the Swedish Greenkeepers Federation, who gave us an insight into the development of golf in Scandinavia, together with pertinent comments on the importance of good maintenance sheds.

Lunch over, Dr Neil Baldwin of the STRI spoke of a number of the more common disease problems encountered in Britain and of the results of trials carried out by The Institute. It was to his credit that he turned a subject which might have become very technically orientated into something that was easily understood, absorbing and interesting to all delegates.

Cecil George, course manager at Lenzie and BIGGA

● Continued on Page 62

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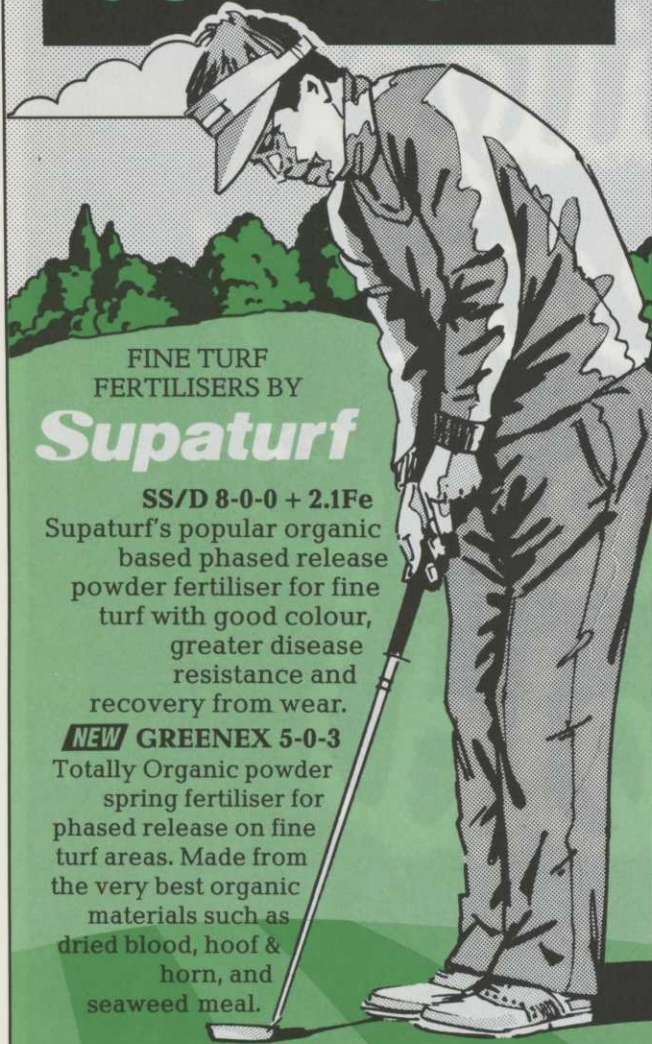
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A pre-spring primer

Traditional greenkeeping practices have changed, or to say the least conditions prevailing on golf courses are changing, and this is encouraging greenkeepers to look toward greater scientific application; including the types of fertilisers applied.

Slow release nitrogen fertilisers have been around for quite a while – for example Ureaformaldehyde and Dicyandiamide have been around since the 1920's and organic products with some slow release properties for even longer. So the products themselves are not new, though the way they are used and the results now expected from them most certainly are.

Basic plant growth conditions need temperature and moisture. Moisture we can control to some extent with irrigation and drainage; but temperature is out of mortal control. This means we have to select products that will react to as many growth stimulants as possible.

The organic products, D.C.D. (ICI's Didin), Ureaformaldehyde (Azulon), and the coated products (Sierra's Osmacote) rely on temperature to release the nitrogen to the plant. BASF's Isodur and Crotadur (IBDU and CDU) need both temperature and moisture to release the nitrogen to the plant. Thus it is vital the greenkeeper makes the correct decision in choosing which of the many products to use by deciding which factors are important to him and his course

The principle of slow release nitrogen has always been to limit the availability of nitrogen for leaching, because this is costly, environmentally undesirable, and just plain inefficient. At certain times of the year shortage of water can cause scorch problems,

and this also has to be avoided. Irrigation can help but what if you have none? Most golf fairways have no irrigation so winter fertilisation becomes a necessity.

It is in these out of the normal uses that slow release fertilisers excel, but as already indicated the method of release varies from product to product and care needs to be taken in selecting the right one.

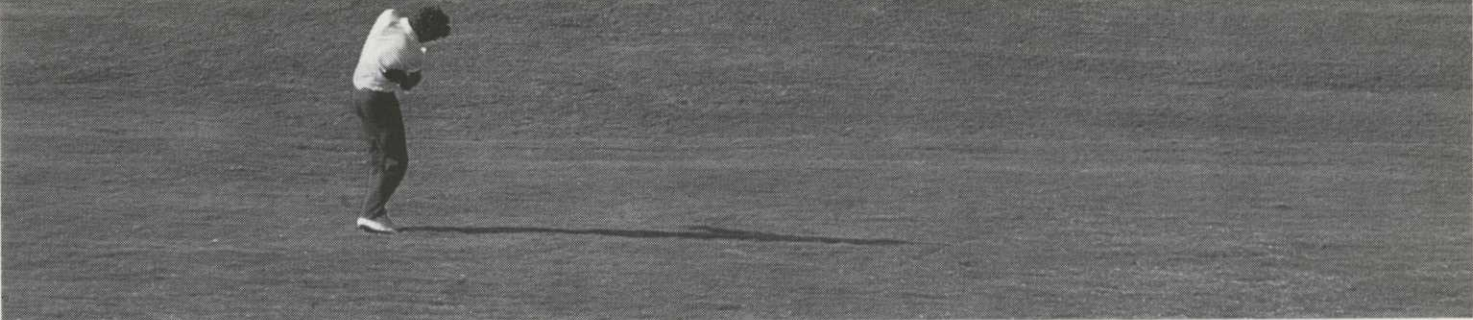
As intelligent men – ask for advice from the manufacturers. All companies have a desire to sell their products with an ultimate aim to secure long-term business. It is in their interests to ensure the customer gets the results he expects.

The slow release manufacturers have all been around for a long time with products that are both cost and application effective. There is no double-glazing type industry, for it is the long-term interests of the market and the demands made upon it that is uppermost in their minds. Every golf course is different, often with big variances across individual courses and when the changes in climate – from year to year, or even day to day – are taken into account there is a place for virtually every product somewhere.

By asking for help from the manufacturer, the greenkeeper can make a measured decision which ultimately benefits everyone, even the golfer, providing he gives the greenkeeper a chance!

Plants need nutrients – thirteen in total – plus light, warmth, water and air if they are to survive. Slow release nitrogen can help supply one of the major nutrients efficiently and economically but care must be taken to ensure the correct product is used – make certain you get it right.

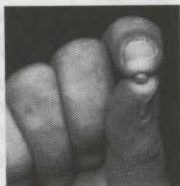
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Applications are invited for the post of

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Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping, and hold a City and Guild or SCOTVEC Certificate in Greenkeeping Management

A practical knowledge of modern machinery and automatic irrigation systems is essential.

Links course experience would be an advantage.

Accommodation could be made available.

Salary and conditions negotiable depending on age and experience.

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The Secretary

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Golf Road

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require an

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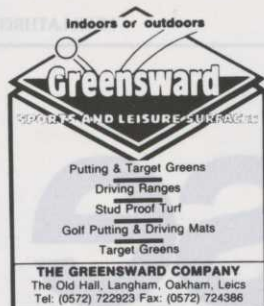
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● From Page 52

Education Convenor for Scotland, was next on stage to tell us how greenkeeper education began in Scotland and of its progression to the present time. He then revealed some of the content of educational courses today and of the help given by various bodies like the R & A and the Greenkeepers Training Committee.

The penultimate speaker, Paul Campbell, manager of Greens of Scotland and formerly of the Scottish Agricultural Colleges, may well have sent a few of those present scurrying back to their club committees to report of the implications of COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) and of the effects it will bring about now that legislation is being tightened.

To complete the line-up we had Peter Smith, who is a playing professional on the full European Tour, speaking of the preparation that goes on behind the scenes before a Tour event and of the conditions required by Tour officials. These he listed as being firm tees to allow a stable stance, closely cut fairways to aid backswing, and firm but fast greens that will reward a well struck shot. He then mentioned his least and most favourite courses from a playing view encountered on the 1990 Tour.

Our section is most grateful for the help received from Scottish Agricultural Colleges and Paul Campbell in the staging of this event and to the trade for giving us such tremendous support.

Although the turnout of 160 was superb - including an encouraging 40 non greenkeepers - it should be noted that 250 greenkeepers were informed, together with over 100 Golf Clubs. Thus with many such Clubs not represented, either by greenkeeper or official, one must look for reasons. Was the £10 cost too much? Do some people feel they already know it all or is it just a case of apathy? One would be forgiven for thinking otherwise, especially when considering the amount of complaints greenkeepers receive, yet only two golf players, a couple from Banchory Golf Club, took the individual initiative to attend.

The hope is that the event will be repeated in two years or so. Perhaps those who attended this event will spread the word in order to fill the 300 seat capacity hall, or should we be paying others to attend?

GORDON MOIR

EAST SCOTLAND

Such a lot has been happening lately that I have difficulty in knowing where to begin. As you know, the Association had a stand at the Ingleston IOG Exhibition and along with the Chairman I helped man the stand, which proved most successful. Much interest was shown regarding new

AROUND THE GREEN

membership and our hope now is that those who enquired decide to join us.

Our section Annual Dinner Dance was held on November 23rd at Turnhouse Golf Club. What a night it turned out, with a record breaking 116 in attendance enjoying a grand meal followed by our usual disco. Regional Administrator Elliott Small, together with his lovely wife Edna, were our guests and generously contributed to our capacity filled raffle table, as did Mrs Helen Dugan; Mrs Liz Blair; Mr J Neilson; Mr R Blair; Mr C Yeaman; Mr A Forrest; Mr W Banks; M and M Turf Products; S T S Jacobsen; Souters of Sterling and many more. How gratifying it was to see so many trade members at what is undoubtedly the social highlight of the year, though there were many more conspicuous by their absence. To bring together 116 people was a tremendous achievement and we now look toward breaking all records in 1991. A big thanks to all concerned - make a note now for the next one - November 30th 1991 - and make sure you get your tickets.

Our AGM was held on November 29th at Kingsknowe Golf Club, with 32 members in attendance. M and M Products provided three very good speakers for the morning lectures and also ensured a good buffet lunch followed the AGM. Many interesting subjects were put forward from the floor for discussion, with the increase in 1991 subscriptions, the desirability of a live band at our dance, the working of our handicapping system and why the trophies are not up to date with engraving being amongst many posed. Our Chairman answered questions with his usual ease and flair, demonstrating that the purpose of an AGM is for members to get things off their chests. I am pleased to report that the vote of confidence given to the committee, who were re-elected en bloc, suggests that members are really happy with the way the section is being run.

WILLIE BLAIR

EAST ANGLIA

Two things to report this month. First the AGM at Bury, where over 30 people turned up. Subjects under discus-

sion ranged from the transfer of funds from bank to building society (for more interest) to someone daring to suggest that golf should be seasonal. Sacre bleu! We could start a revolution at the drop of a hat. Trolleys seasonal? All those in favour say aye... louder.

A greenkeeping course is being considered at Otley College. Now here is a first, as BIGGA (bless 'em) have suggested that we are moving too fast. Well at least we are trying to move forward for the benefit of our young greenkeepers, and the sooner the better say I.

Winter lectures are underway both in the north and south of the region and your full support is requested. Our lads won £500 in the ISEKI Tournament and the winnings may well be used, wisely as ever, to subsidise official jumpers and ties.

A game of golf followed with results as follows:

17 - 28: 1st Steve Millard - Bury St Edmunds, 40 points;
2nd Steve Freestone - Eaton, 34 points
0 - 16: 1st Paul Burtensham - Royal Norwich, 38 points;
2nd Dave Wells - Quietwaters, 35 points.

The elected 1991 Committee is:

President: John Moyce; Vice President: Bob Chesham; Chairman: Sam Sylvester; Vice Chairman: Steve Freestone; Secretary/Treasurer: Mick Peters; Scribe: Mick Lathrope; Competition Liaison/Handicap Secretary: Steve Freestone.

Our thanks go to Mick Clarke for his contribution on Committee over the years and our good wishes to Steve Freestone, who has filled his place and will, I'm sure, do a good job.

I understand that our dear friend Sterlie Goddard popped in to say 'hello' and I was sorry to have missed him. Perhaps next year ...

DIARY DATES 1991:

Channels 16th April (ISEKI Qualifier) Cromer 19th June; Stowmarket 15th August; Gog-magog 8th October.

I said there were two things, so on to our Turkey Trot, held at Aldeburgh on December 6th. A super day; dry, sunny but not too hot. The course was fantastic and our thanks to Peter and the boys for that. Pin placements were good too, though for me they might have been better in the rough - well, that's where I was!

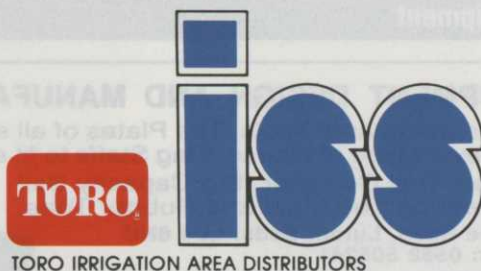
Prizes went to Pete Howard (35 points to win a turkey), 2nd A Carter (28 points on countback) and guest Mr Brown on 32 points. Prizes were presented by the Aldeburgh Captain Sir Dick Franks and donated by CMW, Sisis, Collier and Rushbrooks. Our thanks to you all, especially Aldeburgh, for a great day. Hope we can come again.

MICK LATHROPE

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