

GREENKEEPER'S LIBRARY

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



NOW! Turf Mark® Blue Spray Pattern Indicator Is Available In Convenient Water Soluble Packets!

Turf Mark®... the professional's way to apply liquid pesticides and fertilisers. Turf Mark shows you exactly where you've sprayed. The distinctive blue colour helps to eliminate skips and overlaps, saving you time and money.

Now, Turf Mark is available in convenient, water soluble packets. Turf Mark WSP is a dry flowable formulation of liquid Turf Mark. It is the most convenient and easy-to-use blue spray pattern indicator available. Turf Mark WSP dis-

solves quickly and completely in the spray tank, leaving no residue to clog screens or nozzles. With

Turf Mark WSP, you virtually eliminate applicator contact, container disposal, mixing and handling problems. It is completely compatible with liquid pesticides and fertilisers. And, it cleans up easily from equipment.



For more information on Turf Mark WSP or other Becker-Underwood products, ring your distributor, Maxwell Hart Ltd at Wokingham on (0734) 785655 or at Warrington on (0925) 825501.



Becker-Underwood, Inc.
801 Dayton Avenue • Ames, Iowa 50010, USA
1-515-232-5907 • FAX: 1-515-232-5961

TO RECEIVE YOUR FREE SAMPLE OF TURF MARK WSP PLEASE COMPLETE THE MAXWELL HART REPLY PAID CARD FACING PAGE 56 IN THIS MAGAZINE

GREENKEEPER'S LIBRARY

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