

JUNE 1991

GREENKEEPER

International



**Royal St David's:
a 'natural' venue for
BIGGA National Golf
Tournament**

● **We meet the men of
Harlech**

INTO THE VALLEY



Take the your sh



With the new Nomix™ Compact there's no cumbersome knapsack, just a handy, 750 ml pack of herbicide which gives you all the weedkilling power of two full knapsacks of conventional water-based herbicide.

The pack simply 'snaps' into the Compact ready for use. There's no mixing, no complicated calibration and no contact with chemicals — the system is completely sealed and leakproof.

Use it around trees and shrubs, on paved areas, along fence lines or keep it in your pick-up to deal instantly with weeds as you find them.

Whatever the job, Nomix has the right herbicide: a choice of herbicides specially formulated for the Compact by companies like Monsanto, BP and Cyanamid.

weight off shoulders.

Send the coupon off now for product information and a demonstration video.

Nomix. A weight off your shoulders.

I would like to try taking the weight off my shoulders with the new Nomix Compact.

Name _____

Position _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Please send me:

Product information GI.6.91

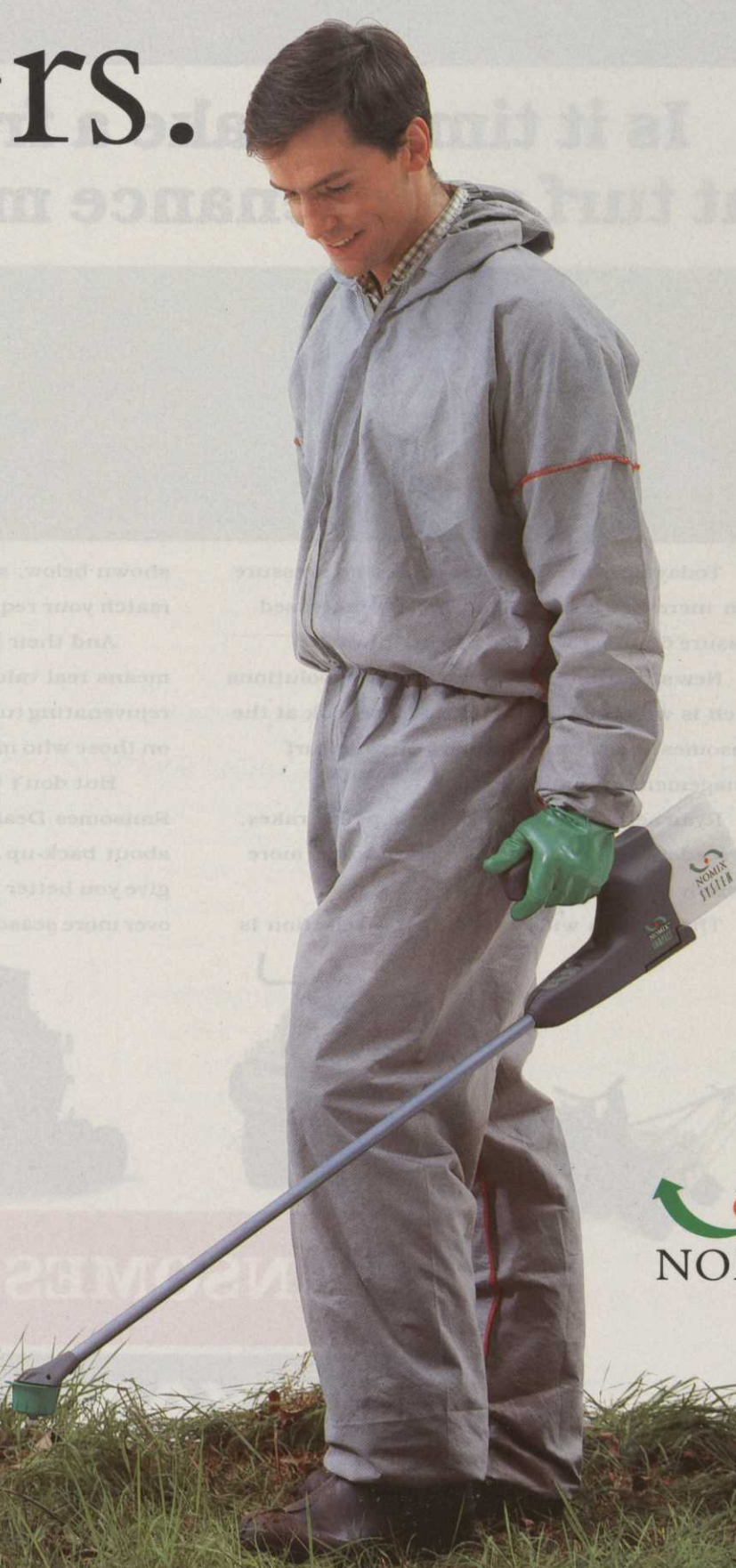
Demonstration video

Complete, then send this coupon in an envelope marked FREEPOST Marketing Department, Nomix-Chipman Ltd, Portland Building, Portland Street, Staple Hill, Bristol BS16 4BR.



Distributed in Scotland by

TM: Trademark of Nomix-Chipman Ltd.
Read the label before you buy: use pesticides safely.





Is it time to take a fresh look at turf maintenance machinery?



Today fine turf is under increasing pressure from increased usage. That means increased pressure on those who have to maintain it.

New situations need new and better solutions which is why you should take a close look at the Ransomes Ryan range as part of your turf management programme.

Ryan aerators, vertical slicers, power rakes, overseeders and sod cutters work harder, more precisely and more effectively.

They offer a wide range, just a selection is

shown below, so you'll find the exact machine to match your requirements.

And their performance on the ground means real value for money season after season, rejuvenating turf and helping to ease the pressure on those who maintain it.

But don't take our word for it, talk to your Ransomes Dealer: ask for a demonstration, ask about back-up and service. Ransomes Ryan will give you better performance, more economically over more seasons.



RANSOMES

RYAN

**FREE READER
REPLY SERVICE**

Advertisers' Index
A Greenkeeper International service to show on which page companies' advertisements can be found. For further information about their products or service, simply use the free Reader Reply Service card to be found facing Page 4 in this month's issue.

	Ad Ref	Page
AC & M Birch	58	19
Agripower	262	34
Bobcat	272	35
Brian D Pierson	40	8
British Seed Houses	87	10
Brown & Tawse Plant	320	34
Devenish	307	22
Dixon & Holliday	214	12
Flanderblade	218	29
ISS	32	28
Lawn Tech	301	46
LD Bourgein	105	30
Lely	61	48
Maxwell Hart	15	47
Nomix	211	2/3
North Staffs Irrigation	217	29
Par 4	27	29
Pattissons	35	12
Pen Lubrication	321	15
Prime Watermen	283	29
Ransomes	9	4
RFE	8	46
RJ Sales	322	8
Service Chemicals	304	31
Soilcare	46	12
Supaturf	164	10
TIS	153	26
TRIMS	317	15
Watermation	33	27
Wright Rain	74	24
Colleges	20, 21	
Recruitment	37-40, 44-45	
Buyers' Guide	41-44	
Classified	44	

In both our March and April magazines, for which full information is available, six out of every 10 of our display advertisers had definite responses as a result of our Reader Reply service. We'd be sorry for the remaining four out of every 10 if we weren't confident that potential customers hadn't got in touch with them directly.

Advertising in Greenkeeper International works - why don't you give us the chance to perform for you.

Ring Bill Lynch on 091 413 7218 or Carol Dutton on 0207 570117.



Official publication of the
British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association

JUNE 1991



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

BIGGA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Chairman: George Malcolm
Vice-Chairman: Roy Kates

BOARD MEMBERS

Ivor Scoones John Crawford
Harry Diamond Barry Heaney
Hugh Parry Paddy McCarron
John Millen Clive Osgood

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Neil Thomas B.A.

EDUCATION OFFICER

David Golding

EXHIBITIONS/MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

Debbie Savage



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

Tel/Fax: 091 413 7218

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

Carol Dutton

Tel/Fax: 0207 570117

PRINTING

Hi-Tec Print, Unit 7, Universals Crescent,
Houghton Road, North Anston Industrial
Estate, Dinnington, South Yorkshire S31 7JJ
Tel: 0909 568533 • Fax: 0909 568206

Greenkeeper International is the official magazine of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and is published monthly at BIGGA Headquarters, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Tel: 03473 581/2 • Fax: 03473 8864

Please address all advertising, subscriptions and address changes to BIGGA. Contents may not be reprinted or otherwise reproduced without written permission. Return postage must accompany all materials submitted if return is requested. No responsibility can be assumed for unsolicited materials. The right is reserved to edit submissions before publication.

Circulation is by subscription. Subscription rate: UK £29 per year, Europe and Eire £39. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.

Editorial Offices

All magazine contributions should be sent to: The Editor, Greenkeeper International, 13 Firle Close, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 2HL. Tel: 0323 891291. Fax: 0323 895593. Although every care will be taken, no responsibility is accepted for loss of manuscripts, photographs or artwork. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association and no responsibility is accepted by the Association for such content, advertising or product information that may appear.

ISSN 0961 - 6977

© 1991 British & International
Golf Greenkeepers Association

GREENKEEPER

International

CONTENTS

How green are my valleys...

Steeped in history and time-honoured traditions, Royal St David's is nevertheless up-to-the-minute with ideas on 'The Way Forward'. Their Welsh wizard, Roger Kerry, is our featured head greenkeeper as he prepares for the BIGGA invasion in August.....Pages 14, 15



...How green are their follies

Does the sight of lush green Georgia turf on TV send your members into making unrealistic demands, with cries of 'why not us?' David Boocock suggests that the vision is perhaps not always as perceived, together with his view that 'Green is not necessarily great'.....Pages 20, 22

Old ideas, new packaging, same mistakes

Instant cures, magic potions, 'new' ideas... Jim Arthur has seen 'em all before. His belief that there is very little new in greenkeeping today - only better and quicker ways of doing it - leads him to suggest that there is wisdom in avoiding repeating the expensive mistakes of others.....Page 9

Putting surface aeration, without the hassle

Aeration - turf demands it, players get apoplectic about it, greenkeepers must employ it. Now comes water-injection aeration, a revolutionary approach that is set to relieve stress - on turf and greenkeeper alike!.....Page 30, 31, 32

Wear your art on your sleeve

BIGGA merchandise has moved in-house, offering a vast range of items from T shirts to ties.....Page 16

DEPARTMENTS

Head Office

Neil Thomas reports on the Association's continuing progress; Annual report.....Pages 17 - 19

Around the Green

Work aside, golf and social activities are reported by section secretaries.....Pages 33, 36, 45, 46

Faces & Places

New faces introduced, movements chronicled, gossip revealed.....Page 7

Advertising Features

Irrigation - the search for perfect solutions among imperfect conditions.....Pages 24 - 32
Earth moving - at Pennyhill Park.....Pages 34, 35

COVER PICTURE:

Royal St David's, with Harlech Castle as an impressive backdrop. Courtesy of Wales Tourist Board

First of the summer wine

Tired and hot at the end of the day? In need of refreshment? To quench your thirst and help you to unwind, Brian D Pierson (Contractors) Ltd., in association with Chateau des Vigiers Golf and Country Club have devised a competition exclusive to BIGGA members, one that will reach the parts that other wines cannot reach!



Chateau des Vigiers is located in the South of France and has a new golf course opening in the near future, designed by top architect Donald Steel and built by Brian D Pierson. The complex boasts not only fine golf but also a superb selection of wines made from grapes grown in its own vineyard.

To sample these delightful wines calls for nothing more than correct answers to the five questions listed below. The first five correct entries, selected at random from the editor's postbag, will each receive a case of wine bearing the distinctive Chateau des Vigiers label.

Question 1: Name the architect who designed the golf course where the 1991 Ryder Cup is to be played?

Question 2: Name the two most talked about discussion documents relating to golf, issued by The Royal and Ancient's Development Panel?

Question 3: Name the course manager recently honoured in the Queens Honours list and the course for which he is responsible?

Question 4: What do the following five abbreviations stand for: R and A; USGA; EGU; FFG; BAGCC.

Question 5: Where is The Open to be held in 1992?

Your name.....

Address.....

Entries must be received by June 29th. The draw will be made under strict supervision and winners will be notified by post, with their names appearing in the August issue of Greenkeeper International. No correspondence will be entered into and the editor's decision is final. Due to customs and excise regulations this competition is open only to members of BIGGA residing in Britain.

Entries to: The Editor, Greenkeeper International, 13 Firls Close, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 2HL. Mark your envelope COMPETITION.

Flying Divots

An appreciation of what is not always appreciated

As members of a profession dedicated towards excellence, greenkeepers above all others should be aware of the meaning and origins of words exclusive to the game. Frequent misuse of golf terms is found in official histories of the game and in various articles published by accepted experts, such misuse continuing in print and common language to the present day. The belief that such bastardisation becomes acceptable through frequent use is one that finds no favour in these more enlightened times.

Let us start with the playing area – or as we commonly refer to it today – the course. In the earliest phase the game was played on seaside links – common wasteland twist land and sea used also for archery practice, football, bleaching clothes, breeding rabbits etc – to say nothing of courting couples and the like.

When the game spread inland the term 'links' was in many instances mistakenly used to describe the land on which the game was played. More frequently, however, the word 'green' was favoured. After all, cricket – the national game of England with similar rustic origins – was played on the village green.

So the golf 'green' was the accepted terminology for inland courses around the period 1880-1914 when the original golf boom was in full swing.

There are many terms derived from the word 'green' – some familiar to our ears – which have persisted to the present day in common usage:

GREENKEEPER – Self explanatory – NOT Greenskeeper.

GREEN STAFF – Always two words, Staff who work on the green

GREEN COMMITTEE – Never Greens Committee please. Course Committee not an acceptable alternative.

GREEN CHAIRMAN – Boss of the Green Committee. A Greens Chairman, if such person exists, will be in charge of cabbages and sprouts!

RUB OF THE GREEN – Becomes intelligible when the meaning of green is understood.

GREEN FEE – Course fee just would not do!

THROUGH THE GREEN – Applies to the whole area of the course except tee and putting green being played, and all hazards on the course. See rules: section 11-35.

PUTTING GREEN – Where the 4.25" diameter hole is found.

PRACTICE GREEN – The practice area, NOT a putting green.

PRACTICE PUTTING GREEN – Yes, you've got it!

I have an old catalogue issued when leather boots for shod horses were being advertised, along with 'all the golf green requisites from golf green fertilisers to tee boxes for golf greens'.

Published in 1927 in the USGA Green Section Record, the following rhyme by Edgar J Guest stands in good stead today. It is entitled 'The

Greenkeeper':
 "He's on the job at break of day and when the stars are out,
 There's always trouble on the course for him to fret about.
 He starts the gang at break of dawn and follows them around,
 He listens to committee men who's wisdom is profound.

They talk of 'bents' and 'fescues' in a way that makes him squirm,
 For they acquire knowledge in one brief official term.
 His talk is one that calls for tact, for lacking that it means
 Next year there'll be another man brought in to keep the greens.

The members seldom know his name or have a smile for him
 They only stop and wonder why the course is not in trim.
 They rave and rant and rant and rage while hunting for a ball
 And wonder why the 'keeper hasn't cut the rough this fall.

And when they find a cuppy lie or foot-prints in the trap,
 "The course is in a rotten shape" declares each gloomy chap.

And yet my hat is off to him when winter intervenes,
 I want to pay my tribute to the man who keeps the greens.

He's on the job from dawn to dark, a million pests to fight,
 'Tis his to see that every green is watered every night,

The weeds attack his finest work,
 the drought destroys the grass

The rain beats down the tender shoots but still the players pass.

And still they play the game they love, a happy golfing clan
 Who never stop to count the odds against a single man.

And so I wave my hand to him who toils in sturdy jeans,
 The best old friend the golfers have, the man who keeps the greens".

Don't shoot the typesetter, he's doing his best! The Boom Sprayer Calibration Chart (May issue) had a gaff that needs correcting vis: Item 6, Product Application Rate should read Concentrate per hectare divided by tank per hectare equals Concentrate per full tank. On the next line Part tank should be multiplied by Tank capacity to equal Amount of water required. Still confused? Talk to Jon Albutt on 0959 75575. And there's more... Jim Arthur informed me that his blinding layer should have read: e.g. 4mm gravel over 150mm -250mm of 40mm clean stone. Oops, sorry!

Parlez-vous Golf? The terminology explained

Who and what are moving on and moving in, in the greenkeeping industry

■ Our spy network increases with each passing issue, the latest whisper coming from Andrew Phillips of the London Section, who tells us that Chris Greenwood, latterly at Muswell Hill GC, is now busy in La Belle France at the prestigious Chantilly course. Echoing Andrew and his section colleagues, we join in wishing Chris a smooth and prosperous new career.

■ A new golfer has recently come upon the scene, one Phillip Cosey, an eight pound bruiser with a grip that will surely draw the ball, born to Mr and Mrs Paul Cosey. Paul, secretary of the Kent Section, tells of ten weeks in which his hair has turned grey and baggy eyes are seen as the proper mark of fatherhood. 'Suddenly', he wrote, 'work seems very relaxing!'

■ That well known Scottish sleuth, Gordon Moir, informs that John Geddes, formerly of Auchmill GC, Aberdeen, is back in greenkeeping after an absence of 18 months. Having been 'paid-off' by the council controlled Auchmill course, John turned to landscaping but has now taken up a position as assistant greenkeeper at Kintore GC. Welcome back John and good luck!



■ T Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Ltd announce two new key sales appointments. Michael Luker, pictured, has recently joined the Company as Sales Director and will be responsible for the overall development of new business as well as consolidating the existing customer base in southern England. Graham Paul has also joined Parkers as Area

Sales and Technical manager for Bucks, Berks, Oxon and Beds. Graham is well known in the industry, having spent twenty years with Rhone-Poulenc, involved in all aspects of the development and marketing of pesticides.



■ Stuart Ellis has been appointed to the post of National Sales Manager - Tractors and Power Products - at Kubota (UK) Ltd. headquarters. Prior to joining Kubota Stuart worked both as a demonstrator and in sales at Kubota's dealership, J Gibbs Ltd.

■ A somewhat historic gathering took place at St Andrews recently, when a progress meeting was held at The Straththyrum, the first new 18 hole golf course to be built at this ancient capital of golf in several decades. In our picture are ex BIGGA Chairman and Links Manager; Walter Woods, Secretary of the Links Management Committee; Alec Beveridge, Course Constructor; Brian Pierson and Architect; Donald Steel, together with members of Links

Management Trust. The construction is expected to be completed by the end of July.



■ Equally historic in its own way is the decision of Macclesfield GC to construct a further nine holes on their craggy hillside course high above the town. The new nine is designed by Hawtree & Son, with construction handled by Fine Turf Construction and the Club itself, under the direction of course manager Larry Murcott. The land is no easy piece of real estate, most having previously been grazing land and with a high predominance of rocky sub-strata. More power to them then for their foresight in providing extra playing facilities for the good citizens of Macclesfield and in doing much of the hard labour themselves.



■ Lamberhurst GC head greenkeeper, Allen Butrymowicz, is pictured taking delivery of the first sale in Kent of a Huxley 358 Greensmower. The sale was made by the newly appointed Kent/East Sussex agents for Huxleys, Lamberhurst Equipment Ltd.

■ In a nationwide scheme which raised £72000, over 100 Clubs collected and donated over £200 to the Golf Foundation's Appeal and thus qualified for entry into the third annual Kubota Draw. The fortunate winners of the Kubota G1900S ride-on mower worth £5000 were Worplesdon GC. The Club Captain, Brigadier PJ Blake MBE, MC, is pictured below shaking the hand of Kubota's Vice President, Brian Hurlley.



■ Chris Bryden, Product Manager of the Grass Machinery Division of Ferrag Ltd, is seen here presenting Les Purdy of Purdy's Garden Machinery with his prize as top Warrior Mower dealer. Ferrag have also appointed six more distributors:



Nairn Brown Ltd; K F Kirby Ltd; R.F.E.; Janman Engineering Services; CNS Mowers and Golf & Turf Equipment Ltd., bringing the network for Ferrag Warrior up to 25.



■ The IOG have appointed Alex R Millar as its new National Chairman. Alex, pictured, has been a member of IOG for 27 years, a founder member of the Glasgow and West Scotland Branch, and involved at national level for the past five years. He is a member of the National Executive Committee; Education Committee and Structure Committee and brings to his new post a very wide experience of management and training.



Along with this the IOG have also elected Ian Beaney as their new Vice-Chairman. Ian, pictured, has a long association with the Institute, having served as branch secretary from 1985 - 1988 and on the National Executive Committee in 1987, 1988 and 1990. His appointment brings his Northern Ireland home branch into the forefront of Institution activities.

Trade announcement

Irish Regional Iseki Qualifiers

With the 1991 ISEKI Golf Greenkeepers Tournament now under way, it should be mentioned that this will be the fourth year of the Tournament, demonstrating Iseki's full commitment to the friendly, knowledgeable greenkeeper. From the beginnings at St. Pierre in 1988, we progressed to Moor Allerton in 1989 and following that Tournament it was decided to involve our friends the Irish. Thus a regional qualifier was established at Forrest Little Golf Club, just north of Dublin. This brought together players from Northern Ireland and the Republic and resulted in a team coming across the Irish Sea to Moor Town for our 1990 final.

Such was the success at Forrest Little and the increased awareness greenkeepers there have for our friendly, quality tournament that the venture has moved a further step - two regional qualifying rounds - at Portstewart Golf Club and Forrest Little Golf Club having been held in May.

We at Iseki certainly hope that the Irish golfers enjoyed their qualifying rounds and we look forward to meeting both teams at our Final at Hillside Golf Club, near Southport, on September 12th 1991. This is just another part of the Iseki commitment to furthering friendship with the golf greenkeeper and course manager.

- COLIN GREGORY, Sales Director, ISEKI (UK) Ltd.

GREENKEEPER International

Looking for new staff?

Greenkeeper International can help fill the vacancies on your course. Why advertise anywhere else than the greenkeepers' own magazine?



Lake at 6th Green, Burghley Park GC, Stamford

The **TREE MATT**

A neat solution for Golf Courses

Why risk damage and loss of new tree plantings? 'Tree Mats' offer:

- A mulch to retain soil moisture
- Prevention of weed growth
- Labour savings – no weedkillers or strimmers
- Weight and strength for longevity



AD
REF
322

R J SALES, 227 Park Road, Peterborough, PE1 2UL • Tel/Fax 0733 341674

VERTIDRAIN HIRE

CALL THE EXPERTS



GOLF FAIRWAYS

GOLF TEES

GOLF GREENS

RUGBY PITCHES

BOWLING GREENS

HOCKEY PITCHES

CRICKET SQUARES

CROQUET LAWNS

FOOTBALL PITCHES



Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) Limited

GOLF COURSE AND LANDSCAPE SPECIALIST

HOMESTEAD FARM, RINGWOOD ROAD, THREE LEGGED CROSS, WIMBOURNE, DORSET. BH21 6QY

Tel: Verwood (0202) 822372, 824906 & 825979 Fax: (0202) 826447

AD
REF
40

Member British Association of Golf Course Constructors
Member Golf Course Builders of America

When will they learn?

Recently, I was discussing the trends of today's greenkeeping with a friend of many years standing and observed that in my opinion greenkeeping was at a cross-roads and that the crisis seemed largely unrecognised, especially by those deciding policy. This despite the start made on *The Way Forward*. 'But you have been saying that at intervals for the past forty years' was his riposte.

This I admit was certainly correct, but on reflection so were the reasons for such pessimism. Greenkeeping seems to suffer from cyclic disasters, all too often repeating the errors of previous decades. So-called new ideas – many not even new but recycled – are pushed by commercial interests, without adequate trials and against all the rules of basic greenkeeping. When they produce predictable disasters they are quietly dropped. The victims may not repeat that mistake but often fall for the next ploy. So few learn from the expensively acquired experience of others.

Such gimmicks range from 'new' fertilisers, magic cures ('apply this potion and you do not need to aerate'), 'new' grasses, 'new' methods of construction or even 'new' machines. I was amazed to see one such new aerating machine recently which was a carbon copy of a similar one which failed more than a decade ago. Why? because it took a week to aerate one green and the work can be done much better today by Vertidrain.

Too few with influence listen to experienced head greenkeepers let alone advisers. Too many seminars are chock full of irrelevant ideas and total heresies. Now we even have moves to train golf professionals to be course managers. Hopefully as the recommendations of *The Way Forward* are implemented we may see some improvement.

In the sixties it was gross over-use of complex NPK fertilisers. Several companies fought me – often unfairly – and where are they now? More to the point, nearly every fertiliser firm advises and supplies nitrogen only or 'no phosphate' fertilisers for greens. Yet we still see soil analyses being pushed as a useful guide as to what to apply. What does it matter if the phosphate levels are shown as very low if the grass is the right grass? If there are problems, the odds are it is not due to manurial deficiencies.

In the seventies, with increased numbers of courses installing automatic irrigation (pop-ups), but with no one realising it was fatally easy to over-water by merely turning a dial, the problem was over-watering. The British Turf Irrigation Association was set up and as instigator and founder member I tried to get better education and better equipment. Again, some unrepentant firms refused to listen – one even went so far as to say they had decided to assassinate my character to force me out of business – as I would not support their views. The top man who made that rash statement is no longer with the company!

Today most course managers, greenkeepers and chairmen of green pay at least lip service to the principle that 'overwatering is the cardinal sin of greenkeeping', made by that doyen of American greenkeeping, Al Radco.

In the eighties, the main problems were the use of wrong grasses in a feverish pursuit of colour, at the expense of 'traditional' playing surfaces. Penncross, introduced in the States to replace Bermuda grass in hot arid States, was blazoned as the grass to end all grass. Where is it now? It cannot legally be sold, though its successors can, but they are just as problem-ridden. All have severe winter dormancy, all pluck up badly with traffic, all produce thatch second to none and all suffer more from disease (from *Fusarium* to *Ophiobolus* patch) than any other. All these faults were clear to see on a recently televised English tournament. Yet they still have defenders – usually those from the other side of the Atlantic – whose experience of Northern European greenkeeping conditions is even less than mine of American!

I hear now that one much publicised venture is to kill off its Penncross fairways and resow with ryegrass – ryegrass, ye Gods! Do they not realise (and there are plenty of notoriously bad courses to prove it) that ryegrass – even the so-called dwarf varieties – never forms a close knit turf and with lush leafy lies control on the ball is impossible. The end result is top spin, players moaning they cannot stop the ball on the green, and then on goes the water. 'Oh, but it stays green in drought', say its advocates. Words fail me!

In recent years I suppose the worst heresies are connected with construction. Pure sand greens are extolled as the latest panacea for all ills. The concept, lifted straight from desert conditions where enormously high levels of irrigation are needed to keep the grass alive – even in fact to cool it – has as much relevance to Northern European conditions as caviar to starving Africans. For one thing, we simply are not going to have the water to keep them alive.

We see geotextile membranes used as the blinding layer over drainage car-



● The author, Jim Arthur B.Sc. (Agric.), was for many years consultant to the R and A Championship Committee, advising some seventy leading Clubs on the championship circuit. He retired from active practice in 1988.

pets – tolerable with pure sand, but with a sand/soil mix resultant silting up and flooding are predictable and inevitable – and we have known this for well over 20 years. But that doesn't stop some designers using them, despite categoric bans from the STRI and the USGA Green Section.

We see wall-to-wall irrigation quite unnecessarily installed – the only justification being to flatter a course on which a televised tournament is staged. The cost is astronomic, but even if money were no object, what is the point of a watering system with no water? Extraction is exceeding replacement over much of the South East and severe restrictions on 'frivolous' use are inevitable. Think on, you developers, before wasting money on a potential white elephant!

There are many, many other examples of the proven errors of yesteryear being blindly repeated today. Perhaps the cardinal sin of greenkeeping should be the failure to learn from the previous mistakes of others. Admittedly, commercial firms backing wrong horses do sometimes go to the wall and greenkeepers may lose their jobs, (often when it should really have been those ordering the disastrous treatment) but the real sufferers are our golf courses. Nature is very forgiving and grass very resilient. It is the basic tenet of greenkeeping that the botanical character of the grass cover (turf) of any area is determined by two factors: the natural environment (soil; weather; altitude; drainage) and the 'management' given to it, ranging from traffic to fertilisers. If these are constant, the quality of the turf – good or bad – will not alter, but if these factors change then so will

the grass. It changes for the worse far more easily and quickly than it improves for the better; and of course the recovery is linked with reversing the effects of wrong management. If acid land is limed (as was the problem in the forties as a result of post-war farming influence and advice) then it will be many, many years before the effects disappear and positive reversal: eg using powder sulphur, is necessary. This, in passing, we may be forced to do as a result of progressive bans on persistent worm killers by our E.C. masters – and who wants a none persistent one!

Frankly, with so many misguided treatments being reversed, often after several years (before the connection between the treatment and its disastrous effect was made), the poor grass doesn't know whether it is punched, bored or hem-stitched and may give up the unequal struggle. In other cases the desirable grasses have been so comprehensively destroyed that relying on natural regeneration demands more patience than those in charge of today's golf can accept.

It is fully accepted that golf courses have never before been subject to such pressures, not only caused by traffic and wear but by players demanding and expecting perfection for 365 days each year.

What is certain is that golf as we know it – backed by what for want of a better term we might call traditional greenkeeping – will not survive the massive onslaught which results from those with scant knowledge of the problems mistakenly perceiving that golf is now big business, with demand exceeding supply and a dearth of experienced men at all levels. A sure-fire situation to bring maggots out of the woodwork.

Do not dismiss this as the natural pessimism of a septuagenarian but more as a suggestion to look very carefully at most of today's instant cures – too many of which are on the same lines as advising amputation and a wooden leg as a sure-fire cure for ingrowing toenails.

It is not just a question of saying that the old ideas are best. It certainly does not mean rejecting – without a carefully controlled examination – any new idea. But it does mean acceptance of the fact that if the game of golf is not to be unrecognisably altered from the way it has been played for over 400 years, and get into the wrong hands, then all of us at all levels of management and advice must agree that if we are to continue to 'play the game along the ground and not largely in the air', and to play year round, then only our native grasses will produce the requisite conditions to make this possible. As one experienced course manager said to me recently, 'they are destroying our game', the sad thing being that so few of those pushing bad ideas have the slightest idea of the results of following their advice.

Please do remember that there is very little new in greenkeeping – only better or quicker ways of doing it – and it has all been seen before. So check and avoid repeating the often very expensive mistakes of others.

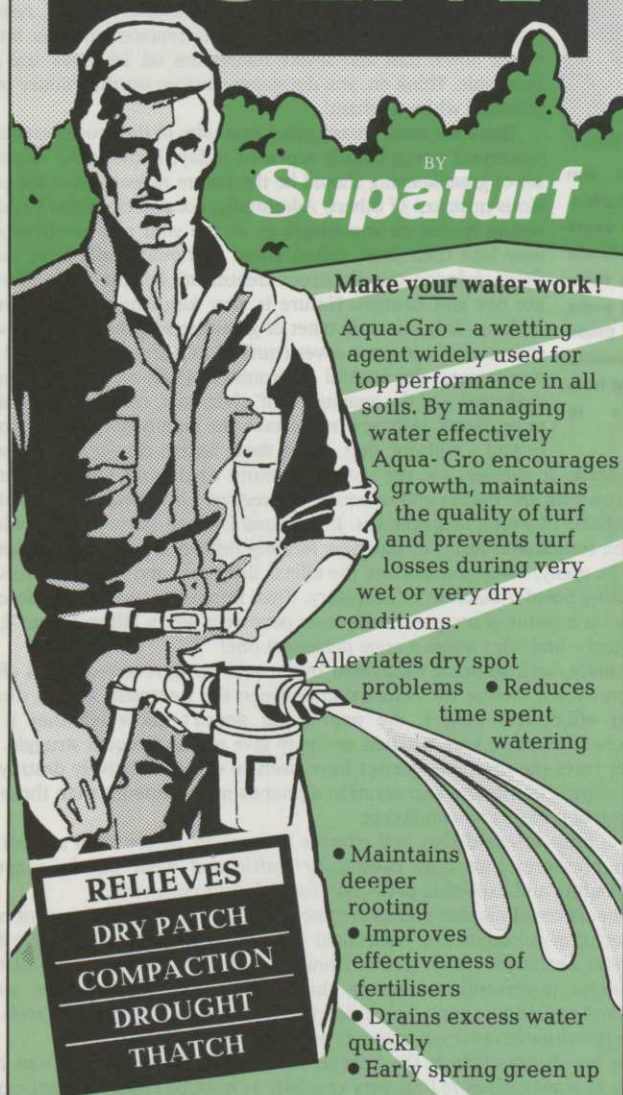


BIGGA
Get smart

– be smart

Our official merchandise is now in-house – save £s with the BIGGA half-price slipover offer. Use the order form in this magazine

AQUA-GRO WETTING AGENT



BY
Supaturf

Make your water work!

Aqua-Gro - a wetting agent widely used for top performance in all soils. By managing water effectively Aqua-Gro encourages growth, maintains the quality of turf and prevents turf losses during very wet or very dry conditions.

- Alleviates dry spot problems
- Reduces time spent watering

- Maintains deeper rooting
- Improves effectiveness of fertilisers
- Drains excess water quickly
- Early spring green up

**RELIEVES
DRY PATCH
COMPACTION
DROUGHT
THATCH**

Aqua-Gro Liquid - for applying with sprayers
Aqua-Gro Spreadable - for applying through a spreader
Aqua-Gro Granular - for horticultural situations
Aqua-Gro Concentrate - for applying during hose pipe irrigation

AQUA-GRO

The wetting agent you can trust

Supaturf Products Limited Old Fosse Works,
Coventry Road, Narborough, Leicester LE9 5GJ

STOCKISTS: R. Aitken (Seedmen) Ltd, GLASGOW Tel: 041 440 0033 •
Aitken Sportsturf Ltd, TADCASTER Tel: (0937) 834746 • E T Breakwell Ltd,
SOLIHULL Tel: 021 733 3344 • Collier Turf Care Distributors Ltd, NORWICH
Tel: (0603) 870944 • John Lindsay Professional Sportsturf, CO ARMAGH
Tel: (0762) 339229 • Stewart & Co Seedsmen Ltd, DALKEITH Tel: 031 663
6617/8/9 • Sta-Brite Products Ltd, BASINGSTOKE Tel: (0256) 811811 •
Avoncrop Amenity Products, BRISTOL Tel: (0934) 820868 •

AD
REF
164

ARE YOU A GRADE-A GREENKEEPER?

Grade A Amenity seeds from British Seed Houses are for groundsmen who want only the highest quality turf.

Whether your requirement is for golf courses, sports grounds, parks, urban areas, road verges and reclamation sites - British Seed Houses can supply the right mixture for your needs.

At their extensive grass trials ground at Lincoln, British Seed Houses evaluate hundreds of different cultivars. Only the best are selected for use in Grade A mixtures.

With 24 different mixtures available, advice on the appropriate Grade A mixture to use for specific site requirements can be obtained from our experienced and technically qualified staff.

GRADE A AMENITY MIXTURES

Send for a catalogue for more details of Grade A Amenity Seeds from British Seed Houses Ltd., Bewsey Industrial Estate, Pitt Street, Warrington, Cheshire WA5 5LE. Or telephone (0925) 54411.



BRITISH SEED HOUSES LTD

WARRINGTON 0925 54411 · BRISTOL 0272 823691
LINCOLN 0522 86714 · EDINBURGH 0968 78480 · BANBRIDGE 08206 62207

AD
REF
87

Openness is the name of the game

In October of '89 I was asked if I would consider becoming vice-chairman, this being seen as the next step forward in my committee career in view of my position of seniority on the Board and with the logic of choosing a new chairman from the North, Ivor Scoones coming from the South West. This is an added touch of good housekeeping which prevents the election of, say, three chairmen from one particular region and avoids any feeling that a region is being neglected in any way. In that sense, I suppose I'm serving a double role in that I reside and work in the North but I'm a Scot, so both areas should feel well represented

Asked by Paddy to be vice-chairman, my first reactions were, naturally enough, both delight and apprehension; because I didn't know what the job really involved. I wanted to do the job, and recognised the honour that was being bestowed upon me but needed to be certain that the whole of my work team and my Club committee at Middlesborough Brass Castle would be solidly behind me. Thankfully I've had the whole-hearted support of them all and they couldn't be more co-operative and enthusiastic. Before actually committing myself with a positive YES I asked Paddy many questions. For example, I needed a rough idea of just how much time I would need off work.

My mind was set at rest on all counts, and I was already prepared to give up any proper holidays during the intensive two year period, something that most of the board members gladly and willingly do for the good of the Association. I'm lucky also in having my wife Marion as a strong support.

One thing I really want to do in 1991 is ensure that those 'quiet asides' that often happen in places like hotel lobbies and across the bar get an equal airing in board meetings. If a person has something to say, but will not face the board with the same whispered comment, then I have no time for that comment. I'm all for putting my cards on the table and I'll encourage others to do likewise, for we are not operating some sort of secret society – rather the opposite – and openness will be the name of the game.

With the difficulties encountered regarding the previous magazine – which became something of a destructive force in 1990 – now resolved; and with Greenkeeper International already heralded as a giant step forward in promoting the real spirit of the Association, I earnestly hope this will be an era in which we can make great progress. There's little doubt that Ivor served during a tough period and this may have made his term less than perfect. My view of the chairman's position is not seen through any rose-tinted specs., but I believe that along with responsibility there should be a time when holding office is a great joy.

Now that our consolidation is assured I envisage the Association going from strength to strength, ably supported as we are by the R. and A., who have been a tremendous help and source of encouragement. Without them we would be the poorer and whilst we hope in the distant future to be self-sufficient there is no doubt in my mind that they have been and remain true friends of BIGGA and have shown their true colours in so many ways. By way of an addendum to that statement; it is a great bonus for BIGGA that the unions and the controlling bodies of golf have 'bitten the bullet' so to speak and brought the cause of greenkeeping education – and a great many other issues vital to our cause – nearer to an ideal. The next decade under the Joint Golf Course Committee promises to be quite something.

You have asked me what I would like for the Association in the future and I can answer without hesitation. Sooner rather than later, I want to see every greenkeeper in Britain and Europe join this marvellous Association and share in our future. How to get outsiders with us is a matter that taxes us all, but I believe that as a tool of recruitment the magazine has a major role to play. It is the only continuous promotional link many of our members have with the Association, especially those who for reasons unknown choose not to join in the many extra-curriculum activities, and I would like members everywhere to offer the hand of fellowship to his neighbouring greenkeeper – along with a copy of Greenkeeper International – and an invitation to join. Nothing would please me more than to learn of a BIGGA greenkeeper visiting another course where he knows the greenkeeper is not a member and inviting him for a pint and a pep talk. The merit of increasing greenkeeper power by strength of numbers is an easy enough banner to wave and the value a member gets in the package is, without argument, the bargain of the century! That, in a nutshell, is my principal goal and perhaps in the coming years of actually seeing greenkeeper's clamouring to become members – wishful thinking? I believe not.

I'm also constantly reminded of the address given by Bobbie Gee at Harrogate and would like to see all greenkeepers take her message on board and promote themselves in a more vigorous and spirited fashion as true professionals. Without the greenkeeper the world of golf would be in a sorry state and it doesn't matter what level they may have reached, third assistant or course manager, they all play a vital part in the well-being of a hugely profitable industry and should share in the bonanza – it's really up to the individual to go out and do a bit of banner-waving for themselves and their proud profession!

It would be remiss of me not to mention education, but I will do no more than suggest the BIGGA Master Greenkeeper Certificate route as the one sure way in which individual growth will be demonstrated and the path upon which the future of our profession depends. David Golding is opening up whole new vistas in that sphere and greenkeepers everywhere have never had better educational opportunities to improve; and prosper thereby. We should never lose sight of this fact.

In conclusion, I feel that to be chairman of the Association is not unlike being a course manager. Like greenkeeping, it calls for hard work and dedication, but the whole task is greatly rewarding and the results are worthwhile beyond measure. That dedication is reflected in every board colleague and I hope every member has an appreciation of how much hard voluntary work is put in on their behalf. In addition we should not lose sight of the debt we owe to the staff at Head Office. As a final shot, perhaps it would be a bright idea for the board – or small sectors of it along with the Executive Director – to visit regional meetings for open forum. Perhaps in twelve months we shall talk again and I can give you my reflective observations. You can be sure we will not have stood still!



Elected to the lofty heights of chairmanship in April, GEORGE MALCOLM took time out to tell David White something about himself and of his aspirations for the Association in the year ahead...



Exclusive to Greenkeepers

Business Card offer.

Be a professional in your profession.

For more details ring

03473 581/2

**Patchy turf.
Dying trees.
Shrivelling shrubs.**

**The problem
lies in the soil**

Soilcare offers a complete service to cure causes of poor growth in turf, trees and shrubs.

We offer soil analysis and formulate and supply appropriate soil conditioners. With associates, a full service of Terralifting, verti-draining, soil conditioner application and tree root feeding is offered.

The proven Terralift system probes 30in deep to ameliorate areas of deep soil compaction and poor drainage – without damaging the surface. Soil conditioners and root feeds can be incorporated by the Terralift.

Whatever your soil-borne problem, Soilcare may solve it – call us now.

**The answer lies
with Soilcare**



SOILCARE

(incorporating Colin Pryce Terralift)

Unit 3, Bush Farm, Nedging, Ipswich Suffolk, IP7 7BL
Tel: (0449) 741012 Fax: (0449) 741012

AD
REF
46

Pattisson



**Manufacturers & Suppliers of
Golf Course and Driving Range Equipment.**

Practice Mats to Ball Collectors.

Hole Cups to Tee Markers.

The Complete Range

Send for Catalogue

PATTISSON & CO LTD

342 Selbourne Road, Luton, Beds LU4 8NU

Tel: 0582 597262. Fax: 0582 505241

AD
REF
35

**NIKKEN KNAPSACK
BRUSH CUTTER/MOWER**

The Nikken fitted with its unique hover hood gives total flexibility and freedom of movement, giving a very neat finish to your bunker slopes and banks.

The operator can either mow from inside the bunker mowing uphill or mow from the top reaching down into the bunker, both achieved with total ease.

Flying sand is no problem with Nikken due to all sensitive components being protected and out of harm's way on operator's back, which only weighs 12lbs.

Edges can be quickly and neatly trimmed by removing the hood, attaching a small 4-tooth blade and finally rotating the handle through 90 degrees.



**THREE
PROBLEMS WITH
ONE SINGLE
SOLUTION**

■ **SUCCESSFUL
MOWING OF
STEEP BANKS &
SLOPES THAT
COVER MOST
BUNKERS**

■ **NO ENGINE
FAILURE DUE
TO FLYING
SAND THAT
CAUSES MOST
REGULAR
MACHINE
BREAK DOWNS**

■ **MAINTAINING A
NEATLY
TRIMMED
ADJOINING
EDGE WHERE
GRASS MEETS
SAND**

**IT'S A MUST
FOR ANY
GOLF COURSE!**

Send for details now to: **DIXON & HOLLIDAY LTD**
Unit 4, Graham Potter Estate, Beech Avenue, Swindon, Wilts SN2 1JY
Tel & Fax (0793) 513214 Sales (0462) 700547

AD
REF
214

And now the

REAL WORK begins

If a golf course has been constructed to schedule and all elements are installed and working effectively, it is imperative that it is maintained correctly during its infancy in order that it may be ready for play when opening day arrives.

Unfortunately, it is so often the case that a schedule will be set back, due to all manner of unforeseen circumstances throughout the construction phase. This in turn has a direct effect on the starting date for a maintenance contract. It can make things very difficult for the greenkeeper and his staff if, for example, a course due to be handed over on August 31st is not his until October 31st.

If the greenkeeper has been employed from the very beginning of the construction phase then he will likely be prepared for such changed circumstances. If not, he must adapt to the situation very quickly.

Once seed has been sown on greens, tees and fairways there is little the contractor or greenkeeper can do until seed germination, apart from ensuring the irrigation system is working efficiently and keeping rabbits, moles or deer off the site.

The contractor, as part of the construction contract, will be responsible for limited maintenance of the new course: for example, an agreed number of mowings before handing over. He will also be obliged to make good any defects that may occur within a negotiated period, such as wet areas due to problems with drainage, scour effect due to extreme surface run-off or poor acceptance of grass seed.

Eventually the course will become the responsibility of the greenkeeper and it will left to his knowledge and experience to make the necessary decisions in treating any problems he encounters.

When the grass is young it is extremely susceptible to disease: for example damping-off, red thread, fusarium etc. and the greenkeeper must be able to swiftly recognise disease symptoms in order to prevent the problem becoming difficult to eradicate.

Problems may occur for a number of reasons: nutrient deficiencies; animals and pests; environmental stresses; heavy machinery compaction or excess watering. It is the responsibility of every greenkeeper to retain the balance at all times. Whilst the course is within its establishment period he may at least breath a sigh of relief that there aren't hordes of heavy-footed players (with golf trollies – the scourge of every course) making his job still more difficult. The golf course though, must be maintained to steadily reach a point at which it can withstand the ultimate treatment. After all, this is why a golf course exists – to be played on. So often, greenkeepers utter the words 'the golf course would be great if we didn't have all these bloody golfers walking across it'. I suppose that is one of the reasons why Augusta National always looks so perfect for The Masters – it's closed six months of the year!

As the course begins to establish, the greenkeeper must keep a close eye on minor changes in the quality of the turf, for sometimes a disease can take hold almost overnight. Sometimes an indication of stress can only be seen when the grass itself has reached a point where serious action is required to resolve it. In some respects, it is almost a balancing act, where turf is given feed only when it cries out for it, but to leave it a further day may have fatal consequences.

It is imperative to maintain a running check on the status of the soil, particularly on the greens. At regular intervals it is necessary to take samples (cores or plugs from selected greens, tees and some fairways, if necessary) to identify levels of the three main nutrients – nitrogen; phosphorus and potassium – and to provide information on calcium; magnesium and pH levels.

Visual symptoms of a nutrient deficiency indicate that serious problems will occur if the condition is not corrected.

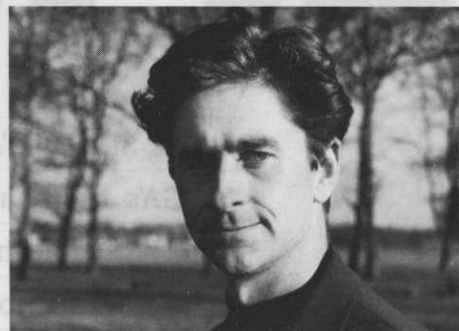
Early recognition of a developing nutrient deficiency is important and in the case of potassium and phosphorus, regular soil testing is used as a guide to fertilisation to ensure that symptoms never develop into fully blown disasters.

The pH of the soil on greens and tees can be affected by the water source for the irrigation system, and in turn this will affect the fertilisation rates. For example, iron can be used to bring the pH down to a manageable level and it helps to keep disease away by strengthening the individual young seedlings. Once the pH levels and nutrients have been brought into the desired range, a soil test is required every one to three years.

In terms of getting the course into playable condition, the greenkeeper must carefully gauge at which stage to begin reducing mowing heights and at which point he decides to use ride-on mowers. With some seed mixes it is quite possible that a good putting surface can be achieved very quickly. Given the perfect conditions at East Sussex National, for example, by using Pennncross seed the greens were in play within three months of sowing. In the case of the more readily acceptable traditional bent/fescue mixes, it is often 18 months before a really good putting surface is achieved. However, it is important to note that although it takes longer for this seed to establish, the costs of maintenance are significantly cheaper and the methods are considerably less labour intensive.

Although a course with good greens will always prompt the golfer to return time and time again, there are other elements that require attention prior to the opening. There is often a lot of cosmetic work that takes place at this stage which effectively 'finishes off' the course, cleaning out ditches and bunkers in particular. Sanding the bunkers is a big job that can be extremely time consuming, especially when the greenkeeper could otherwise be spending time on important maintenance work. Having said this, it is often the responsibility of the contractor to fill bunkers with sand.

If the greenkeeper succeeds in juggling his many roles as course manager; golf course constructor; golf course architect; agronomist; drainage specialist; irrigation engineer and personnel manager and still manages to manure the course in readiness for the all-important opening, then he has overcome the hardest task in the business. To take a golf course from the constructor and to literally 'tame it' is a mammoth task. Thankfully, many greenkeepers are well up to this extraordinary feat, with approved colleges now training greenkeepers to be multi-talented specialists. This inevitably makes for better and forever improving standards of golf courses in this country and throughout Europe.



● The author and golf course architect, Jonathan Gaunt, will be contributing further articles to **Greenkeeper International** in the coming months, beginning with his views on the lasting influence made by great golf course architects of former generations, and how modern architects may learn from them

GREENKEEPER
International

Value for money

Keep in touch with a subscription to Greenkeeper International.

At just £29 a year, it's a bargain that's too good to miss

Welsh wizardry at work

Royal St David's Golf Club, venue for BIGGA's National Tournament, is in the highly capable hands of Roger Kerry. In search of champagne air and a meeting with the Club's amiable Welsh greenkeeping wizard, DAVID WHITE found himself breathing the real atmosphere of golf, mingled with a mellow air of tradition...



The glorious triumphs of amateur golfer Harold Horsfall Hilton, winner of countless titles including two Open Championships in 1892 and 1897, a US Amateur title in 1911 and three British Amateur Championships in 1900, 1901 and 1911, are forever enshrined in golf's glittering Vallhala. That Hilton was inordinately fond of Royal St Davids at Harlech is equally well recorded; and it is in memory of this great warrior that members compete for

the Harold Hilton Gold Medal, one of their premier trophies.

Wandering through the delightfully atmospheric clubhouse, still mercifully free from plasticised twentieth century 'improvements', one can almost feel the ghost of Harold beckoning, pointing to the honours boards with satisfaction and giving the Hilton nod of approval. The place positively reeks of history and upon its hallowed walls some very famous names peer down, written in gold leaf as winners of major Club titles.

Amongst them, the golfing achievements of Welshman Roger Kerry appear – on the Hilton Gold Medal winners board no less – and although his golfing prowess is well recorded as part of the Club's illustrious history; it is for entirely different achievements that Roger will perhaps be best remembered.

Roger Kerry, pictured, is Royal St David's Head Greenkeeper, a linksland course that is one of Britain's finest and certainly the most atmospherically alluring of all. Harlech itself is a quiet little town, and one might be forgiven for thinking that notwithstanding the brooding Castle and the



staggering views across to the mountains of Snowdonia it may well have settled into being a quick photographic stop on the Welsh tourist route. Forgiven perhaps but totally, utterly wrong; for the biggest draw – the main and everlasting attraction – is the links course in care of Roger Kerry, a talented low handicap golfer and a dedicated greenkeeper.

Keeping a true links course in top class order has never been easy, for quite apart from the constant vagaries of wind and salt-laden air, there is the feeling that one ought not to tamper too much with what is in every way natural. The original architect of St David's (it became 'Royal' around 1905) is not recorded, perhaps because these great links apparently just 'happened', with a party of men hell bent on getting out to play using crude work tools along with what Mother Nature and the elements had provided. Simplistic perhaps, but apart from some sympathetic work done on bunkering in 1960 by dear old Fred Hawtree, the course remains pretty well intact and like all good seaside courses has a natural 'feel' about it. The skillful layout fol-



lows the contour of the dunes and hillocks and consequently no two fairways run parallel, with tantalising breezes keeping even the most talented golfer guessing. Host to BIGGA's National Tournament in August, it plays to 6427 yards with a par of 69 and a SSS of 71 and comprises five threes, eleven fours and two fives.

Returning to Roger – the proud keeper of the green – this 42 year old has been at Royal St David's for 13 years, working in harmony with a dedicated staff of five, including deputy head greenkeeper John Kerry, Roger's twin brother. All staff are BIGGA members and three are keen golfers. The first thing that strikes home in talking with him is just how progressive the thinking behind the place really is. This is no sleepy little Welsh backwater, far from it, and the Club has grasped the nettle firmly with regard to 'The Way Forward' and practices what the R and A preaches by fielding a green committee of just three, Roger included. This pioneering attitude is very much to Roger's liking, with green chairman, Alan Ellis, having held office for ten unbroken years and very much a personal friend. In other ways they are also streaks ahead, with progress seen to work in more subtle ways. Roger's full membership of the Club is encouraged (their greenkeepers deservedly pay just 25% of the fee) and is a good example of forward thinking and a clear way of eliminating 'them and us' attitudes still prevalent at some Clubs – of forelock pulling and knowing one's place. Royal St David's progression is such that other Clubs might do well to emulate them.

We talked of earlier visits from Jim Arthur and how his timely advice stood the course in such good stead. He recalled how Jim would insist on certain practices being carried out and how closely the more recent recommendations of STRI's agronomist Roger Evans still follow Jim's edicts of a decade ago. Greens are slit upwards of 20 times a year and dressed with a 50/50 mixture of Fen dress and local dune sand, with a once niggling problem with Dry patch now eliminated. From being almost 100% meadow grass they now have some 65% bents on greens and about 50% bent on fairways.

In 1990, during drought conditions, a calculated decision was made to allow the fairways to burn-out and this helped to eliminate many unwelcome invaders. Lies, like all good links courses, are inclined to be tight and greens are usually slick, the native sandy loam and seaside weather allowing little or no backspin. On that score, Roger expressed surprise at the 'Americanisation' of Royal Birkdale during The Open held there in 1983. 'It wasn't links golf as we know it', he said, and recalled how some members became fired with the idea of seeing the same target style golf at Royal St Davids. They soon came to appreciate that it wasn't right for such a traditional course, one where the style lends itself to the

Roger Kerry on the BIGGA National Tournament: 'I'll not be trying for anything unusual or try to 'trick' the course up... presentation will be my main goal and I'll be aiming for a course that will be both fair and a good test of golf. But I shall be on tenterhooks until the final putt is sunk'

run-up shot. 'When BIGGA members come here in August they will find precious little back-spin' says Roger, and suggests that practice with fairway woods will pay dividends, especially on some of the longer par fours, where a well-struck wood may be necessary to get up in regulation. There are 100 bunkers, placed strategically to catch the wild tee shot, though few, if any, come into play for long second shots, where running-on through wide approaches is the name of the game.

Of the Club itself, there are 700 members, of which about 400 are non-local. The Club operates a graduated membership package with subscriptions reducing as one moves further away from Harlech. Needless to say it is fully subscribed with long waiting lists. A vast increase in traffic, both of members and a continuous stream of visitors, has taken place over the past decade and play continues unabated throughout the year. It is to the great credit of Roger's team that the course looks and plays so well despite this

huge increase. Only once in 1990 was the course closed – whilst waiting for a thaw – though when surface frost is prevalent he quite rightly holds players at bay for two or three hours to prevent damage. 'Inevitably one gets a few grumbles', he grins, 'though in the main our members appreciate that such restrictions are for their own good, and the results speak for themselves'. Conversely, if there is one thing that perhaps rankles Roger it is the growing use of 'buggies'; and whilst no words were spoken as we watched one such machine being driven at maniac speed on ancient ground clearly unsuited – and subsequently ending up out of control and flying full speed over a precious green – his eyebrows raised in a "can you believe it" air of resignation. I have an idea the culprit was a visitor, but whoever he may have been, it is my opinion that venerated linksland is no place for these cursed modern contraptions. I'm equally certain that Harold Hilton, who walked at a spanking pace everywhere, would NOT approve!

Roger is a founder committee member of the new North Wales Section and speaks proudly of the achievements made in that sphere, of bringing North Wales into the mainstream. He is also an advocate of greenkeeper education and in practicing what he preaches, attends Reaseheath for Phase III management training. He sees his own progress in terms of earning potential inextricably linked with gaining further qualifications and as part of that pattern now presents five-year plans to the Club. As a result he is largely responsible for deciding his own policy and course maintenance strategy. 'The Club is a good one to work for' he says, with their policy of keeping abreast with up to date machinery something he applauds. His particular preference is for Toro machinery for greens and tees and these get upgraded every five years.

Asked about the forthcoming BIGGA National Tournament, Roger intimated that although he is no stranger to the big event – indeed International tournaments are often held at Royal St David's and the Welsh Ladies Championship was scheduled for just two weeks hence – he is more apprehensive at the thought of 120 greenkeepers casting their expert eye over his links than almost any other. 'I'll not be trying for anything unusual or try to 'trick' the course up', he said, 'presentation will be my main goal and I'll be aiming for a course that will be both fair and a good test of golf. But I shall be on tenterhooks until the final putt is sunk'. I left him with an assurance that if the course was as good in August as it is now he need have no such fears.

Leaving Harlech I took time for a whistlestop tour of the beautiful countryside and to wander into the Italianate fairytale village of Portmeirion, a jewel of a place just a few miles distant. For BIGGA members and partners, it all adds up to a wonderful August week that should not be missed.

1992 Exhibition promises even greater success

Viscount Whitelaw, the Association's President, will open the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition at Harrogate next January.

The 1992 Steering Committee, which met for the first time last month, are already drawing up detailed plans to make the new exhibition and seminar programme even more of a success than the 1991 event.

A number of noted speakers have already been confirmed and an even greater involvement with BIGGA members is promised.

The acclaimed workshop sessions will again be run on the two days before the grand open-

ing on Wednesday January 22.

Harrogate's Old Swan hotel has been designated as official 1992 HQ throughout the event and attractive accommodation rates have been negotiated.

Members of the steering committee – which included trade representation from Iseki, Farmura and Ransomes, along with exhibition contractors Joe Manby Ltd – agreed that the 1991 exhibition had been "a great success".

Up to the minute details of the 1992 exhibition and seminar programme, and the hotel accommodation rates, are available from Debbie Savage at BIGGA HQ on 03473 581/2.

Merchandising moves in-house

Exclusive and high quality merchandise – from T shirts to ties and umbrellas to sweaters – is now being handled directly through the Association's HQ at Aldwark Manor.

All items incorporate the BIGGA logo and the full range of merchandise will be on show at the Open Championship, National Tournament and the 1992 BTME.

Additionally, all regions and sections should now hold a sample stock, which members can see at their local events. Regional administrators and section secretaries are asked to place an order without delay if their current stock is inadequate.

It will be a strict rule that all orders from within the UK must be accompanied by payment. Overseas orders, including the Republic of Ireland, will be invoiced to take account of additional postage costs. In the UK, all prices are inclusive of postage, packaging and VAT.

Andrew Clark at BIGGA HQ, telephone 03473 581/2, will be pleased to answer any merchandise queries from members.

Consideration is being given to extend the list of merchandise available and any suggestions from members would be welcomed.

Discussions are also underway concerning the official BIGGA blazer. A range of workwear is also being considered.

More details, as they become available, will be announced in future editions of Greenkeeper International.



Ref.	Product	Price
B01	Sweater	£27.95
B02	Slipover (SPECIAL OFFER)	£12.95
B03	Mull Shirt (100% cotton piquet)	£15.95
B04	Moffat Shirt (60% cotton/40% polyester)	£14.95
B05	Polo Neck Shirt	£13.95
B06	T Shirt (NEW RANGE, in white)	£6.95
B07	Tie (light blue or bottle green only)	£4.50
B08	Mug (available at BIGGA events only)	£1.50
B09	Blazer Badge	£11.95
B10	Umbrella	£11.95
B11	Visor	£4.95
B12	Cap (woollen – black, navy, beige, maroon)	£10.95
B13	Tie Bar	£2.95
B14	Lapel Badge	£1.95

To order, turn to the Order Card opposite Page 45 in this magazine

Special offer on BIGGA slippers

The following limited stock of slippers is available at a special price of £12.95 (normal price £24.95).

Colour	Size
Claret	40", 42", 44", 46"
Pale Blue	Medium, 40", 42", 44"
Yellow	40", 42", 44", 46"
Grey	44"
University Green	40", 42", 44", 46"
Navy	38", 40", 42", 44"
Burgundy	42", 46"
Beige	40"

To order, complete the Order Card opposite Page 45

THE GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL LETTERS PAGE HAS BEEN HELD OVER UNTIL NEXT MONTH

GREENKEEP RS2 GREASE

Fully Synthetic Grease

Designed especially for
Golf Course Machinery

Stays on the Machinery
and not on the turf

A Cut above the Rest



Harmless to Grass
Extends Machinery Life
Reduces Maintenance Time

STAYS WHERE APPLIED TO
WILL NOT WASH OUT OR MELT
TEMPERATURE RANGE -50°C TO 200°C



Pen Lubrication Ltd
PO Box 421, Woking, Surrey GU21 5UP
Tel: 0483 765233

THE WORD IS OUT!



TRIMS DOES IT ALL!

Greenkeepers around the world are using **TRIMS**
Ground Management Software.

TRIMS is the one and only software system designed with the help of greenkeepers to meet the challenge of today's record keeping requirements.

TRIMS Record Keeping Features include:

- Budgets & Expenses
- Equipment Maintenance
- Spare Parts Inventory
- Purchase Orders
- Material Safety Data Sheets
- Fuel Inventory (UST's)
- Personnel Records
- Labour activity
- Work Orders
- Irrigation
- Chemical Usage
- Fertiliser Application

Call or write today for your **FREE** Demo Disk and see what **TRIMS** can do for you!

Contact BIGGA HQ, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aline, York YO6 2NF
Tel: 03473 581/2 • Fax: 03473 8864

A year of decisions



Annual
Report
1991

A summary of the Association's work and progress, by BIGGA Executive Director NEIL THOMAS

In preparing this report, it is pleasing to look back and observe what an active Association we have and how much is happening throughout the country to enhance the status of both our members and the whole greenkeeping profession. At the outset I am reporting on a year of sustained development and progress. Conversely, it has proved to be a difficult, indeed the most difficult, year that this Association has ever faced or is likely to face.

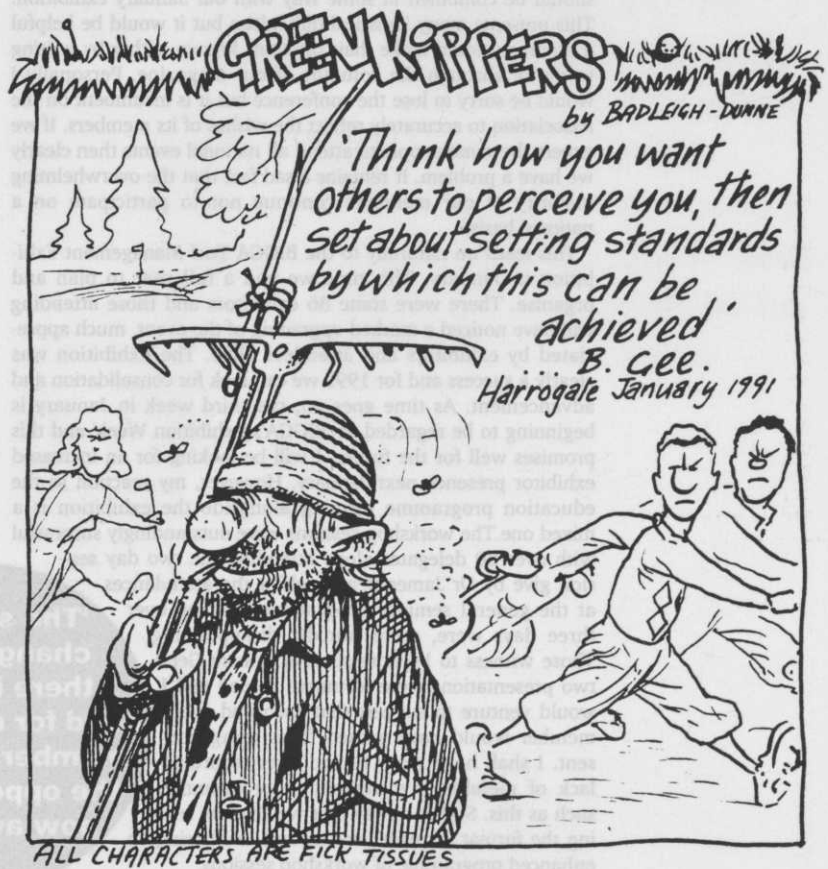
It has been a year in which major decisions have been necessary, crucial to our future well-being. We have moved forward at a time of financial uncertainty with, until the turn of the year, the Association's magazine in jeopardy. These two problem areas were inter-related and combined to produce tremendous pressures and a situation in which your Board of Management had to take difficult decisions whilst under considerable harassment. It has certainly been a learning experience which will stand us in good stead. Through it all we have held steady and been frank and open in our discussions with those who could offer advice and assistance. Since January we have moved into calmer waters, with an exhibition that was successful in organisational and financial aspects and with the production of a well received in-house publication, professionally developed and earning a secure and respected position in the market place. More recently we held a highly successful National Conference.

Membership continues to grow and at the end of 1990 totalled 3700, of which 3300 are greenkeepers and 400 associate or trade members. We set a 1990 target of 4000 members and our growing membership therefore leaves no grounds for complacency. There are many, many more greenkeepers who have not yet joined us and it is incumbent on all members to seek them out and persuade them of the benefits of joining BIGGA.

Looking back over the year one is struck by the increasing use of Aldwark Manor as a training base and the growing interest and participation of companies within the industry in our training courses. During the year a construction course was organised in conjunction with Rolawn and three compact tractor courses in conjunction with Iseki. In a reversal of the training role, Ransomes sent 20 of their staff to Aldwark Manor to be trained. Utilising approved college lecturers as well as greenkeeping personnel, the needs of the greenkeeper, relative to machinery usage, were expounded and the course met with a most positive response from Ransomes.

Our 'in-house' Management Courses were again run in October/November and were well received. It was particularly interesting to run an advanced course for those who had participated in 1989, a logical development which will be repeated by a third year course this autumn. There is little doubt that Aldwark Manor is now becoming an attractive training base - with the infrastructure a major contributory factor - for the hotel offers the added opportunity for delegates to inter-act socially and thereby enhance their learning experience.

During the year two award schemes have been undertaken - the Toro Scholarship Award and the ICI Premier Greenkeeper Award. The Toro Award was in its second year and the calibre of candidates - one from each of the approved colleges - is a clear marker of the improvements now apparent in greenkeeper education. The overall winner, David Norton of Beverley and East Riding Golf Club and representing Askham Bryan College, proved a fine ambassador for us during his eight week course at the University of Massachusetts. The ICI Premier Greenkeeper



Award was in its inaugural year and whilst numbers of entries were disappointing, the calibre of candidacy was high. Entry for the award demanded a substantial commitment and, with the award scheme now running for a second year, it is hoped more members will find the confidence to 'have a go'. The winner, Anthony Davies of Prestbury Golf Club, was again our excellent ambassador, this time at the GCSAA Conference and Show.

With the timing of the AGM a little later this year I am able to report on two successful National Education Conferences. The 1990 Conference at the Royal Holloway and Bedford New College was blessed with heatwave conditions last April. The speaker programme met with unanimous approval and the college ambience contributed greatly to the event's success. The 1991 Conference was held recently at the University of York and proved an outstanding success with the speaker programme maintaining, if not surpassing, the quality of previous conferences. All three conferences have climaxed in memorable banquets and there is no doubt that our National Conference has a unique place in the greenkeeping world - much appreciated by the growing number of international delegates who attend. We should not underestimate the value of the conference in projecting the Association most positively to a wider audience within the game of golf. This is a real learning experience - three days of intensive lectures on a wide range of greenkeeping subjects - and those who have attended past conferences have gained lasting education benefits. It was pleasing that numbers



Get smart
- get involved
BIGGA is better for
Greenkeepers.
Join today - use the
post-free
membership card
in this issue



A chance to consolidate our success in the future

were up significantly, long may the trend continue. Equally pleasing has been the large postbag received from delegates congratulating the Association on the organisation and quality of the conference.

There is a view amongst many members that the conference should be combined in some way with our January exhibition. This presents many logistical difficulties but it would be helpful if members could make their thoughts known, either by writing to me or through the columns of our magazine. Personally I would be sorry to lose the conference but it is incumbent on the Association to accurately reflect the wishes of its members. If we expect the same people to attend all national events then clearly we have a problem. It remains a sad fact that the overwhelming majority of our members continue not to participate on a national basis.

This leads on naturally to the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition in January. This time we had a full year to plan and organise. There were some 86 exhibitors and those attending will have noticed a marked upgrading of the event, much appreciated by exhibitors and attendees alike. The Exhibition was clearly a success and for 1992 we can look for consolidation and advancement. As time goes on, the third week in January is beginning to be regarded as 'BIGGA's Exhibition Week' and this promises well for the future. I will be looking for an increased exhibitor presence next January. However, my reaction to the education programme running alongside the exhibition is a mixed one. The workshop sessions were outstandingly successful with over 80 delegates alone attending the two day session give by Dr James Beard, whilst the attendances at the general seminar programme running over three days were, quite frankly, disappointing. Two witness to keynote speaker Bobbie Gee's two presentations were fortunate indeed and I would venture to suggest that each and every member would have gained from being present. I shall have more to add later regarding lack of member involvement in programmes such as this. Suffice to say that we shall be revising the format for next year as well as offering an enhanced programme of workshop sessions.

On the wider education front, the development of our Master Greenkeeper Certificate has moved on apace. We now have 46 members registered; with many more eagerly seeking the 200 credits before registering and moving on to stages two and three. The Certificate has had a marked impact on greenkeeper education, creating a much greater awareness amongst members of the need for education and training. Indeed, many who had long since lapsed in education aspirations now find themselves studying again with renewed enthusiasm. The development of the scheme has been noticeable for the excellent co-operation with the approved colleges represented on the working party; which meets periodically at Aldwark Manor to review, monitor and update the scheme. This co-operation is leading to an equally effective joint approach to many other aspects of greenkeeper education. However, we have still to convince the four Home Unions of the validity and benefits of the Certificate and this will be a task for the forthcoming year. The first four candidates sat their finals last month and hopefully we shall soon be able to announce the first holders of The Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

There are many members who suffered in the past when educational opportunities were not available. As mature greenkeepers they are naturally apprehensive of attending colleges or undertaking examinations. It is therefore pleasing to report on the recent introduction by Elmwood College of an Accreditation of Prior Learning Scheme. This is a new service which takes account of previous achievements, skills and knowledge to credit participants with nationally recognised qualifications which

they may previously have lacked. Achievements are first identified, then matched to existing qualifications and finally assessed. Past learning and practical achievements can be credited providing a participant can show sufficient evidence that he can meet the standards of the qualifications he would be gaining. The modules which can be credited will be listed on the National Certificate Award, which is issued by the Scottish Vocational Education Council (SCOTVEC). It is anticipated that the scheme will in time be adopted nationally and of greater importance, qualifications obtained in this way will count towards the Master Greenkeeper Certificate. As we progress educationally therefore, there are opportunities for every member, with little doubt that an exciting future beckons the trained and qualified greenkeeper.

At this point I must address a trend which has been all too apparent during the past year - that of the inertia of so many of our members to better themselves. Opportunities are clearly available through approved training colleges and the many courses and seminars being established by BIGGA, as well as through pursuit of the Master Greenkeeper Certificate. Yet we quite often struggle for numbers. There can be no justification for disappointing numbers at the Exhibition Seminar programme or at other educational events. Considerable progress has been made with employers in getting them to accept their responsibilities in the field of education and training. Our Education Officer, David Golding, had addressed a whole series of meetings attended by club secretaries and green chairmen during the past year and we are now obtaining a large measure of favourable employer response. However, it is disquieting to hear employers complaining that they are never approached and conclude that their employees have little interest in furthering their education. Perhaps this is a too simplistic response, and within the Association we are all too clearly aware of the crisis of confidence which has existed for many of our members over many years, bound up in the more unpalatable traditions of the game where the greenkeeper was expected to know his place.

'The scene is changing and there is a real need for many more members to grasp the opportunities now available'

We have sought to instil confidence - many of our courses are designed to this end - particularly in the field of personal management and awareness. Members may be pleasantly surprised these days when they summon the courage to ask for support to further their education. To those who continue to experience difficulties, we will give all possible support from headquarters - but the initiative must come from you, the members. The scene is changing and there is a real need for many more members to grasp the opportunities now available.

It is also pertinent at this stage to report optimistically on developments during the past year in relation to *The Way Forward* document. A sub-committee comprising of representatives of the R and A and the Home Unions has met throughout the year; with the aim of producing a strategy to better co-ordinate the infrastructure of golf course design, construction and management in Britain and Ireland. Their proposals have recently been ratified and whilst this is not the place to go into detail, it is clear that BIGGA will have a key role to play in the administrative structure now being created. Over a period of time it is anticipated that there will be significant increases in monies allocated for greenkeeper education and over the next year the Association must be in a position to justify the allocation of such sums and thus move greenkeeper education a further step forward. Already as an indication of BIGGA's Way Forward we are in discussion at college level for the introduction of a full-time HND course in golf greenkeeping. Whilst high degree of member commitment and participation will be necessary, there is much to look forward to educationally. The R and A's initiative is exciting and will receive our full support and co-operation.

Turning from education, I would point to a few other events during the year which have contributed to our development and recognition within the game. The Iseki Tournament continues to be a great success and a means for our members to readily identify with their regions. During 1990 a successful extension to the tournament took place with the staging of an Irish round and this was further extended to 1991 when rounds were played in Northern and Southern Ireland last month. Relationships with our Irish members and those interested in joining the Association over the water have been strengthened considerably and will, I'm sure, continue. The Iseki event is eagerly anticipated and the 1990 final at Moortown in September was blessed with a finely prepared course and a grand atmosphere, enhanced further by the regional team competitions, now an integral part.

In referring to regions, I would mention the success of the WESTURF Exhibition organised on a regional basis to meet the needs of the South West and Wales Region. This really is an excellently organised local event, with full credit to Gordon Child and his team for its successful establishment. Regional initiatives in terms of fund raising and bringing members together are vital and this is an outstanding example of just such initiative.

In July we gathered at St Andrews for The Open, blessed with the most glorious weather. From BIGGA's view this was perhaps our most successful Open. The assistance offered by our members to Walter Woods and his staff went without hitch and was much appreciated by the R and A. Our thanks are due to Walter for securing a really excellent site, which ensured record numbers of visitors to our marquee. Additionally our thanks to the Scottish region for their excellent organisation and the hard work undertaken by a number of individuals.

Hardly returned from St Andrews, we were straight into our National Tournament at Ganton. Again the weather was excellent and though the fairways had suffered by drought it was a privilege to play this majestic course. The Tournament continues to attract a regular nucleus - many of whom have been coming for more years than they care to remember. Changes in format have been suggested and these will be made, though it is important that traditions are not lost, particularly in terms of promoting it as a family event and social occasion as well as a golf tournament. What is needed is an influx of new competitors. We are moving around some of the finest courses in the country and 1991 takes us to another much revered course, Royal St David's at Harlech. Having visited with Club officials, I can vouch for the playing qualities awaiting you in August.

Finally in the golfing calendar, we turn to the Kubota Tournament held annually at The Belfry in October. This held particular significance in 1990 because we managed to lose the trophy we had held for five years. A splendid well-run tournament - remember if you wish to qualify you must participate in the National Tournament.

I will conclude by picking three highlights from the year. In September at Prestatyn Golf Club, at a meeting attended by seventy interested people, we formed a North Wales Section to meet the needs of an area which previously had undoubtedly been geographically isolated. This was most certainly a highlight of my year, and not only because I was back across the border! One could not fail to be impressed by the enthusiasm generated and it is clear the Association will have a strong section in that area. This is the first new section set up since the establishment of BIGGA in 1987 and as such has been widely welcomed.

In February, Chairman Ivor Scoones, Debbie Savage and myself represented BIGGA at the GCSAA Conference and Show in Las Vegas, where we had our own stand. We made many international contacts and generated much potential interest for new members, subscribers and advertisers to our magazine and possible exhibitors for the 1992 BTME Exhibition. We can and do learn from the GCSAA, which has been in existence for over 60 years, but all is not perfect in their organisation and it is therefore rewarding that there are already some areas of our own organisation which they could, perhaps, beneficially study.

In March we were delighted that our President, Viscount Whitelaw, was able to pay his first visit to Aldwark Manor and we took the opportunity to officially launch Greenkeeper International during his visit. His interest and support for the Association is greatly appreciated and during the last year he has visited us at the National Conference at Egham, The Open at St Andrews and Aldwark Manor. He has already intimated that he will visit our marquee at this year's Open and also plans to attend next January's BTME Exhibition, where we intend introducing an award ceremony for leading award winners during 1991. Our President has a real 'feel' for greenkeeping and does all he can to project the Association at golfing functions around the country.

As a final comment, with another year behind us where lies our current status within the game? Certainly at Club level there is much greater employer awareness, which manifests itself in the numerous enquiries covering all manner of greenkeeping matters relating to salaries, conditions of service and contracts of employment. Relationships with the Home Unions have been strengthened and this will continue with the new structure emanating from *The Way Forward* document. Contact with the PGA European Tour and the PGA remains spasmodic, as does media interest in greenkeepers and all greenkeeping matters. Throughout, the R and A remain steadfast and wholehearted in their support. I believe we are structurally sound and there is much respect within the game for our progress of the last three years. We continue however to be under-resourced and must look within to resolve this situation. The generation of increased funding remains essential and will continue to demand the attention of our Board. This Association is blessed with a dedicated staff, whom I thank for all their untiring efforts in the last year. Ours is a happy and welcoming office and it is very apparent that members enjoy coming to Aldwark Manor. Much has been achieved, but for staff and members there remains a great deal still to be done as we jointly seek full professional recognition for greenkeepers and the further advancement of this fine profession.

I conclude with sincere thanks to our retiring Chairman, Ivor Scoones, for all he has achieved during his year of office. I have enjoyed his constant and steadfast support through many difficult days this past year. His commitment and enthusiasm is there for all to see and I am sure he will look back on the many positive developments that took place during his office. Ivor won't mind me saying that he is one of a fairly select group of greenkeepers whose efforts over many years are at last being rewarded in the strides forward now being taken in the profession. We owe much to this group, without whose efforts today's achievements would not be possible. Ivor will continue to serve on the Board and we will draw on his considerable experience. I am sure also that you will all join with me in wishing Ivor's wife, Anne, a full and speedy recovery from her current illness. Thank you, Ivor, for all you have done.



Annual Report 1991

'Much has been achieved, but for staff and members there remains a great deal still to be done'

GOLF COURSE SIGNS



Designed to your own specification. Strongly manufactured. Maintenance free, chip resistant, club motif if required.

Choice of colours

Ring now and just let us know what you need



A C & M Birch Ltd
Golf Signs
Unit GH1, Platts Lane,
Burscough, Lancs. L40 7TE

Telephone: Alan Birch 0704 896177/892997

GREEN BUT NOT NECESSARILY GREAT

by David Boocock, The Sports Turf Research Institute

Fertiliser manufacturers, aided and abetted by the advertising industry, have for very many years pursued a relentless campaign based entirely on maximising sales. Whether the message was put across by the hard or soft sell approach – the written word, glossy photographs or colour graphics – these all encourage the notion that turf has a high demand for fertiliser and the greater quantities used the better things will be. That the salesmen have been all too successful in the past is borne out by the gradual deterioration in turf quality and the condition of playing surfaces, especially on putting greens. Not that fertiliser is solely to blame, but it has a great deal to answer for.

The same thing continues today, but more subtly with the emphasis placed on environmental issues – nitrate pollution and the advantages of so-called slow release nitrogen sources, products with nil phosphate, low potash, and even those old favourites – autumn and winter feeds – are still around with a superabundance of phosphate for application to many soils that are already brim-full of the stuff. The impression has been created through carefully planned and orchestrated advertising, which has brainwashed the laymen or laywomen who play golf and serve on Club committees, that if grass is not a bright, lush green there is something wrong. It takes only one step further to equate poor colour with other problems and ergo there is something wrong with the management of the course and greenkeeper or manager are called in to explain.

The layperson can be brainwashed in other ways too, and none more so than by television – that ace medium for accentuating trivia. Golfers see the lush greens, tees and fairways of Augusta National in April and expect that sort of appearance on their home course, notwithstanding the vast differences in soils, climate, amount of play and, last but by no means least, maintenance budgets. One other simple and often overlooked aspect of colour television pictures is that contrast and depth of colour are both capable of adjustment by the production team as pictures are transmitted and sets certainly vary greatly in their ability to reproduce natural colour with integrity. One perception of that turf as a lush, dark green carpet may be the result of



One perception of golf course turf on TV as a lush, dark green carpet may be the result of nothing more than the producer shouting 'turn the colour up Norm!'

measure by the grass species making up the sward, general soil drainage and other maintenance inputs, including aeration and scarification. Fertiliser plays a relatively small part.

Nitrogen is the plant nutrient required in the largest amounts by turfgrasses. Leaves can contain between 2 and 5 per cent nitrogen and it is vital to their proper function. It is present in chlorophyll, the green pigment which absorbs and utilises the energy of the sun through the process of photosynthesis for growth. Plants can obtain nitrogen from the soil solution mainly as a nitrate, which is the most soluble form found in the soil and therefore the most readily available via the root system. They can, however, also absorb nitrogen as the ammonium molecule and as urea.

Amounts of nitrate and ammonium available in the soil vary enormously during the growing season and this depends largely on the release of nitrogen from soil organic matter by the action of micro-organisms, and in turn by their death and decay as a part of the nitrogen cycle. This process is largely temperature-dependent and could be said to be nature's own slow release nitrogen source and an extremely effective way of conserving nitrogen, since it only becomes available as soil temperatures rise and the plants themselves are making enough growth to take it up. There is no question that turfgrasses require nitrogen, especially in the putting green situation where clippings are removed – the matter at issue is how much?

Over supply of nitrogen in the early spring when soils are too cold for sustained growth is simply washed deeper into the soil profile, possibly to contaminate the ground water. Excess when there is enough warmth for growth leads to succulent, lush leaves with sappy, thin-walled cells which are far more prone to mechanical damage from feet, machinery and to attacks by fungal diseases. Disease attacks on such lush turf can be damaging enough in the summer, but during the autumn and winter months can completely ruin putting surfaces through the scars and pitting effects which follow from widespread and severe outbreaks. Turf damaged in this way takes a long time to recover in the following spring and early summer; and since the finer turfgrasses such as bents and fescues are very slow to spread vegetatively, the opportunist free-seeding and inferior grasses – such as *Poa annua* – are given an easy entry and often take over areas of turf damaged in this way.

The other important aspect of using fertiliser to excess, particularly nitrogen, is that rapidly growing turf produces far more leafage and therefore organic matter. This not only requires additional mowing effort to ➔ 22

Warwickshire College of Agriculture
offer the following specialist courses in

GREENKEEPING

Day-Release over four years leading to CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE GOLF GREENKEEPING qualifications.
ADVANCED NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN GREENKEEPING
(One year, or over two winter periods)

For further information please contact:

The Registrar, Warwickshire College of Agriculture, Moreton
Morrell, Warwick CV35 9BL. Tel: 0926 651367



GREENKEEPERS

TRAINING COMMITTEE

APPROVED COLLEGES FOR GREENKEEPER TRAINING

Surely the best way to invest in the future is to invest in people. Training and education are the greatest motivating factors. A more articulate and educated workforce will inevitably lead to greater rewards and an awareness and recognition of the greenkeepers profession.

The Greenkeepers Training Scheme has appointed thirteen colleges in Britain and Ireland as Centres of Excellence for Golf Greenkeeper Training.

Langside College
Buchanan Drive,
Rutherglen, Glasgow,
Scotland.
(041) 647 6300.
Contact
Colin Urquhart

Lancashire College
Myerscough Hall
Bilsborrow
Preston
Lancs
(0995) 40611
Contact
Richard Gibbs

**Teagasc National
Botanic Gardens**
Glasnevin, Dublin 9,
Ireland.
Tel: (0001) 37 4388
Contact Pat Suttle

Welsh College
Northop
Mold
Clwyd
Wales
(035286) 861
Contact
Graham Wright

Oaklands College
St. Albans,
Herts.
(0727) 50651
Contact Ian Merrick

Cannington College
Cannington, Bridgewater,
Somerset.
(0278) 652226
Contact Nick Rigden

Elmwood College
Cupar, Fife, Scotland.
(0334) 52781
Contact Carol Borthwick

Oatridge Agricultural College
Ecclesmachan, Broxburn,
Scotland.
(0506) 854387
Contact Quentin Allardice

**Cheshire College of Agriculture
and Horticulture**
Reaseheath, Nantwich, Cheshire.
(0270) 625131
Contact Dennis Mortram

Askham Bryan College
Askham Bryan, York.
(0904) 702121
Contact Nick Bisset

Warwickshire College
Moreton Morrell,
Warwick.
(0926) 651367
Contacts Hugh Nunn
and Roy Nelson

**Sparsholt
College**
Sparsholt,
Hants.
096 272 441
Contact
Bob Young

Plumpton College
Plumpton, Lewes.
(0273) 890454
Contact
David Blackmur

20 → control it, but also produces proportionately more dead material in the form of roots, shoots and leaves, and that happens far faster than can be controlled mechanically by verticutting or grooming. The nett result is an increased build up of surface thatch and all the ill-effects which follow. Principal among these effects are slower green speeds, greater pitch marking and footprinting, so that surfaces are far more uneven. It is well known that thatch holds greater quantities of moisture so drainage rates are reduced, the playing surfaces then become soft, wet and spongy throughout wetter periods of weather. I am convinced this has a deleterious effect on the upper soil layers, since in the constantly moist environment the soil tends to become compacted more easily, thus adding to drainage problems.

Combine the above effects with increased incidence of fungal disease and you are well on the way to losing the finer turf species. The free-seeding annual meadow grass spreads in as the better species lose ground; since it can survive better in such poor growing conditions.

The poor appearance of annual meadow-grass swards in the spring due to weakness from winter disease attack and wear and tear of play always provokes criticism from Club members, with pressure put on the greenkeeper.

'Fertiliser treatment should therefore be restricted to low nitrogen feeds'

You've heard it all before, 'so and so's course down the road has lovely green greens' (again that accent on green being great), completely ignoring the fact that this paragon is 500 feet lower down the hill, on better soils and sheltered from East winds. All too often there is a resort to the fertiliser bag to provide a quick boost and so the cycle of deterioration continues.

Too little nitrogen is nowhere as bad as too much; but can still have a drastic effect on playing surfaces. Whilst bent and fescue grasses are predominant in the sward there will be little immediate effect, both being well adapted to infertile soils low in nutrients. However, the wear and tear from constant play nowadays, combined with the removal of clippings on fine turf areas, does require supplementary feeding to sustain an adequate grass cover and even growth.

The natural colour of a healthy browntop bent and fescue sward is a very pale green – far removed from the image of turf promoted by the fertiliser companies and thus perceived as desirable by the layman.

Perfectly adequate growth can be maintained and the grasses we want to encourage will thrive on a regime where the emphasis is on regular aeration, for these superior turfgrasses require a good supply of air at the roots and an open, uncompacted, and therefore reasonably well drained soil. If that is supplemented with frequent, light top dressings of a sandy soil mixture during early autumn and repeated several times in the spring, you are well on the way to excellent, smooth and true surfaces.

Fertiliser treatment should therefore be restricted to low nitrogen feeds and, usually, a lawn sand type dressing in fairly early spring when there are spells of mild weather, which allow some growth, will be appropriate. Back this up with one or two more mainly organic-based nitrogen feeds through the summer with the last dressing some time in July, and that should provide a reasonable level of the major nutrient – nitrogen – for most courses.

On the majority of normal soil greens, levels of phosphate and potash are likely to be adequate for the very low requirements of these finer turfgrasses and additional quantities from applied fertiliser are unnecessary. On particularly busy courses there may be benefit from a further but low nitrogen turf tonic type of feed in August.

Use of fertiliser in turf culture is only one aspect of management and, for success, every part of the programme that is followed throughout the year must be tailored to suit the type of soil, climate and amount of play the course receives. We have got to get away from the idea that green in relation to turfgrasses is necessarily great, and realise that colour is of little significance in the production of turf surfaces that will please members year round.

● David Boocock is a Senior Agronomist with the Sports Turf Research Institute.

TRADE TOPICS



■ Stoneleigh Centre was the recent venue for the making of a video on the building of an ICI Tech Turf tee. ICI Advanced Turf Systems have made great progress in the use and application of Tech Turf and now boast over 40 Clubs using their innovative product, with many more in the pipeline. Perhaps the most costly part of the system is physically monitoring the correct method of application, which is somewhat labour intensive, and with interest growing and more Clubs eager to install, the idea of issuing a video which shows EXACTLY how this may be done by greenkeepers themselves is to be applauded.

• Pictured: a section of Tech Turf showing the root system growing through the sand/peat/fertiliser growing medium incorporating pieces of Propathene mesh.

■ Tillers Turf, in conjunction with Fibresand Ltd, have launched a brand new sports turf package – known as Fibreturf – that greatly reduces maintenance costs and gives a far superior playing surface. Already proving its worth at Sunningdale and other prestige locations, it combines the benefits of Tillers well established sand-grown sports turf or seed and a reinforced sand rootzone specially developed by Fibresand. The artificial fibres in Fibreturf imitate the natural root system and confer immense strength to the rootzone, thus combining the benefits of high infiltration rates and stability. The need for hollow tining, slitting and sand dressing is also greatly reduced. Call Tillers Fibreturf for a free colour brochure and construction and nutrient specifications. Tel: 0652 650555.

■ Milestones are set to be passed this year by Fen Turf Dressings Ltd, who in 1990 sold in excess of 20,000 tonnes of Fendress top dressing nationally and during '91 are expecting to achieve the magic 100,000 tonnes mark since commencement of production. They have recently opened another depot and now offer a delivery service from the Midlands, East Anglia and Derbyshire. The use of their screened East Anglian Fensoils, which when blended with the correct sand produces a free draining golf green rootzone mix, is recommended for the construction of new greens and tees.

■ Pen Lubrication Ltd, mentioned last month, have now 'christened' their new synthetic grease "Greenkeep" and issued a technical pamphlet on a full range of synthetic lubricants especially for the greenkeeping industry. As an ardent user of synthetic's myself – in my trials car – I can assure you they are, quite simply, 'priceless'. A call to 0483 765233 will bring a free copy.

4

GOOD REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD USE COCKLESHELL FOR ALL YOUR PATHS

1. No damage to your mowers – saving you time and money
2. It always looks clean – especially after rain
3. It can be used on all paths – right up to the edge of the grass
4. You can put it directly onto sand – and it stays on the surface

...and if you want a 5th... over 150 golf clubs already supplied can't be wrong!
(Including Sunningdale, St Georges, North Hants, Knole Park, and Gerrards Cross).

Contact us today for a leaflet and a sample – or you can do it tomorrow, because we've been in business for over 100 years so we'll still be here! Deliveries nationwide.

DEVENISH LTD suppliers of shell sand and top soil

60 Hambro Hill, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 8DH Tel: (0268) 743866/7

COCKLESHELL:
The 'natural'
choice for paths

10% SUMMER DISCOUNT
for orders placed before 31st August.
Send for a 3 litre free sample.

With greenkeepers countrywide praying for rain, it was perhaps out of character that Regional Chairman Gordon Child and members of the South West and South Wales region should pray for sunshine on May 1st, the big day in the calendar when Westurf '91 takes place at Long Ashton GC. Following two brilliantly warm and sunny years, it was disappointing that this third event should herald in such damp and dismal weather, but what Mother Nature failed to provide was more than compensated for by the sort of enthusiasm that is all too plain to see in these laid-back parts, where it takes more than a chill wind to cool spirits.

Growing bigger each year in dealer participation, this year saw some 103 stand spaces occupied, an increase of more than 20 on 1990 and almost double that



of 1989. Whilst National and International manufacturing companies saw it more as an inexpensive shop window – a fine way of showing and demonstrating equipment and of meeting potential buyers, a PR exercise if you like – suppliers with an

established locally based clientele expressed pleasure in writing worthwhile orders and in meeting most of their customers in one fell swoop. Throughout the day spirits remained high; the weather eventually brightened; greenkeeper met greenkeeper to exchange confidences and a good time was had by all. A quizzing of exhibitors by your editor indicated satisfaction with their day and all felt that the event serves to fill a gap – made more noticeable by the move to Peterborough by the IOG – in serving the South West. Indeed, IOG were themselves on parade and appeared suitably impressed. The highly competitive price of stand space is seen as a distinct bonus and all look forward to Westurf '92. Organiser Gordon Child indicated a substantially larger headcount through the gates and the Training Colleges – Sparsholt and Cannington – both seemed swamped with enquiries and looked to be in deep discussion with prospective students whenever I was around.



Westurf

Photographs by DAVID WHITE

'91



People in the pictures: Ivor Scoones with Jonathan Franks (British Seed Houses); the Maxwell Hart team – dressed for spring?; Avoncrop's Julia Sheehan, flying the white flag but not surrendering to the chill winds and left, notable BIGGA personalities

Delicate watering...but it creates a

SPLASH
of colour!



Wright Rain irrigation adds a hidden dimension to the appearance of any golf course. The wide choice of pop-up sprinklers providing a growing freshness to tees, fairways and greens, bringing appreciation from green keepers and club members alike.

We offer a total package, including sophisticated control systems, which operate automatically to suit the exact requirements of the course.

Our experts will advise on the choice of equipment, complete and commission the installation and provide full service support.

Contact the address below and see how Wright Rain irrigation is designed to improve your game.

 **Wright Rain**

The winning partnership in sports turf and amenity irrigation



RAIN BIRD

RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE,
BH24 1PA

Telephone: (0425) 472251
Fax: (0425) 472258

Nine pages of specialist reports cover

Are we ready for another drought? Undoubtedly, this question hangs on the lips of every greenkeeper, with water conservation issues of such national importance. Consultant Agronomists JOHN HACKER and MIKE HARBRIDGE conclude their observations on irrigation with some timely advice on estimating water needs

Despite the rain and snow we had this winter it is more than likely that certain parts of Britain will be in drought again this summer. For those of us who get our water supplies from lakes and reservoirs, there is usually more than enough rainfall. This year, however, even in the North West, the reservoirs were still not full at the beginning of March. In southern regions where water is taken from underground aquifers, rainfall was still below average before Christmas. It was only the January rainfall which led to drought orders being removed in certain regions.

Whilst we do not know how much it will rain in the future, it is clear that reserves are lower than normal. If we get another dry summer we may be restricted in the use of water sooner than we would like. Getting irrigation rates correct not only ensures a green course but conserves water supplies for everyone.

'How much water should I apply' is perhaps THE question on every greenkeeper's mind. Indeed, it is the most difficult to answer because there are so many variables which need to be taken into account – many of which the greenkeeper cannot control. Here are the major points which need to be considered before irrigation of greens, tees or fairways.

To be able to estimate water requirements for turf it must first be known at what stage a lack of water becomes detrimental to grass growth and survival. To allow soil water to deplete so much that the grass dies (permanent wilting point) would obviously be foolish. However, should the soil be kept at field capacity, the point at which soil is most susceptible to destructuring and compaction? Clearly there exists a mid-point when adequate growth will occur without the extreme repercussions of either too much or too little water.

Unfortunately, little research has been undertaken on this subject in Britain although some has been conducted abroad. For the British greenkeeper the most common, and subjective, method of water requirement is a visual assessment. This is based on the reaction of the grass plant to water stress and the experience of the greenkeeper. Drought symptoms include:

- A darkening of grass colour.
- Footprinting – grass taking time to stand up again after being walked upon.
- Reduction in grass clipping production.
- Localised drought on high spots prior to droughting in other areas.

By using these visual warnings and by examining soil cores the experienced greenkeeper can make an estimate of when water may be needed. However, it is difficult for him to know how much is needed or indeed whether stress was caused to the grass before the drought symptoms were noticed and water applied.

To be able to predict drought we need to be able to measure the depletion in soil water before it causes visual symptoms to occur. Fortunately there are several ways of measuring this:

- Monitoring the Soil Moisture Deficit (SMD) – the amount of water necessary to bring the soil back to field capacity.
- Using soil tensiometers.
- Using soil electrical resistance sensors.

DROUGHT



Clay soil: holds a lot of water and cracks when dry;

Drought symptoms: footprinting on a tee

- Using heat sensors.
- Using the plant.

All of these methods allow you to apply water at a predetermined deficit or tension. However, knowing what that predetermined level should be for a given location poses a real problem.

Soil moisture deficit

The Ministry of Agriculture has found that the growth of agricultural grass swards is reduced once the SMD exceeds 25mm and is substantially reduced at 50mm deficit on soils. So once the SMD is between 25-50mm it is necessary to irrigate to bring the SMD back above 25mm but not to field capacity (zero SMD). True, this has been suggested for agricultural grasses and its suitability for golf green swards is open to question. However, it's the best guide-line for SMD we have so far. How then can the SMD be estimated? The usual way is to compile a Water Balance Sheet.

Water balance sheet

A water balance sheet (see diagram) attempts to balance water inputs (rainfall) with water losses (evapotranspiration, or ET). The difference between the two will be shown as either drainage or run-off (if rainfall is greater than ET), or as the SMD (if ET is greater than rainfall).

Rainfall can be measured by the greenkeeper on site or obtained from the local weather station. The ET can be taken from MAAF reference book 435 and adjusted weekly with the known value for potential transpiration - available from the Met Office through ADAS. Some irrigation systems use a mathematic equation to determine an estimated ET rate based on climatic data.

An SMD figure should be predetermined at which irrigation is to be applied, for instance the greenkeeper can decide to apply 25mm of water when the SMD reaches

35mm. This will return the soil to 10mm SMD, which is below field capacity but high enough to prevent drought symptoms from occurring. Research from abroad has suggested that 60%-65% of nett evaporation should be applied as irrigation. For instance, if the rainfall for a week (say 15mm) is deducted from the evaporation for that same week (say 75mm) then the nett evaporation would be 60mm. Applying 65% of this would mean irrigating with 39mm of water during the following week. In the first example of a SMD of 35mm this would mean applying 22.75mm of water.

In the diagram, hypothetical gains and losses of water have been monitored from spring, showing a SMD on July 1st of 30mm. Showing the gains and losses for one week, there is an initial loss of 5mm in the first two days, taking the SMD over the 35mm mark, at which point the greenkeeper decides to irrigate the next day. On the 3rd day a further 2.5mm of water is lost through ET but the greenkeeper applies 25mm of irrigation. This takes the SMD up to 12.5mm and 15mm the next day. On the 5th, 6th and 7th a total of 25mm of rain falls which, after the estimated ET has been deducted, takes the SMD above zero. Clearly, once the soil has regained field capacity it cannot hold more water against drainage and so the 2.5mm excess drains off leaving the SMD at zero.

Perhaps the most accurate sensor of both soil water and atmospheric conditions is the grass plant itself. Visual assessment of the turf is the most common way the greenkeeper determines whether water is needed. If this assessment can be accurately measured in some way by machine then the system can ➔ 27

Water Balance Sheet

Date	Rainfall (mm) R	Estimated Daily ET E	H-R (mm)	Irrigation (mm)	SMD (mm)	Excess Drainage run-off (mm)
Brought forward					30	
July 1	0	2.5	2.5	0	32.5	
July 2	0	2.5	2.5	0	35.0	
July 3	0	2.5	2.5	25	12.5	
July 4	0	2.5	2.5	0	15.0	
July 5	10	2.5	-7.5	0	7.5	
July 6	8	2.5	-5.5	0	2.0	
July 7	7	2.5	-4.5	0	0	2.5

TURF

irrigation

If your existing golf course irrigation system is giving you problems because of age, lack of maintenance or out-dated design - or indeed, you are considering the purchase of a new system, a word with the professionals at Turf Irrigation Services can both solve your problems and help you achieve your objectives...

Firmly established as leaders in the UK's major sports turf markets, Turf Irrigation Services offer you professional advice, professional design alternatives, professional installation standards - and equally important, a professional after sales service including long term contract maintenance.

For an objective, professional opinion, simply telephone, write or fax Turf Irrigation Services. Do it now.



TURF IRRIGATION SERVICES
BETCHTON, SANDBACH, CHESHIRE
CW11 0TS PHONE: 0477-500255
FAX: 0477-500404

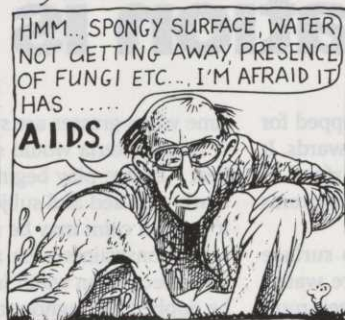


CLUB 18-36

by BAILEIGH-DUNNE.



The author is not responsible.



25 → be automated. Infrared thermometry has been developed to do just this in a non-destructive way, measuring the leaf temperature which, when the soil is moist, will be at or near ambient soil temperature. Leaf temperatures will rise above air temperatures when soil or atmospheric stress increases. Only recently developed, it may however prove to be the most accurate way of determining water stress within the plant itself, rather than trying to predict plant needs from soil moisture content.

Water use rate

In view of the limited information given by soil sensors alone, the Water Use Rate (WUR) has been used in the USA to estimate requirements. The WUR is composed of the total ET plus the total amount of water required for turfgrass growth.

The weekly WUR for a northern temperature region of the USA having moderate summer temperatures and humidities has been estimated at between 0.9-1.0 inch/week (22-25mm/week). Many factors will affect these estimates including:

- Evapotranspiration rate
- Length of growing season
- Growth rate
- Turfgrass species or cultivar
- Intensity of culture

- Intensity of traffic
- Soil type
- Rainfall
- Available soil moisture.

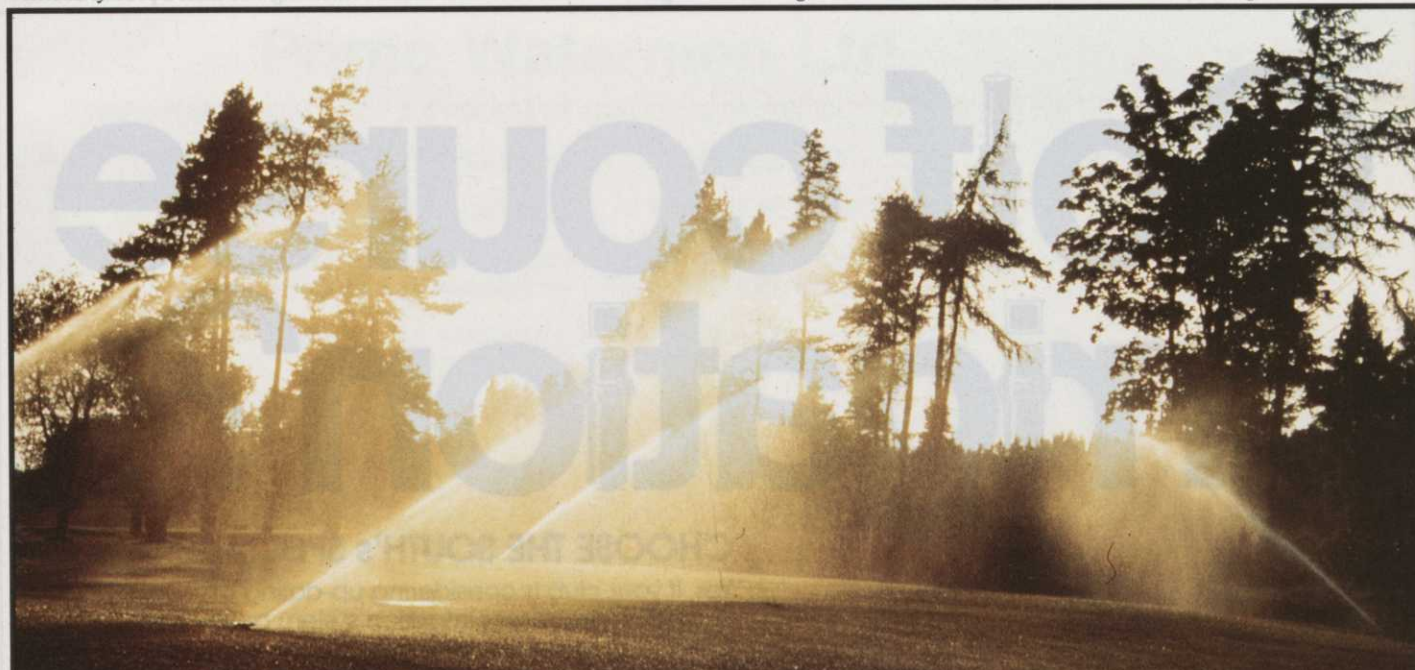
However, to estimate the total amount of irrigation water that might be needed per season, the weekly WUR multiplied by the number of growing weeks will give an estimated annual water rate. This can be compared to the known annual rainfall for an area, the difference being the expected deficit or excess of water.

This is still only an estimate, as differences will occur from area to area and year to year. Knowing the estimated WUR will, however, help when planning how much water may be needed throughout a season in a given climate zone.

How much water to apply

How much to apply at any one time will depend on many factors. The general consensus is that the irrigation period should be sufficiently long to wet the majority of the soil where the roots grow (usually between 100-200mm deep) So how much water to use will depend on the amount of water in the soil, the soil texture, and how quickly the water gets into the soil (the infiltration rate). If irrigation water = 28

DROUGHT



When the sun goes down...

Watermation sprinklers pop-up

For the best in automatic irrigation

Watermation Ltd
Tongham Road, Aldershot, Hants GU12 4AA
Tel: 0252 336838 Fax: 0252 336808

Detailed information is needed

27 → starts to run-off then irrigation should be stopped for a while to allow the water in the soil to move downwards. It may be beneficial to lightly spike or slit the surface to encourage infiltration. On soil showing dry patch symptoms a wetting agent may also help.

Light infrequent water applications can lead to surface rooting, which in turn can lead to a need for more water. Water throughout the rootzone is necessary for a deep-rooted green – the benefits of which include:

- Less frequent watering
- More efficient use of plant nutrients
- A more drought and wear resistant sward.

If you are not in a position to calculate the exact amount of water required then the rule of thumb as advocated by McIntyre is probably best: "water grass as deeply as possible as infrequently as possible without causing damage to the grass".

Light sprays of water may however be used to syringe grass, under very hot conditions, to prevent heat stress or discourage diseases associated with such temperatures i.e. brown patch. To do this, water is applied during the hottest period of the day so that it rapidly evaporates causing the desired cooling effect.

When should you irrigate?

Having decided the grass needs water and how much to apply, this ideally should be applied when evaporation is at its lowest; when the area is not subjected to heavy play; when it will not interfere with play; when the air is relatively calm i.e. not windy; and so as not to extend the length of

time when grasses are susceptible to diseases.

These criteria would suggest that early morning would be best – before play begins. Alternatively, if the area is particularly exposed and subject to winds, then late evening when it is often calm may be more appropriate. On many courses, other constraints such as the lack of an automatic system, will affect when water is applied. Indeed, water may have to be applied throughout the day if you are restricted to using mobile sprinklers causing inconvenience to players. Even with pop-up systems there is little time for irrigation at night in the summer, when play may continue until 10pm and begin again at 5 or 6am.

What really happens

So what do greenkeepers do in practice to determine when to irrigate?

In Britain, irrigation is usually applied after visual assessment by the greenkeeper. Drought is far less common in the UK than in continental Europe or the USA and, because of this, much less money is spent on systems and their control. In the US, where drought is a regular occurrence, much more effort is put into applying the correct amount. This is probably because many more courses there have the finances to install automatic systems, often linked by computer into moisture monitoring systems which can give much more precise control of water application.

In the future, when the price of water may be much higher, it may well pay even the British greenkeeper to monitor water use. What is certain is that more detailed information on irrigation requirements for this country will be needed, if water is to be applied with confidence. Until then irrigation in the UK will remain something less than a precise practice.

DROUGHT

Golf course irrigation?

CHOOSE THE SOUTH'S SPECIALISTS...

Yes, if your club is considering up-dating or extending its present irrigation system or you are thinking of investing in this important "Greenkeeper's Aid", have a word with ISS. Established for over a decade, ISS have years of experience of golfcourse irrigation systems design, installation and maintenance -this experience is yours for the asking. ISS will gladly visit your course for a chat -phone or write to them now!



TORO IRRIGATION AREA DISTRIBUTORS



IRRIGATION SYSTEMS & SERVICE
 Unit 6, The Bourne Centre, Salisbury Business Park
 Southampton Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire
 Telephone: (0722) 412510



North Staffs Irrigation Co.

IVY MILL, LONGTON ROAD, STONE, STAFFORDSHIRE

Rain is like a policeman – never there when needed. We can change all that. We can make it rain on your golf course at the touch of a button. We can arrange for your course to be watered at night when conditions are just perfect, or when you need to apply fertilizer or top dressing or indeed at any time to suit you.



Our name is somewhat longer than the Almighty and we have not been in the business quite as long, but we are very good at it and very reliable.

We are:

NORTH STAFFS IRRIGATION COMPANY

Ivy Mill, Longton Road, Stone, Staffordshire ST15 8TB.

Telephone: 0785 812706

Fax: 0782 395734

AD
REF
217

FLANDERBLADE LTD

A family firm with over twenty years experience (ten as our own company)

We design, supply and install irrigation systems.

Maintenance contracts available within the Home Counties and the London area

Call Mr. or Mrs. Laker
Tel (0903) 724545. Mobile (0831) 200072
Flanderblade Ltd., 20 Whiteacre,
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7JA
FULL MEMBER OF BTIA

AD
REF
218

Prime Watermen Ltd

WANGFORD · BECCLES · SUFFOLK NR34 8AX. TEL: (050 278) 481. FAX: (050 278) 729

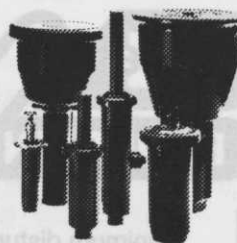
QUALITY EQUIPMENT – RELIABILITY

PRACTICAL ENGINEERING – VALUE FOR MONEY

These are what you can expect when you choose a Weather-matic irrigation system designed and installed by PRIME WATERMEN LTD.

To benefit from these and our wealth of installations experience – contact us now on
050 278 481

IRRIGATION BY PRIME – COMMITMENT TO RELIABILITY AND SERVICE



Weather matic
LAWN AND TURF IRRIGATION

AD
REF
283

PAR 4 Irrigation System Service

For the installation, maintenance and repair of irrigation systems on golf courses, bowling greens, tennis courts and any playing areas, farms and garden sites.



Suppliers of galvanised PVC and polythene pipes and fittings, valves, pumps, agricultural and pop-up sprinklers and associated equipment.

Area dealer for

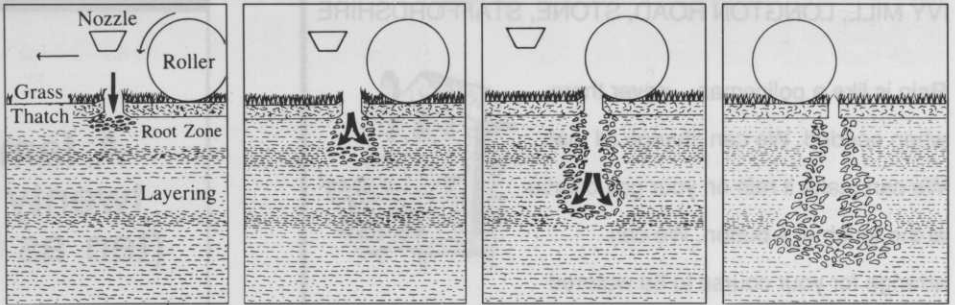
TORO

Unit 18, Camphill Close, Dallamires Lane, Ripon, N. Yorks HG4 1TT
Tel: (0765) 602175. Fax: (0765) 603488. Proprietors: Eddie and Linda Simms

AD
REF
27

Shot in the dark

How water-injection cultivation works



1. Bursts of energized water are shot down into target zone, penetrating turfgrass and thatch. (Light arrows indicate direction of equipment and roller travel.)

2. Force of energy begins to spread below surface, loosening surrounding soil and helping to break up any layering.

3. Impact continues to spread outward as burst travels deeper. Roller begins to smooth minor turf and thatch disruption resulting from burst's initial impact.

4. At target depth of 4-8 inches (using standard nozzles), remaining energy dissipates when soil resistance attenuates further impact. Roller completes smoothing.

Heralding Water Injection Cultivation, a technical breakthrough

A major problem in golf course management until now has centred on the need to find the right balance between maintaining quality and flexibility of greens and the pressure to keep putting surfaces playable. This problem has been compounded by the fact that since traditional core aeration is stressful to the turf, it can usually only be applied in spring and autumn when recovery is most rapid.

A new technique developed by Toro now offers all the advantages of conventional methods – without the drawbacks. Known as water-injection cultivation (WIC), it offers less stressful and more effective cultivation, thereby ensuring greater flexibility in turf management.

The main complaint about core aeration is the disruption it causes to the putting surface. Player complaints and green committee pressure have often forced many Clubs to cut back or eliminate aeration, with an inevitable negative impact on the quality of such greens. Even when aeration is

carried out, the benefits can disappear long before the procedure can be repeated. Recent University research in the USA has shown that the effects of spring hollow-core tining are almost gone by August.

Unlike conventional methods, water-injection cultivation does NOT disrupt the putting surface. Entry holes, in fact, are almost invisible shortly after treatment. As a result, aeration programmes can be continued and expanded.

The benefits of what happens below the surface are equally significant. Water injection cultivation penetrates twice as deep as hollow-tine techniques. This offers two major advantages. One is the potential for increased root penetration resulting in a stronger plant. The second is the penetration of the compaction pan that may develop as the result of repeated cultivation to a uniform depth.

It should be noted that water-injection cultivation is not designed to replace conventional core aeration, since coring



HAVE IRRIGATION & DRAINAGE DOWN TO A TEE

Minimum disturbance
Maximum efficiency

Based on 30 years
Bourgein experience

CASE quality presents
10 Trencher models &
5 types of Mole Plows

Choose from this
specialised range
catering for the
roughest or most delicate
groundwork applications –
95% of UK irrigation
installers already have

Let us demonstrate
our **case**, you
won't be disappointed



The powerful 70hp CASE QUAD installing new sprinkler system
Contractor: Turf Irrigation Services

Phone for advice & details on either new or reconditioned machines,
leasing or low cost contract hire

L. D. BOURGEIN OXFORD LTD.
South Hinksey, Oxford OX1 5AZ Tel: 0865 735420 Fax: 0865 326155

is still the best method for incorporating sand into the green profile as well as for thatch management. Where water injection cultivation scores so impressively is in enabling aeration programmes to be maintained when conventional methods are not feasible or desirable. The long-term benefits can be measured in terms of improved soil structures, healthier greens and fewer disease problems – with a subsequent reduction in the need for fungicide applications.

The equipment needed for water-injection cultivation is the Toro Hydro-Ject 3000, which incorporates a pump; an accumulator; a single valve and set of nozzles. Once the unit is filled with water (it uses approximately 150 gallons to aerate a 7000 square foot green), the positive displacement pump maintains a constant 5000 psi water pressure on the system accumulator, which acts like a capacitor in an electrical circuit. Output from the accumulator is controlled by a valve which, when opened, releases water to the nozzles in short cycles of a few milliseconds. On reaching the nozzles the water



The Toro HydroJect 3000, seen here in action at Westurf '91, deploys two additional swing-up wheels for transportation

is pulsed at a very high velocity numerous times a second, enabling it to penetrate from four to eight inches into the soil with a single shot. The unit is actually capable of penetrating the soil up to 20 inches or deeper with repeated shots.

As the pulse of water enters the ground, its action is similar to that of a bullet. The entry point on the surface is about 1/8 inch in diameter and horizontal dissipation takes place deep into the soil below; where adjacent layers of soil are shattered by the pressure of the water – the system does not rely on physical impact, abrasion or erosion of the soil.

Considerable engineering problems – to ensure high performance, reliability and safe operation – had to be overcome in building the HydroJect 3000. All connections, for example, are hard-coupled throughout and extensive use is made of stainless steel and other corrosion-resistant materials.

Exhaustive tests of the system have been conducted during a three-year research project at Michigan State University. This provided conclusive proof that plots undergoing water-injection cultivation had a more uniform turfgrass quality than plots which did not receive this treatment. Compared to both hollow-tine cultivation and non-cultivation, plant growth also improved – in the case of hollow-tine cultivation, the difference was probably due to the loss of crown tissue.

The research demonstrated water-injection's potential for encouraging deep rooting, which should increase the stress tolerance of turf. Soil physical properties were improved compared to non-cultivated plots and were similar or superior to the traditional vertical hollow-tine method. Using water injection, soil was cultivated deeper in the soil profile compared to hollow-tine cultivation and soil strength measurements showed that it was effective to a depth of four inches – hollow-tine cultivation was effective to only two inches.

Data showed that with time and continued traffic there was a need to re-treat the soil eventually – whichever method was used. However, with the disruptive and injurious nature of hollow-tine cultivation, it is imprac-

TURFEX

is a concentrated wetting and penetrating agent specially formulated in Britain for the turfgrass industry. It helps water affected by dry patch or soil compaction. It is highly cost effective and is easy and safe to use.

- Concentrated - extremely cost effective
- Increases rate of water penetration through the thatch layer
- Readily absorbed onto soil particles
- Build-up effectiveness from repeated applications (can double rate of infiltration to root area)
- Safe on both fine and coarse turf
- Easy to mix, even in cold water
- No foaming problems
- Helps penetration of water in compacted areas
- Reduces run-off on sloping ground
- Promotes healthy root development in turf
- Saves time when hand watering
- Reduces the requirement for switching

WATER GETS TO THE ROOTS OF THE TURF

SERVICE CHEMICALS

SERVICE CHEMICALS plc
 Horticultural Division
 Lanchester Way, Royal Oak Estate,
 Daventry, Northants NN11 5PH
 Telephone: Daventry (0327) 704444

SPORTSTURF

CERTIFICATE and DIPLOMA in TURF IRRIGATION

In conjunction with the B.T. & L.I.A., and contributing to credits for the BIGGA MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE. Residential course split into four weekly blocks over 2 years. For further information:

Contact Liz James or Richard Gibbs
LANCASHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE
 Myerscough Hall, Bilborrow, Preston, Lancs., PR3 0RY. Tel: 0995 40611 Fax: 0995 40842



Water injection cultivation

From Page 31

tical to consider this on a frequent basis. Since water-injection cultivation appeared to be the aggressive cultivator, yet caused significantly less damage, it can be used on a more frequent basis to manage compaction-prone soils. The shape of the channel created by water-injection cultivation varied with soil texture and strength. A long, slender channel is created in soils of low strength, while soils of higher strength have a reduced channel depth although the channel will have a larger diameter at its lower end.

Jim Murphy, leader of the research project, concluded that water-injection cultivation was much more effective than non-cultivation in improving soil physical conditions, such as bulk density, aeration porosity and saturated conductivity. Compared to hollow-tine cultivation, it ensured greater depths and, consequently, management of a larger soil volume. This offers the facility to break through and disrupt subsurface layers – like a cultivation pan – which inhibit water and gas movement as well as deep root growth. And since all this can be achieved with less turf damage than is possible with vertical operating hollow-tine cultivation, it is a more feasible method for frequent cultivation of compaction-prone soils – including before or during conditions considered too stressful for other methods.

● For further details and an address to write for full technical data, see back cover.

Presenting the case for water, water everywhere

From the increasing pre-occupation of greenkeepers, course developers and pundits generally with the subject of water, golf could perhaps light-heartedly be classed as almost an aquatic sport.

Certainly a drought can change the whole playing complexion, whilst at the same time being responsible for serious turf deterioration. Yet a high proportion of courses in the UK lack any adequate water storage, though drought conditions continue, with last year's rainfall being the lowest since 1976. It is understood that a licence application may well fail if water storage is not provided. Indeed, abstraction of water may be prohibited for periods as much as three months.

The National Rivers Authority therefore encourages on-course storage. The average use of water on a course for greens and tees is some 20,000 gallons per day, say four million gallons over seven months. Virtually no rain at all would mean relying on finding something like five million gallons.

The cost of abstracting water from borehole or stream is given in pounds per million gallons:

	WINTER	SUMMER
Wessex	17.73	53.19
South-West	29.52	39.36
Southern	59.46	336.96

Cost of abstracting water from main supply = £2350 per million gallons.

Water storage, now of increasing importance in course irrigation, fits neatly into the operations of OCMIS Irrigation, the Martock, Somerset based company who have enjoyed considerable success as irrigation specialists in agriculture and fineturf.

Their infrastructure includes expert consultation and design and in keeping with their policy of keeping abreast with the latest developments they monitor and study the subject world-wide.

An immediate plus is their close affinity with the water companies, which at first might appear routine enough, but in reality means a saving of several days of reconnaissance and consultation, mapping out the nearest boreholes etc. and having access to records. Liaison with the electricity companies is equally well advanced in facilitating sources of single-phase power where three-phase is not available.

The use of attractively landscaped lakes as storage is one possibility where there is enough water available for topping-up purposes, another being the use of special irrigation tanks.

Such tanks need to be well sited, either above or below ground level.

It is in this respect that OCMIS have achieved great success in agriculture and are on course to repeat this in golf, where almost a month's supply of water can be easily stored on or adjacent to the course.

Joint Committee sets out to improve the lot of the greenkeeping profession

The great cause begins



by ERIC SHIEL

The R and A creation of the Joint Golf Course Committee is a major boost to the well being and future of the greenkeeping profession. With the formation of this committee the R and A have extended their horizons beyond the playing of the game into concern for the surface upon which the game is played.

The message to greenkeepers is that help is coming to them in a way that could not have been imagined as little as five years ago. But for the intervention of a green committee chairman, the much acclaimed discussion document 'The Way Forward' might never have seen the light of day. Thanks also to the ghost of Old Tom Morris or someone of that ilk, Eddie Park took his duties at Lindrick Golf Club seriously. Devoted to the teachings of Jim Arthur, then Championship Agronomist to the R and A, Park saw his problems as endemic to the game. As the Lindrick course gradually gained its self respect, so the great cause began.

Armed with this experience and knowing the extent of the problems by personal visits to the many Clubs around the British Isles, Eddie Park approached the Home Unions for their support. With little prompting they readily agreed and the R and A gladly pitched in.

Number one priority for this Joint Committee is to find ways to improve the lot of the greenkeeping fraternity. This will be by way of enhancing educational opportunities, recruitment policies to encourage quality entrants into greenkeeping and provision of higher technical standards. This technical knowledge will come out of the committee's panel, which will be a gathering of the best minds specialis-

ing in the likes of agronomy, science, course design, nature conservancy, environmental issues and allied subjects. The Sports Turf Research Institute will be highly visible in these deliberations.

Greenkeepers can only benefit from these initiatives. Independent voices and influential organisations will be speaking and working on their behalf. There will be little need for greenkeepers to blow their own trumpets. The policy shapers for the future of golf courses in Britain and Ireland will be Tim Taylor, R and A; Peter Wilson, English Golf Union; Gerry O'Brien, Golfing Union of Ireland; Lindsay Stewart, Scottish Golf Union; and John Vaughan Evans representing the Welsh Golfing Union. The ultimate philosophy is that greenkeepers deserve more attention and support, not to forget consideration. Club members will have to understand that if they want good looking courses, playable 12 months a year with no temporary greens (barring Mother Nature) and no mats on tees, they will have to start backing the greenkeeper like never before. Everything to do with providing all golfers with the best possible playing conditions at the most reasonable cost on traditional British courses will be addressed by the Joint Golf Course Committee. BIGGA will play a major role. Keep a watchful eye in Greenkeeper International for further reports.

● Eric Shiel, the Executive Director of the Joint Golf Course Committee, is a native of Carnoustie recently returned from America, where for nine years he was with the USGA Green Section in charge of regional affairs and public golf: in his own words – 'taking golf to the people'.

AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

SURREY

On what seems to have been the best day of the year so far, The Surrey Spring Meeting/Iseki Qualifier was held at Richmond Park GC. Everyone I spoke to thoroughly enjoyed the day and expressed grateful thanks to The Club and their staff. We wish them a successful centenary year.

ISEKI Qualifiers were: Handicap 1-9: I.Hogg; R.Glazier; D.Worsfold; reserve: A.Donlevy. Handicap 10-18: G.Kyle; P.Main; T.Huntley; reserve: K.Harding. Handicap 19-24: J.Hunter; G.Jukes; A.Last; reserve: D.Andrews. Our thanks also to Ron Jobson who again acted as our starter and to all our trade sponsors who kindly supplied prizes.

The Cresta Cup will be held at Ashford Manor GC on Friday July 12th starting at 3.00 pm. Cost will be £13.00 per player.

Now a warning: apparently some members have been lending BIGGA membership cards to others, thus allowing them illegal access to playing facilities at golf courses. If YOU are guilty, or are aware of others who might be guilty, understand that this is a very serious offence which at best could damage all our reputations and at worst result in expulsion of the culprit and perhaps the withdrawal of this facility for ALL members. Don't ruin something we all appreciate!

We have two trips on offer, one to Jacobsen's factory in July and another to Rolawn in October or November. If these appeal, contact a committee member or myself. Also items of news or interest for inclusion in this column, please call me on 025 125 4287.

PHIL BALDOCK

SUSSEX

Our match on April 17th was held at The Nevill, on a course in good condition despite a very cold wind and even some snow! Brighter by far than the weather was the reception meted out to all within the clubhouse - our grateful thanks. Results: Morning Stableford - (greenkeepers) 1st R.Day; 2nd C.Reed; 3rd R.Hughes. (trade and guests) 1st B.Wilmott; 2nd D.Wood. Afternoon medal - (greenkeepers) 1st M.Butrymowicz; 2nd P.Ray; 3rd C.Tate. (trade and guests) 1st B.Diddams; 2nd J.Coppen.

Our thanks go to John Shaw for the Stableford prizes and to Rigby Taylor for sponsoring the Medal, together with best wishes to the following qualifiers for the ISEKI Regional Final at Ham Manor on July 3rd: G.Barr; R.Day; R.Short; C.Wakeham; C.Reed; M.Priviet; A.Cale; P.Negus; P.Ray; D.Coomber; M.Butrymowicz; C.Tate.

DICK BULL

SOUTH WALES

April 24th saw our Spring meeting off to a fine start with players competing for the Cardiff Cup over the testing Pontypool course. This 18 hole event was the section qualifier for the ISEKI Championship, the regional final to be held at Tredegar Park on June 27th.

Fighting it out and making respectable scores was made possible for the 24 competitors by a pleasant day, though the wind was blowing fiercely over the mountain top! Every credit then to Hugh Parry, (pictured left), who took the Cardiff Cup with a 69, a crystal tankard donated by SISIS and an additional tankard for winning category two. Winner of the first category was Mike Jones with a 73, Anthony Millar win-



ning the third category with a score of 70. Both players also won tankards which, along with the winner's tankard, were all generously donated by Celtic Mowers of Swansea.

Meetings such as these owe much to the generosity of Golf Clubs and our friends in the trade and we acknowledge with thanks our gratitude to: Pontypool GC; Munro's; ICI; Avoncrop; Stabrite and SISIS. Also our thanks to Brian Roberts and his green staff for an excellent course and to the steward and stewardess for 'inner satisfaction'.

ISEKI qualifiers: (0-9) John Carter; Gerwyn Price; Graham Cox; Huw Morgan; reserve: Dennis Jones. (10-18) Hugh Parry; Tony King; Malcolm Davies; Julian Bartlett-Jones; reserve: Philip Swain. (19 and over) Anthony Millar; Brian Price; Leslie Hallett; Mike Norfolk. reserve: David Roberts.

PHILIP SWAIN

EAST OF ENGLAND

Our 1991 season began with two lectures, the first delivered to a well attended audience by Jon Allbutt - Technical Consultant to the Leisure and Amenity Industry - his topic being The New COSHH Regulations. This proved to be a real 'eye-opener' for those who had not given much heed to these new and important laws. Hopefully it jolted them into action after hearing of the penalties that can be imposed. Thank you, Jon, for an absorbing evening and our thanks to Mike Shepherd, who organised the lecture.

The second lecture, also well attended, was on Soils, Sands and Ph for use in Top Dressing, given by Peter Jefford of Rufford Top Dress Supplies Ltd. Peter has a way of putting his subject over well and when followed by a question and answer session it proved to be both informative and entertaining. Refreshments were much appreciated, with a raffle won by Eric Berridge.

So, into the fresh air we go for our first golf meeting, which will have been held at Blankney, Lincoln, by the time this June issue is printed. This ISEKI qualifier, sponsored by Purdy's of Retford, will be reported in the next issue.

DIARY DATES: June 24th - ISEKI Regional at Belton Park; July 10th - Visit to Collingtree Park. Sept. 11th - Rigby Taylor Cup at Sleaford. Oct. 30th - Lamb Trophy at Burghley Park. November - Visit to new Greatham Valley GC. December - AGM and Lecture.

COLIN SWINGLER

SOUTH WEST

Spring was cancelled this year. At least that's what it's been feeling like out on the greensward. Never mind, the members are an understanding lot aren't they...? "My lawn's OK, what's up with your greens? They looked great at Augusta!" Whilst on the subject of Augusta, hearty congratulations to 'Wee Woosie'; and to the European Tour for providing the last four Masters winners. It's worth remembering that the best players in the world now play on our courses, so let's keep the standards high.

Our Spring Meeting was played on another very un-Spring like day at the Bristol and Clifton GC. Cold, damp weather at the start hardly made for good scoring; but congratulations to Robin and his staff for preparing the course for us. I'm sure Robin has his sights set on the County Championship and our best wishes go with him. Our thanks go to everyone at Bristol and Clifton, with special thanks to Club Captain, Ted Jackson, for presenting prizes and for his great hospitality ➤ 36



Roger Glazier - a qualifier for ISEKI honours



Simon Marsh and Mark Drake, peering from the cab of their trusty Cushman

Golf course and estates manager, Simon Marsh, is the man responsible, along with head greenkeeper Mark Drake, for the maintenance and grooming of Pennyhill Park Hotel and Country Club. This stately English Country Manor House, nestling on the Surrey-Berkshire border is something of a haven of calm from the bustle of central London just 27 miles away.

As a hotel it is in a category not dissimilar to Claridge's or The Ritz, catering for the wealthy few who can and do enjoy the pursuit of excellence. The owners must have realised that golf was 'taking off' and guests play on a progressively developing little nine-hole course, fish for trout in a three acre lake, ride horses, play tennis, shoot at clay pigeons and generally bask in the wealth laden atmosphere that pervades Pennyhill's every pore.

Wonderful, you might say, and to stay here is indeed a

Hole in one

DAVID WHITE at the exclusive Pennyhill Park Hotel, where he discovers bunker excavation in one very easy lesson

wonderful though staggeringly expensive experience. What is equally impressive is that Simon and Mark, together with a crew of five, not only look after the extensive estates and the golf course, but cater also to the demands of between 350-400 members, who pay over £600 a year (I said it was expensive!) to play over a 32 SSS layout that measures just 2,022 yards with five par threes and four par fours. With an estimated 35,000 rounds played every year (actually 70,000 if one assumes that players zip round twice), there is little chance of closing a hole or two down whilst essential work is carried out or additions are installed, thus when the need for two new bunkers was mooted the use of sophisticated earth moving equipment was demanded.

A call to Melroe Europe, the makers of Bobcat Skid-Steer loaders, was timed to neatly fit with plans to demonstrate the features of their revolutionary new Bobcat 753, and the

AGRIPOWER LTD SPORTSTURF

SPORTSFIELD CONSTRUCTION
IN
GRASS OR SYNTHETICS

DRAINAGE - SANDBANDING

VERTIDRAIN HIRE

STONE PICKING

CULTIVATIONS

MACHINERY HIRE

Head Office: 02406 6776
Midlands/North: 0543 250010

AD
REF
262

THE BELLE 7250 SKID STEER LOADER



IT LEAVES ITS COMPETITORS STANDING.

There's no such thing as a tight corner for the Belle 7250 skid steer loader. This superb little mover is only available from Brown & Tawse distributors and it quite simply leaves its competitors standing.

With a lower operating height, shorter length and a maximum drive speed of 11km/hour, the Belle 7250 not only gets you there quicker, it also gets the job done faster.

Whatever your site requirement, turn to Brown & Tawse.



Oldham Street,
Denton, Manchester
M34 3SW
Tel: 061-336 7511
Fax: 061-336 6688

AD
REF
320

**'Within an hour
the excavations
were done; with
scarcely a mark
to show where
the Bobcat had
performed such
wizardry'**

stage was set. First, contours of the new bunkers were white-lined directly onto the grass, no doubt designed by tour player Roger Davis, who is a member and uses the course regularly. Next the Bobcat 753 was brought out to excavate the soil to exactly the right depth and contours, doing what only a Bobcat can do: stand on its head, turn on a sixpence and perform such miracles that you soon realise the wheel has been re-invented!

Within an hour the excavations were done; with scarcely a mark to show where the Bobcat had performed such wizardry, 40 tons of sand was expertly installed the following day and the bunkers were complete – start to finish – in 24 hours. Left a month to bed-down, they are now in play and quite properly frustrate all who land in them!

Simon has never prepared a course for The Open, and his nifty little nine will not be found in a list of any top 100 courses. But credit must be given that, like thousands of other greenkeepers up and down the country, he works hard under less than ideal conditions to create a course that one scribe described as a masochist's delight.

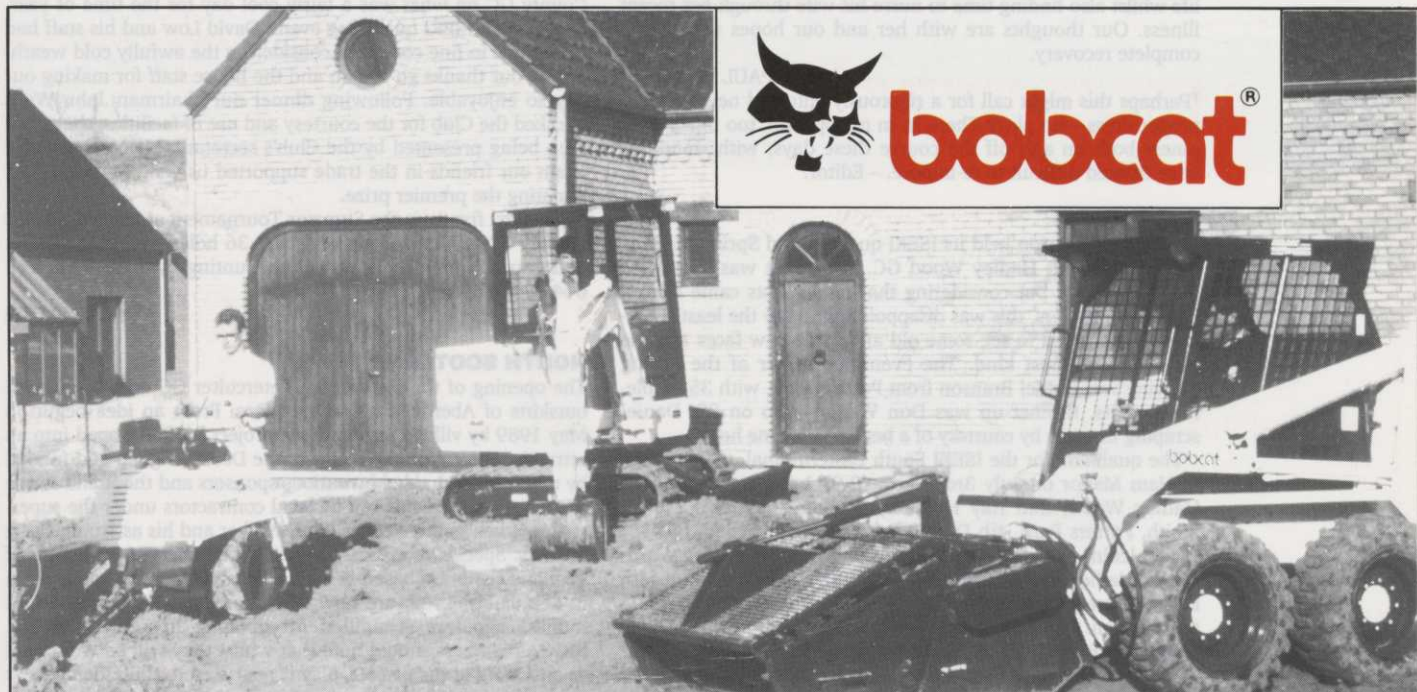
Of the course itself, it is another that claims no architect. Built just ten years ago, it has impossibly sloping greens, is on one of the highest points in Surrey – with resultant drying winds a constant negative factor – and has only about 1" of topsoil in some places. It has no automatic irrigation yet



**Bobcat 753 in action
at Pennyhill Park**

it drains well whilst consuming vast quantities of wetting agent. When Simon first came to Pennyhill there were rubber tee mats everywhere, these now replaced in entirety by 800+ sq. yard grass tees that seem to be surviving the constant onslaught.

The place has its share of visiting stars too, with tour players often staying at Pennyhill when Wentworth is a tournament venue, using the course for essential target practice. The course record – 30 – is held by Severiano Ballesteros, which proves it's no walk-over! With plans to add another nine holes, the future of Pennyhill seems set fair, as do the careers of these likeable young BIGGA greenkeepers, not to mention the other star of the show, the Bobcat 753 Skid-Steer loader.



**Golf Course Ground and Irrigation Works.
General Landscaping. It's all Bobcat Territory.**

Real mechanical manpower with exceptional workload versatility is what Bobcat compact construction equipment offers. Skid steer loaders, excavators and trenchers. Comprehensive range of easy to fit attachments provide economic working solutions to general landscaping works-excavating, grading, backhoeing, trenching, digging, post holing, tree transplanting, raking. And more.

Bobcat. Technically and mechanically superior.



Contact for further information: Bobcat — Melroe Europe,
8-12 Coventry Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 0JT.
Tel: 0455-251725. Fax: 0455-637574. Tx: 34330.
Bobcat Parts and Services Support from a National Dealer Network.



Ian Woosnam, the '91 Masters Champion

33 ➔ towards us, including his waiving of the dress rules in order to accommodate those amongst us who had NOT BROUGHT JACKETS! HONESTLY, I was ashamed. Please remember that not only are we guests in the Clubs we visit, but also ambassadors for greenkeeping and greenkeepers. This means dressing correctly and projecting a professional image. I certainly felt the standard of dress at lunch left a lot to be desired, never mind expecting to be allowed into the Club at evening time without a jacket. Please remember to dress correctly at all times in future.†

Results of this ISEKI qualifier were: 1st P Worster (4) 71. 2nd J Taylor (2) 72. 3rd T Crewe (9) 72. 4th P Connett (11) 73. 5th J Leigh (24) 74. 6th J Millar (5) 75. The ISEKI Team is: (0-9) P Worster; J Taylor; T Crew; K Millar. Reserve: C Rawlings. (10-19) P Connett; S Rattenbury; D Everett; J York. Reserve: J Farley. (20 -28) J Leigh; R Gates; D Pople; P Baynton. Reserve: P.Cox. All team members are expected to play in the Regional Final at Tredgar Park on June 27th.

Another diary date is the Section AGM – Tracy Park G and CC, November 21st – which will be sponsored by Maxwell Hart and will hopefully feature a display of the 'Terralift' deep aeration machine. Richard Danter and his staff will be along to answer questions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members who assisted at Westurf, making it the success it was. In particular, Robin Greaves and Chris King, who did a deal of 'leg work' for us, and those who took turn on the gate. I cannot close without thanking Gordon and Marion Child (hope the nervous breakdowns are better!), also Ivor Scoones, who as usual has managed to cram in about three different full time jobs in his life whilst also finding time to nurse his wife through her recent illness. Our thoughts are with her and our hopes are for her complete recovery.

PAUL WORSTER

†Perhaps this might call for a rigorously enforced new rule. No proper dress – no play? There is, in my opinion, too much sloppiness both on and off the course these days; with standards once relaxed difficult to re-impose. – Editor.

LONDON

The London Section held its ISEKI qualifier and Spring Meeting on April 24th at Hadley Wood GC. The event was supported reasonably well but considering that nine guests came from a total of 36 players, this was disappointing to say the least. However, it was good to see some old and some new faces and the weather was most kind. The eventual winner of the Spring Meeting was Daniel Branson from Porters Park, with 35 Stableford points. Runner-up was Don Wilson, also on 35, Daniel scraping through by courtesy of a better back nine holes.

The qualifiers for the ISEKI South Eastern Final, to be played at Ham Manor on July 3rd, were: (0-9) 1st Craig Handyside, Hadley Wood; 2nd Ray Howlett, Dyrham Park. 3rd Martin Smith, Porters Park. 4th Darren Burdis, Hadley Wood. (10-18) 1st Malcolm Storey, Hatfield and London. 2nd Robert Washbrook, Hadley Wood. 3rd Andrew Phillips, Hadley Wood. 4th Barry Webster, Pinner Hill. (19-28) 1st Robert Kendall, Hatfield and London. 2nd Gary Speller, Abridge. 3rd Jeff Fowler, Sandy Lodge. 4th Brian Kelly, Hainault Forest.

The staff at Hadley Wood, especially the kitchen girls, looked after our every need and served a delightful meal, with our trade members supporting us tremendously yet again, excelling themselves with superb prize donations. Our thanks to them all.

ANDREW PHILLIPS

MIDLANDS

April 8th saw us playing our Spring Tournament at Kings Norton GC on a day that was bitterly cold, though this was more than compensated for by the enjoyable time had by everyone. The nett prize was won by Steve Wood and gross by Tony Cheese. Players qualifying for the ISEKI regional final will be notified in the near future. Our thanks to Ray Hayhurst and his team for excellent course conditions and to the catering staff

AROUND THE GREEN

who provided us with a fine meal to seal a successful day.

The Midlands Section committee played for the Officers Cup at Walsall on April 24th, this again resulting in a tie between Mike Hughes and Peter Richmond; Mike eventually winning on a back nine count. Our thank to Walsall GC, especially their chairman of green, his wife, and the Club secretary who joining us for our evening and to Steve Wood and his team for a fine, well presented course.

DEAN CLEAVER

KENT

Not too much to report this month. Section members should have received a newsletter with dates of all this year's fixtures. I hope these will all be well supported.

I do know that two familiar faces will be missing however, although this may result in some of us standing a better chance of finishing in the prize winners circle. I refer to Andy Toomey, who has recently left his head greenkeepers post at Bexley Heath to move back to Essex at the new Hanover development near Hullbridge. Duncan Kelso is also on the move from North Foreland to join one of Howard Swan's projects. Although Duncan is leaving the county, Howard Swan seems to be very active in our region with his involvement in projects at Sandwich and, believe it or not, my own course, humble Barnehurst. It will be interesting to see how things develop.

Before finishing, may I thank the lads at West Malling for leaving the Invicta Motors Verti-Drain in such good condition for me, the next user. Apart from the back window on the cab being smashed (just my luck, for the days I used it we had wind and rain a-plenty), I had only made a single run to set it up before the clutch went. Thankfully it was fixed the next day.

PAUL COPSEY

MID ANGLIA

Our golfing fixtures began on April 17th at the Northampton County GC on what was a fairly cool day for the time of year. This was an ISEKI qualifying event. David Low and his staff had the course in fine condition considering the awfully cold weather and our thanks go to him and the house staff for making our day so enjoyable. Following dinner our chairman John Wells thanked the Club for the courtesy and use of facilities, the prizes then being presented by the Club's secretary, Mr Morley. Once again our friends in the trade supported us well, Maxwell Hart donating the premier prize.

The next fixture is the Summer Tournament at Letchworth GC on July 17th. This will be held over 36 holes, will cost £16.50, and entries should be sent to Ken Bunting by June 30th. Tel: 044 284 3359.

GEOFF SMITH

NORTH SCOTLAND

The opening of the picturesque Peterculter GC on the southern outskirts of Aberdeen has taken place. From an idea begun in May 1989 by village residents the project has developed into an attractive setting on the banks of the Dee. Designed and funded by members and aided by various sponsors and the R and A, the work has been carried out by local contractors under the supervision of head greenkeeper Allan Walker and his assistant, Craig Mackay. Specifications were provided and checked by Greens of Scotland, who are based in Aberdeen and the nine holes, sown in September 1989, are now in play. A second nine, sown 12 months ago, are scheduled for opening in September '91. BIGGA members should note that whilst they will be welcomed as observers of the project, play is restricted to Club members at present.

Royal Dornoch are pressing ahead with plans to upgrade and improve their second 18 holes, titled the Struie course. Their long term plan is to bring it to a standard where visiting parties will play one round on Struie and a second on the main course, thus relieving pressure on the championship course.

Iain MacLeod, head greenkeeper at Tain GC, has been selected as our representative for the Scottish Team in the Ransomes International Tournament. Iain, handicap four, has been a 'regular' at section events over the years and the committee feel this is just reward. He will, we are sure, prove an excellent ambassador for our area and our hopes are that he will emulate George Paterson of Montrose, who was our representative ➔ 45

CAN YOU HIT THE TARGET?

Head Greenkeeper up to £13,900 p.a.

Free Accommodation

Post No C464

Belhus Park Leisure Centre

Belhus Park is a unique and diverse Leisure Complex offering many sporting and recreational opportunities for a large catchment area in South West Essex bordering the M25. Included in these facilities are an 18 hole, Par 68, 5439 yard Public Golf Course, six football pitches, two cricket tables and pavilion, a golf driving range, and extensive parklands.

We are looking for a multi skilled Greenkeeper to join the management team at the Complex and be responsible for the operational running and maintenance of the outdoor facilities. These facilities are subject to Compulsory Competitive Tendering so you must have the ability to work to a specification as laid down by the client. Within the budget allocation the successful applicant will have a high level of freedom to develop the grounds operations, directly supervising a working team of

five staff, and being involved with a number of large scale open air special events.

You should have:

Five years Greenkeeping experience

A knowledge of grounds machinery, and irrigation systems

Golf Course and/or parkland management skills

If you are looking for a varied and challenging job and want to work with a dedicated and skilled workforce, then we should like to hear from you.

Application forms are available from the Personnel Department, Thurrock Borough Council, New Road, Grays, Essex. Telephone Grays Thurrock (0375) 390000 extension 2078. Closing date: 28th June 1991.

Thurrock Borough Council is aiming to be an Equal Opportunity Employer.



THURROCK LEISURE



DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

The Gleneagles Hotel is the country's premier golf resort and is currently seeking to strengthen its estates department team by the above appointment.

Gleneagles is home for two of Scotland's classic courses - the King's and the Queen's and is the location for the Bell's Scottish Open Championship.

A new championship course, the Monarch's, designed by Jack Nicklaus, is currently under construction and there is an on-going challenge in providing the best golfing facilities in the country.

The successful applicant will have at least five years' greenkeeping experience and be fully certificated in golf course maintenance and the use of pesticides.

A committed team worker with good communication, training and man management skills is required.

Applicants should write, with full career details to date, to Mr J Kidd, Estates and Golf Courses Manager, The Gleneagles Hotel, Auchterarder, Perthshire, PH3 1NF.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 30th June 1991.



THE
GLENEAGLES
HOTEL

ST. MARGARET'S GOLF CLUB

Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper

Suitably qualified persons are invited to apply for this position at one of the most prestigious, upmarket golf developments to have taken place in Ireland in recent years. The course, which measures over 7,000 yards with a par of 72 has been designed by Craddock & Ruddy to world class specifications and features lakes and sand-based greens, set in beautiful rolling terrain.

The successful applicant will fit into a progressive management team with the shared aim of bringing St. Margaret's Golf Club to the very forefront of international golf.

Construction and seeding will be completed in June 1991 and the Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper will assume responsibility, within the managerial framework, for development and maintenance, during the grow-in period and beyond. Salary and employment package will be negotiated and will reflect the importance of this key position in an exciting new enterprise.

Apply in confidence with full CV to:

THE MANAGER
ST. MARGARET'S GOLF CLUB
St. Margaret's, County Dublin, Tel: 01-361897



John Jacobs

Golf Associates Limited

On behalf of Colne Valley Golf Company Limited, John Jacobs Golf Associates Limited is recruiting a

COURSE MANAGER

for a prestigious 18-hole John Jacobs designed golf course at Denham, Buckinghamshire.

This Parkland course is sown down to Pennlinks Greens and Penncross Tees with conventional Bent/Fescue fairways and rough, and will be maintained to the highest standards.

Proven management ability and personal skills will be necessary for this post which includes a staff of 15, the latest maintenance machinery, (Jacobsen and Kubota) and Toro 3000 irrigation systems for greens, tees and fairways.

Purpose built greenkeeping facilities will provide an excellent working environment. The salary will attract the quality and experience required for this important position.

Applicants must have a minimum of five years experience as a Course manager, full City and Guilds Greenkeeping qualifications being preferred. Good communication skills and personal presentation will also be required of the successful applicant.

The Course Management operation will be administered by the TRIMS software, therefore computer skills and a knowledge of this system will be an advantage.

Applications, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, must include full personal and career details together with the names and addresses of two referees, and should be made in writing to:-

JOHN JACOBS GOLF ASSOCIATES LIMITED,
68A HIGH STREET,
WALKERN,
STEVENAGE,
HERTS SG2 7PG.

Tel: 0438 861 438
Fax: 0438 861 788

The Vale

Golf & Country Club

require a

Head Greenkeeper



This is an exceptional opportunity for the right person to be part of the future. This 27 hole complex, 4 miles from Evesham, is nearing completion. 11,000 playing yards, wide fairways on 270 acres established in 1989. American style greens, sand based and fully irrigated planted with pennecross. All tees fully irrigated and a minimum of 1000 sq. metres. Free draining course with water features part of the golfing strategy. Water supply of 46 million gallons available from winter storage. High spec new equipment with well stocked modern workshop and resident fitter. Magnificent 16,000 sq. ft. clubhouse. Our aim is simple: to create the best. The person required must have the knowledge and experience to realise its potential. Accommodation available if required. If you feel that you can convince us that you have the commitment and background to be part of the team, please contact in writing in the strictest confidence:

Mr R. Harrison, Business Manager, The Vale Golf & Country Club, Hill Furze Road, Bishampton, Nr. Pershore, Worcs WR10 2LZ



SWINTON PARK GOLF CLUB

require a

COURSE MANAGER DESIGNATE

Who will be responsible for the maintenance and development of this 18 hole golf course.

Applicants must be fully qualified and experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping and turf culture. A practical knowledge of the use and maintenance of modern machinery and the ability to control and motivate staff are essential.

Salary negotiable according to qualifications and experience.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:

**Green Chairman, Swinton Park Golf Club,
East Lancashire Road, Swinton, Manchester
M27 1LX**

HOTEL TREUDELBERG

Golf & Country Club, Hamburg

A member of the Whitbread PLC

require a

DEPUTY COURSE MANAGER

Applications are invited for this challenging position at the newly built Hotel Golf and Country Club in Hamburg, Germany. The Golf Course (18 holes + 3 hole academy + 9 hole Pitch & Putt) is due to open in spring 1992.

A thorough knowledge of all aspects of course maintenance is essential together with at least 3 years practical experience and knowledge of the German language. Assistance will be given with finding accommodation.

Here is your chance to join Country Club Hotel's exciting new venture into Europe.

Please apply together with a current CV to:

Bob Hargreaves, Course Manager, Hotel Treudenberg, Golf & Country Club Hamburg, Lemsahler Landstrasse 45, 2000 Hamburg 65, Germany

St Andrews

HEAD GREENKEEPER — EDEN COURSE



The current Head Greenkeeper has moved on to become Course Manager at a 36-hole location and an immediate replacement is sought.

The Eden Course lies alongside the Eden estuary, has comprehensive irrigation installed and is an integral part of the St Andrews Links complex of five 18 hole courses and one 9 hole course. The course has a SSS of 70 and measures 6,315 yards. Major competitions are played over the Eden Course in August each year.

The Head Greenkeeper will have full authority and responsibility for managing his course, including preparation and control of annual budgets; he will enjoy the advantages of a first class range of maintenance machinery and the stimulus of working in close co-operation with other Head Greenkeepers, as well as being part of the team which is involved

in the Dunhill Cup each year and regularly hosts the Open Championship.

Applicants will be expected to provide evidence of excellent organisational and management skills, together with sound qualifications and experience in practical greenkeeping, either as a Head Greenkeeper or as first-assistant at a location enjoying a high reputation for the quality of course presentation.

A competitive salary, commensurate with the importance of the position, together with a first class pension fund and favourable terms of employment, is offered.

Please write, giving full details of qualifications and experience, to:

The Secretary, St Andrews Links, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9JA, Scotland.

COODEN BEACH GOLF CLUB

Due to Retirement

Applications are invited for the position of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Salary negotiable according to age and experience

Apply in writing with full CV to:

**The Secretary
Cooden Beach Golf Club
Cooden Sea Road
Nr. Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex TN39 4TR**



John Jacobs Golf Associates Limited

On behalf of Colne Valley Golf Company Limited, John Jacobs Golf Associates is recruiting an Assistant Course Manager for a prestigious 18-hole John Jacobs designed golf course at Denham, Buckinghamshire.

The course has a combination of conventional and Pennstate grasses and will be maintained to the highest standards under the control of a Course Manager

ASSISTANT COURSE MANAGER

To act as the deputy to the Course Manager and exercise overall responsibility and control in his absence.

With a staff of 15 and the latest maintenance and irrigation equipment, proven management ability and skills will be necessary for this post.

Applicants must have City & Guilds Greenkeeping Grades I, II and III, with high grade passes and a minimum of 4 years experience at 1st Assistant or Assistant Head Greenkeeper level.

The Course Management operation will be administered by the TRIMS software, therefore computer skills will be an advantage.

Purpose built greenkeeping facilities will provide an excellent working environment and a salary above BIGGA recommended rate be paid to the successful applicant.

Application to the above post, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, must include full personal and career details together with the names and addresses of two referees and should be made in writing to:-

**JOHN JACOBS GOLF ASSOCIATES LIMITED,
68A HIGH STREET,
WALKERN,
STEVENAGE,
HERTS SG2 7PG.**

Tel: 0438 861 438
Fax: 0438 861 788



DYKE GOLF CLUB

require a

FIRST ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER or EXPERIENCED ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be suitably qualified in all aspects of course and machinery management. Salary/wage equivalent to BIGGA recommendations according to qualifications. No accommodation.

Applications in writing with full CV to:

**The Secretary/Manager, Dyke Golf Club Ltd.,
Dyke Road, Brighton BN1 8YJ**

SUNNINGDALE GOLF CLUB

has a vacancy for a

YOUNG GREENKEEPER

with or without basic experience.

A suitable appointee, with career ambitions, will be offered formal academic training after one year.

Accommodation available. Apply:-

The Course Manager, Sunningdale Golf Club,
Ascot, Berkshire SL5 9RR. Phone 0344 24306



A qualified

HEAD GREENKEEPER

is required to develop and maintain Brinsbury College's nine hole golf course.

This course, currently being constructed, will be used for the education of trainee greenkeepers, turf managers, teaching golf and will be for the use of a small private membership.

An interest in education, turf management, conservation and the ability to communicate at all levels will be a requirement of this post.

For an application form and job specification contact:

Brinsbury College

The West Sussex College of Agriculture and Horticulture,
North Heath, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 1DL.
Tel: Pulborough (07982) 3832 Fax: (07982) 5222



The closing date for applications will be two weeks from the publication of this advertisement.

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

For new 9 Hole Parkland Course

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons aged 20-35 years.

An ability to motivate and manage staff is essential. Salary: negotiable.



Please apply in writing to:

**Paul Harley – Head Greenkeeper, Leatherhead Golf Centre,
Oaklawn Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 0BT**

STADDON HEIGHTS GOLF CLUB

invite applications for the position of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping and have a practical knowledge of modern machinery and irrigation systems.

Accommodation is not available. Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing to the Secretary enclosing CV.

**Staddon Heights Golf Club
Staddon Heights
Plymstock, Plymouth
Devon PL9 9SP**

SCRAPTOFT GOLF CLUB (Leicestershire)

immediately require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be suitably qualified and experienced in course management.

The ability to organise and encourage greenstaff is essential.

Salary is negotiable and accommodation is available.

Replies in writing with CV to:

**The Secretary, Scraftoft Golf Club,
Beeby Road, Scraftoft, Leicester LE7 9SJ**

Moorhall Golf Club

requires an

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

for this prestigious Midlands course. Applicants should be experienced in all aspects of golf course maintenance.

Please apply in writing with CV to:

**The Course Manager
Moorhall Golf Club, Moorhall Drive,
Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham B75 6LN**



Golf-Club Sylt e.V.

**NORTH SEA ISLAND
GERMANY**

require a **HEAD GREENKEEPER**

Applicants should be experienced in all aspects of Greenkeeping and modern golf course machinery. Knowledge of German language an advantage. Closing date of entry 30.6.91. Replies in writing with full CV to:

**Golf Club SYLT e.V., Golfplatz, 2283 Wenningstedt,
Germany**

Buyers' Guide

The most cost-effective way of reaching readers of Greenkeeper International. Simply ring 03473 581/2 and ask about an alphabetical category listing: the cost starts from the equivalent of under £21 per month.

Arboriculture



All sizes of tree moving machines available for hire. Most machines equipped with flotation tyres. Also massive stocks of Nursery Grown Trees in all sizes.

Contact:

RUSKINS TREE MOVING LTD
Wolves Farm, Wyatts Green,
Brentwood, Essex CM15 0QE
Tel: 0277 353436
Fax: 0277 353916
Mobile: 0831 174 704

DOLWIN AND GRAY

(1969-1990)

Arboriculture and Forestry
Consultants and Contractors
Approved Landscape Contractors
Game Covert Design (SE England)

Alpha House
Crowborough Hill
Crowborough
East Sussex
TN6 2EG
Tel (0892) 664612



LARGE TREES

FOR INSTANT MATURITY!

Supplied and planted nationwide from our extensive nursery stocks exceeding 200 varieties and species. Also our Tree Spades on 4 x 4 Tractors transplant trees on site economically.

CIVIC TREE CARE LTD.

102 High Street, Tring, Herts. HP23 4AF
Telephone 044282 5401
and 081 950 4491
FAX 0442 890275
Call us for stock list and advice.



Artificial Grass

UNIVERSAL MATERIALS CO. LTD.
The Golf Mat Specialists

UNIMAT AstroTurf

Also Easy Picker
Ball Harvesters and Washer
5/7 High Street,
Dorchester-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire OX9 8HH
Tel: (0865) 341580.
Fax: (0865) 341575

Bark

NATURAL ALTERNATIVE TO PEAT

Bark for Mulching, Walk Chips or Woodfibre for those woodland tracks and walkways between green and tee. Biomulch for large scale economic ground cover. Playbark for adventure playgrounds. Soil conditioners, top dressings and loam are all available. Telephone 0666 502711 or write for free colour brochures.

Tetbury, Glos GL8 8JG
Tel: 0666 502711
Fax: 0666 504398

MELCOURT INDUSTRIES LTD

Bins

LISTER

by

Green Brothers (Geebro) Ltd
South Road, Hailsham
BN27 3DT. Tel: (0323) 840771
Fax: (0323) 440109

Buildings



Storage for all your
greenkeeping equipment.
Elwell Buildings Ltd
021 553 5723

Cart Paths



FRANK SHEEHY
Cart Track
Specialists

Concrete or Tarmac.
Previous work:
New Monarchs,
Gleneagles,
Charlton Manor.

2 La Ronde Court,
Trinity Trees,
Eastbourne,
BN21 3LD
Tel: (0323) 20486

Why advertise in

GREENKEEPER
International?

... Because it works!
We know because of the
returned Reader Reply
cards. Take advantage of
them... IT'S FREE!

Compaction

THE PROBLEM...
COMPACTION
THE SOLUTION...
TWOSE 3 OR 7 LEG
TURF CONDITIONER

Nationwide hire from

PROFESSIONAL
GRASS CARE

Ring now for more information
on our specialist hire equipment
Tel: (0507) 600989
Fax: (0507) 609009

Compact 3 leg
18" wide
Standard 7 leg
60" wide



Compost



Compost and Top Dressings Manufacturer

A specially formulated
range of quality composts
to ensure strong, healthy plants.
Delivered pre packed or bulk

TUNSTALL BRAND COMPOSTS

Eden Park Ltd, Tunstall
Sittingbourne, Kent
Tel: 0795-471583/478108

Construction

Construction specialists in land development

Sportsfields, Golf courses,
Outdoor leisure parks and
conservation plantings.

Conservation & Leisure Ltd

Chapel Farm, By-Pass Road,
Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent
TN15 9AF.
Tel 0732 455244 Fax 0732 350351

Civic Contract Services

Low ground pressure machinery
used for all your on course con-
struction and drainage needs with
minimum disruption to play.



Progress Cottage
Buxton Road
Bakewell DE4 1DA
Tel 0629 814269
Mobile 0831 440131



Golf Build (UK) Ltd

GOLF COURSE AND
DRIVING RANGE
CONSTRUCTION

Sedlescombe, East Sussex
TN33 0SD
Tel: (0424) 870888
Fax: (0424) 870855

Construction specialists in land development

Sportsfields, Golf courses,
Outdoor leisure parks and
conservation plantings.

Conservation & Leisure Ltd

Chapel Farm, By-Pass Road,
Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent
TN15 9AF.
Tel 0732 455244 Fax 0732 350351



contractors

GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

include
FEASIBILITY
PLANNING PROGRESSION
DESIGN SPECIFICATION
CONSTRUCTION
DRIVING RANGES
GOLF COURSE DRAINAGE
High Street, Cranleigh, Surrey
Tel. (0483) 274800

AERATION & DRAINAGE SERVICES



Construction, alteration and
drainage - all areas
Contact: Paul or Lesley Wright
Aeration & Drainage Services
20 Westminster Close,
Eastbourne, Sussex BN22 0LQ
Tel: (0323) 506725
Mobile: (0860) 838241

R. A. SLEATH & SON

GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION AND DRAINAGE

Specialising in Golf Greens
Work undertaken for many leading
Golf Course Architects
Distance no object
Contact: Geoffrey R. Sleath
Tel: Rotherham (0709)
862109 or 862075

Course Accessories

TACIT

Looking for quality Golf Course Equipment?
Look for Tacit
48 Hillmorton Road, Rugby, CV22 5AD
Tel: (0788) 568818

Course Accessories

Pattison

Manufacturers and suppliers of course and driving range equipment.

Pattison & Co. Ltd
342 Selbourne Road, Luton,
Beds LU4 8NU
Tel: (0582) 597262
Fax: (0582) 505241



Midgley Nicholls

GOLF BALL DISPENSERS

Up to 50,000 ball capacity
Automatic Loading and Washing
Systems. Full Guarantee and Servicing
Manufactured in England by
BHN Engineering Limited

Also suppliers of a complete range of
ancillary equipment including
collectors, mats and balls, etc.

Tel: 0252 341665
Fax: 0273 571621
after office hours 0273 602637

Drainage



White Horse Contractors Limited

CONSTRUCTION
DRAINAGE
VERTIDRAINING

Tel: (0865) 736272

Fertilizers

Osmocote[®]N

Environment friendly 100% controlled
release nitrogen assures optimum
results. Detailed trial results by STRI on
request from

Sierra UK Ltd

61 Loughborough Road
West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7LA
Tel. (0602) 455100. Fax. (0602) 455311

Grass Cutting Equipment

Reconditioned Golf Course Machinery!

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
OR EXPORT. PHONE FOR
CURRENT CATALOGUE NOW

GREENSWARD
ENGINEERING COMPANY
(0532)
676000
OR DIALLING
FROM ABROAD
+ 44 532
676000



MOWER ACCESSORIES LTD

Manufacturers of high quality
lawnmower blades
and cylinders.
Suppliers of spares
and accessories.

65 Fornceft Street
Sheffield S4
Tel: 0742 765825
Fax: 0742 765855

Grass Germination



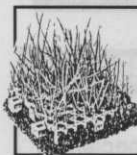
Grass Germination Sheet

- speeds up germination
- encourages rapid uniform growth

Tried, tested and proven by
groundsmen nationwide

Longbrook House, Ashton Vale Road, Bristol BS3 2HA
Tel: 0272 669684 Fax: 0272 231251

Grass Reinforcement



TECNOTILE

The flexible grass rein-
forcing surface available
in sheets of 10 sq. feet
Tel: 071 639 2846
Fax: 071 639 2618

Grass Seed Mixtures



Grass Seed Mixtures
For sports turf, amenity
and land reclamation use

Station Road, Finedon, Wellingborough,
Northamptonshire NN9 5NT
Telephone: Wellingborough (0933) 680891
Telex: 311234
Fax: (0933) 682022

MEMBERS OF A.G.M.A.
MEMBERS OF B.A.L.I.
MEMBERS OF B.G.C.C.

Grinding Machines

MOWER GRINDING MACHINES



ERIC HUNTER GRINDERS LTD

Hobson Industrial Estate,
Burnopfield,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE16 6EB
Tel: (0207) 70316.
Fax: (0207) 70312

Irrigation

PRIME WATERMEN LTD

Wangford, Beccles,
Suffolk NR34 8AX
Tel: 050 278 481
Fax: 050 278 729
Weathermatic Distributor



Water Quality Control

pH and chlorine control and dosing systems for
your irrigation water, for improved turf quality.
Nationwide installation and commissioning
service, and advice.

Contact Brian Sykes
STRANCO LTD
Commercial Road, Eastbourne,
East Sussex. Tel: (0323) 646163

TORO PAR 4

IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Installation Sales & Service
North & North East of England

Contact: E. B. & L. Simms
Tel: (0765) 602175. Fax: (0765) 603488
Par 4, Unit 18, Camphill Close, Dallamires
Lane, Ripon, N. Yorks HG4 1TT

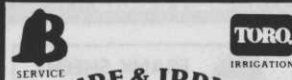


RAIN BIRD[®]

The unbeatable partnership
in golf course irrigation

RINGWOOD, HANTS, BH24 1PA

Tel: (0425) 472251
Fax: (0425) 472258



BELL TURF & IRRIGATION SERVICES

East Midlands Area
Installation, Sales and
Service
Everton, Doncaster, DN10 5DR
Tel: (0777) 817410

L.S. Systems

for
★ Water Storage Tanks ★
★ - Spraylances + Couplings ★
★ Domatic-Simple Fertilizer Dosing ★
★ Cooper Pegler Knapsack Sprayers ★
★ Pumps ★

- If it's water, contact Darren
at 188 Blackgate Lane,
Tarleton, Preston, Lancashire
on - 0772 815080
Fax - 0772 815417

FLANDERBLADE LTD.

Specialists in golf course irrigation
20 Whiteacre, Littlehampton,
West Sussex, BN17 7JA
Tel: (0903) 724545
Full member of B.T.I.A.

For all aspects of Golf Course

- Irrigation
- Installation
- Service
- Extensions/Improvements
- Pumping systems
- Advisory services



ILS, 34, Station Road,
Nassington,
Peterborough PE8 6QB.
Tel: (0780) 782375

T. & G. TURF IRRIGATION SERVICES

8 Whitcliffe Grove, Ripon,
North Yorkshire HG4 2JW
Tel: (0765) 2941 (0423) 864963
Full member of B.T.I.A.

BRITISH OVERHEAD IRRIGATION LTD.

- Manufacture Equipment
- Design and Install Systems

The Green, Upper Hallford,
Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 8RY
Tel. (0932) 788301. Fax. (0932) 780437

Mole Ploughs

L. D. BOURGEIN OXFORD LTD.

South Hinksey, Oxford OX1 5AZ
Tel: 0865 735420 Fax: 0865 326155



Sole UK Importers of
the CASE Mole Plow

Pumps

GRUNDFOS PUMPS

FOR SPORTS & RECREATIONAL
TURF IRRIGATION, BOOSTING
AND WATER SUPPLY

Contact our sales offices today for
full information on the Grundfos range

SOUTH: (0525) 850000
NORTH: (0925) 813300

GRUNDFOS

GRUNDFOS PUMPS LTD, GARDEN BURY ROAD,
LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS, LU2 8JL

Railway Sleepers

RAILWAY SLEEPERS

Top quality for bunkers, bridges,
etc. Prompt nationwide delivery.

Tel: (0483) 720455

J. HARVEY SERVICES
Downside Goods Yard
Guildford Road, Woking,
Surrey GU22 7QE

Sand/Silica Sand



The leading supplier of

MONEYSTONE
Britain's
most popular,
top quality
BUNKER SAND



1a Clifton Street, Alderley Edge,
Cheshire
Tel: Alderley Edge (0625) 584571/
585143. Fax: (0625) 586130

Sand

GARSIDE SANDS



Complete range of dried graded silica sands for all purposes
Contact John Deavan at 39 Hockliffe St., Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 8HB. Tel: (0525) 372201. Fax: (0525) 851572. Telex: 825868



MONEYSTONE BUNKER SAND

Granular and Free Draining
Delivered loose bulk, all parts.

For cheapest prices contact:

Jim Burrows at
M & B SUPPLIES
Paynter Street, Fenton,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST4 3JL
Tel: (0782) 598383
Fax: (0782) 598174

PROFESSIONAL TURF DRESSINGS FOR THE PROFESSION

Sand

All sand requirements catered for including lime free.
Also lime free Horticultural Grit - and Wood Chips. Nationwide deliveries.

Bailey's of Norfolk
Brick Kiln Rd, Hevingham, Norwich, Norfolk NR10 5NL.
Tel. 060 548 607. Mobile 0860 661603

CROW SAND & GRAVEL LTD

(Part of Gables Group)

Specialists in all types of sands and gravels contact:
DICK GUNN
at The Gables, Stanstead Road,
Elsenham, Essex, CM22 6LJ
Tel: 0279 647647. Fax: 0279 816627

TOP GRADE TOP DRESSINGS

Lime free, dried or moist - washed sands
Bulk 24 hour delivery

ARNOLD SANDS FOR INDUSTRY

Joseph Arnold and Sons Ltd
Billington Road Leighton Buzzard
Bedfordshire LU7 8TW
Telephone: 0525 372264
Facsimile: 0525 851620

RMC

Suppliers of all grades of sand and gravel drainage media.

HALL AGGREGATES (South East) LTD
RMC HOUSE, CANNING STREET,
MAIDSTONE, KENT ME14 2RX
Tel: (0622) 761281
Fax: (0622) 692433

BUCKLAND

Sand and Silica Company

COMPLETE RANGE OF HORTICULTURAL SANDS

South of England
Contact Lynda Jordan
Buckland Sand & Silica Co.
Reigate Heath, Reigate,
Surrey RH2 9RG
Tel: (0737) 240151

North of England
Contact: Tony Rodgers
Buckland Sand & Silica Co.
Blubberhouses, Otley,
West Yorkshire, LS21 2PN
Tel: (094388) 331

Seats

LISTER

by
Green Brothers (Geebro) Ltd
South Road, Hailsham
BN27 3DT. Tel: (0323) 840771
Fax: (0323) 440109

Screeners/Shredders



GRADEALL INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
Manufacturers of the S5100
Screener/Shredder

9 Furlough Road, Dungannon,
Northern Ireland BT71 4DT
Tel: 08687 40484 • Fax: 08687 48823

Signs

PEARTS QUICKSIGNS

Embossed aluminium and engraved signs.
Unit 9, Littlemead Ind. Est.,
Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8ND
Tel: (0483) 272329 Fax: (0483) 272329

Tee Mats

TUFTURF

ARTIFICIAL GRASS
TEE MATS
& PUTTING SURFACES
FROM

CARPETITION LTD.
14 Kaffir Road, Edgerton,
Huddersfield HD2 2AN.
Tel: (0484) 428777
Fax: (0484) 423251

Top Soil

DAWITHERS

(Established 27 years)

Suppliers of
TOP DRESSING
VARIOUS GRADES OF SCREENED
LOAMS AND TOPSOILS
BUNKER AND WASHED SAND
Honeypot Farm, Honeypot lane,
Edenbridge, Kent
0732 865433 (office)
0860 543370 (mobile)

PROFESSIONAL TURF DRESSINGS FOR THE PROFESSION

Screened Top Soil

Including the finest of Black Fenland soil.
Screened loams to customers' individual specifications.
Nationwide deliveries.

Bailey's of Norfolk

Brick Kiln Rd, Hevingham, Norwich
Norfolk NR10 5NL.
Tel. 060 548 607. Mobile 0860 661603

SCREENED TOP SOIL SUPPLIED AND DELIVERED COUNTRYWIDE
ALSO WOOD MULCH
For quotes ring

JAMES DANDY

Tel 0244 335775 Mobile 0836 598388

Trenchers

CASE TRENCHERS TRENCH EX PLANT SALES

Dove Fields, Uttoxeter, Staffs.
Fax: (0889) 563140.
Tel: (0889) 565155

Turf

INTURF

For High Quality Cultivated Turf
on the NEW BIG ROLL Turf Laying System
Tel: (0759) 304101 Fax: (0759) 305229

FRASER GROWN LAWN PROFESSIONAL



Specialists in growing all grades of turf aimed specifically for all aspects of golf course requirements. We deliver with our own fleet of vehicles with rear mounted fork lifts and HIAB mounted cranes, for your convenience.

Telephone

Chester (0244) 660901

Fax

Chester (0244) 660468

WE GROW TURF TO SUIT
THE FUTURE OF GOLF

Turf Dressings

FEN TURF DRESSINGS LTD

Manufacturers and distributors of
FENDRESS also Prescription Dressings
Contact: Fen Turf Dressings Ltd
2 Angel Court, Dairy Yard, High Street,
Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 7NL
Tel: Market Harborough (0858)
464346/433003. Fax: (0858) 434734

Rufford

TOP-DRESS SUPPLIES

Britain's **No. 1** for
QUALITY SERVICE
SHEER VALUE FOR MONEY
Nucks Wood Quarry, Wiggins Lane,
Rufford, Nr Southport, Lancs L40 1UJ.
Tel. (0925) 232476



The finest quality top dressings for fine turf

1a Clifton Street, Alderley Edge,
Cheshire
Tel: Alderley Edge (0625) 584571/
585143. Fax: (0625) 586130.

PROFESSIONAL TURF DRESSINGS FOR THE PROFESSION

Golf Turf Dressings

Professionally approved formulations for use in construction and on the finest greens. Tees and fairways. Nationwide deliveries.

Bailey's of Norfolk

Brick Kiln Rd, Hevingham, Norwich
Norfolk NR10 5NL.
Tel. 060 548 607. Mobile 0860 661603

Turf Netting

CONWED TURF REINFORCEMENT

'for the fastest turf production'
WEST MIDLAND TURF GROWERS
Tel: (074-631) 247 Fax: (0746) 767331

Verti-Drain Hire



VERTIDRAIN MACHINERY
SLIT DRAINAGE EQUIPMENT
AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
Contact Peter Holmes,
10 Carson Road,
Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 2RE
Tel: 0427 613035 • Mobile: 0831 359394

WORTH DRAINING

VERTIDRAIN HIRE

Contact Peter Bloodworth
WORTH DRAINING
Cornbecks Farm
Irnham, Grantham,
Lincolnshire 0476 84266

NBI BUTLERS TURF MAINTENANCE & MACHINERY

Gill Overseeder
Coremaster Hollow Corer
Top Dressing Machines
— all available for hire
Full range of secondhand
machinery available for sale
Tel: 081 974 2708
or 0831 364774

E & S SPORTSGROUND CONTRACTORS

39 Knox Green
Binfield, Bracknell,
Berks RG12 5NZ

Telephone:
0344 860690

Contact
Richard Veitch

Verti-Drain Hire

Vertidrain, Charterhouse Overseeder, Coremaster Hollow Corer - all available for hire.

New and used Compact Tractors and Sportsturf Equipment supplied including Lesco 300D Greensmower.

R. J. & J. CAMPEY

The Dairy, Marton Hall Lane, Marton, Macclesfield.
Tel 0260 224568 or 0860 451011

HERONFIELD HIRE (SOLIHULL)

Vertidrain, Moore Sportsfield Over-Seeder, Toro Aerators, Case Trenchers and Sportsfield Slitters, etc.

Contact: Doug or Ron Johnson
Tel: (0564) 772597

ROSS OLIVER

SPORTS GROUND CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

The most comprehensive service in the south west including

- VERTI-DRAIN for Greens and Sportsgrounds
- RYAN HOLLOW TYNER
- SAND SPREADERS
- DIRECT DRILLS

Contact: Ross Oliver, Greystones, Trebudannon, Cornwall, TR8 4LP
Tel: (0637) 880257

Classified

Golf Course Machinery

LODGEWAY TURFCARE

Specialists in:

- ☆ Low Pressure Conversion Kits
 - ☆ Iseki Compact Tractors
 - ☆ Iseki Greencare Equipment
 - ☆ Lesco Greens Mowers
 - ☆ Lesco Gang Mowers
 - ☆ Allen Products
 - ☆ Zetor 50 HP Fairway Tractors.
- Tyre and wheel advice given on course (no obligation)
Modify your tractor for fairway duties

Lodgeway Tractor Co. Ltd.
Chicksands, Shefford, Beds SG17 5QB
Contact: Chris Rook (0462) 816122
After hours: (0767) 40626 - Mobile: (0860) 898747
Fax: (0462) 850852

Irrigation

LEEDSA MINERAL SERVICES GROUP

Is your water too expensive?
It may be cost effective to have your own supply. Contact G. Riddler for surveys to locate and quantify sources suitable for irrigation purposes.

Tel: 0532 758857
Fax 0532 304730

Turf Dressings

BL BOUGHTON LOAM LTD.

Producers and Suppliers of the "Top of the Table"

Range of **Turf Dressings**

Bunker Sands, Screened Loam & Topsoils, Horticultural Composts.

Telford Way, Telford Way Industrial Estate, Kettering, Northants. Tel: 0536 510515



GreenWoods of the South of England

TOP DRESSING

- Top Soil
- Screened Loams
- Construction Mixes
- Sands
- Horticultural Composts
- 24 Hour Delivery

- Greens and Tees constructed by the Professionals

Tel: 081 546 3960
Fax: 081 547 1923

Established over 23 years

Marygrove

THE BEST

TOP DRESSING

WITH OPTIONAL SEAWEED ADDITIVES

Plus Bark, Fen and Meadow Loams, Silica Sands, Peat, Fertilisers, Manures and Grass Seed Mixtures

Manor Farm, Abbotsley, Cambs PE19 4UW

Call Carol:
Tel: (07677) 296
Fax: (07677) 7901

RECRUITMENT

NENAGH GOLF CLUB

Co. Tipperary • Ireland

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

To take charge of our 18 hole mature inland Golf Course.

Applicants should be fully qualified and experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping. A practical knowledge of modern machinery and the ability to organise and motivate staff are essential requirements.

Salary and conditions negotiable depending on qualifications and experience.

(No accommodation available).

Applications in writing, enclosing a full CV

to:

Hon. Secretary
Nenagh Golf Club
Beechwood, Nenagh
Co. Tipperary

Aeration

TURF AERATION THE EASY WAY TORO HYDROJECT FOR HIRE

Aerate throughout the growing season without disturbing the playing surface.

ALSO FOR HIRE
52" ride on rotaries

D&E Turf Maintenance
Tel: 0388 772844
or 0836 376944

Grass Cutting Equipment

F.A.R.M. Ltd

For the best in Rotary and Flail Mowers.
Front Mounted/Rear Mounted with side or rear discharge.
4' to 7'6" cutting width
Rotary Tillers
Compact Power Harrows

Further details:
Tel: 0386 765770
0386 442082
Fax: 0386 765183

For Sale

STOCK CLEARANCE SALE

Two Classon tractor-mounted aerators. Model 800. RSP £6,995 **SALE PRICE** £5,000 ono
Two Woods backhoes, less bucket. Model BH750. RSP £3,750 **SALE PRICE** £2,100
One 12" bucket for above RSP £210 **SALE PRICE** £150
One 18" bucket for above RSP £245 **SALE PRICE** £175

All prices subject to VAT

Contact PAUL BUXTON on 081-337 7791

T. PARKER & SONS (Turf Management) Ltd.
Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 7NF

Machinery Hire

TURF MACHINERY HIRE

Consult the specialists for: Vertidrain, Overseeding, Topdressing, Hollowtining and Core Collection.

Fairway/Sportsground Verticutting Machinery for hire

Phone Woking
(0483) 764467

RECRUITMENT

● Continued from Pages 37 - 40

Bristol and Clifton Golf Club

requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited from experienced greenkeepers who possess the necessary management and supervisory skills with appropriate greenkeeping qualifications and detailed knowledge of the use and maintenance of modern machinery.

Salary negotiable in line with B.I.G.G.A. scale.

No Accommodation available.

Replies in writing with full C.V. together with name and address of two referees to:

**The Managing Secretary
Bristol & Clifton Golf Club**

Beggar Bush Lane, Failand, Bristol, BS8 3TH

DUNWOOD MANOR GOLF CLUB

requires a

Deputy Head Greenkeeper

The successful applicant should be fully qualified and possess practical knowledge and experience.

Salary in line with BIGGA rates.

No accommodation available.

Replies in writing with CV to:

**Mr P. Dawson, Dunwood Manor Golf Club,
Shootash Hill, Romsey, Hants, SO51 0GF**

AROUND THE GREEN

36 → in the victorious team of three years ago at Ipswich.

Muir of Ord greenkeeper, Steven MacIntosh, came extremely close to having a dream start to his golfing season. Wielding a Torrance style putter, he was only beaten at the first extra hole play-off for the 72 hole Scottish Champion of Champions Tournament at Leven. Entry is by invitation only with players qualifying by winning either a district or national title in 1990.

I sincerely hope that by the time this report is published members everywhere will have something to celebrate, with grass actually growing. Although things looked promising for a while, strong winds and falling temperatures throughout April sent the grass positively diving for cover! With the season a month or so old I'm sure Club members fail to understand our problems and wonder why our courses - some of which are not too far from the Arctic Circle - are not quite in the same condition as Augusta National during Masters week.

GORDON MOIR

NORTH WEST

How are you all managing with this weather? April is drawing to a close, the sun is shining, the spring shrubs are flowering and even the birds are nesting. Yet the grass refuses to grow! These dry springs with cold northerly winds are not helping at all, tending to create a late start to the year. However, I'm sure that once the ground has warmed and the grass begins to shoot you will read these notes in June and wonder what the Hell I'm rabbiting on about! So to other business.

The inaugural annual tournament between the North West and North Wales Sections has just taken place at Llangollen GC, finishing as a halved match. Eight matches were scheduled but our 'three musketeers', Andy Peel; Howard Roberts and Ken Ramsbottom, attempted to get to Wales in a clapped-out old banger and broke down. Two of the Welsh team turned up at the wrong course and were late, the results being taken from just five matches. The day was sponsored by Alan Birch of A C and M Birch Golf Signs, who not only donated a trophy for annual play but also paid for all meals on the day. Thanks, Alan, your generosity is much appreciated.

The next tournament is our 'Reg Vickers Memorial' at Birchwood → 46

RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE

RFE

Turf Machinery Ltd

Machinery to the Professionals

Wedglen Industrial Estate, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9RE
Tel: (0730) 815775. Fax: (0730) 815844

**THE SPECIALISTS IN NEW AND PROFESSIONALLY RECONDITIONED
TURF MACHINERY — WITH OUR OWN WORKSHOPS TO PROVIDE THE
VITAL AFTER SALES AND MAINTENANCE SERVICE**

Our Midsummer Sale Includes:

Ford 1210 - complete with front loader b/hoe
Howard Price 727 Rotaries - New - P.O.A.
Jacobsen TriKing 3WD - Petrol
Jacobsen Greensking - Petrol
Kubota F2000
Royer Power Screen - as new
Royer Shredder - Petrol - Shopsoiled

Ransomes 340 TG Magnas
Ransomes 214 Magnas
Ransomes Super Certes
Ransomes Towed Gangs - choice
Ryan Turf Cutter
Toro 216
Twose Vibrating Turf Conditioner



PRICES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST
**NATIONWIDE SPARE PARTS
SERVICE**

For all main brands of
professional machinery

Main dealers for Allen - Easy Picker - Iseki - Jacobsen - Woods

We buy and sell - always willing to take part exchange

★ **SPECIAL** ★
BEAVER TM 509
Hydraulic Gangs
Floating Heads
£4000

RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE EXPORT FACILITIES AVAILABLE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE - RFE

45 ➤ GC on July 4th. Soup and sandwiches will be served between noon and 1.00 pm, with tee-off at 1.30 pm. Cost is £15.00, with dinner and presentation taking place in the evening. Smart dress is essential. Any enquiries please ring me on 051 724 5412.

BERT CROSS

NORTHERN

It must be Spring at last, for our golf is underway. Forty members turned up at Wetherby to play Ian Thompson's well turned-out course on what was a grand day for golf. One of the stalwarts of our section, Colin Garnett, had a magnificent day in winning the morning Stableford including a hole-in-one, making it a clean sweep in the afternoon by winning the Medal with a 62! The qualifiers for the ISEKI Regional Finals are: E.Walsh; M Hannan; G Wilson; R Johnson; D Spurden; M Bryant; M Lealman; R Smith; C Garnett; G Hope; D Anderson and L Kirkbright. Well done everyone. Regional Administer, Howard McCaddey, will be in contact with full details of the final.

Many thanks to everyone at Wetherby for making this such a splendid day and to Aitkins, Patissons and Maxwell Hart for filling our prize table. Members should note that the Yorkshire Mowers sponsored invitation day is fully subscribed but places are still available for the Autumn Tournament and the Roses Match. The Roses, incidently, is still free thanks to the generous support of Patissons.

BOB LUPTON

SHEFFIELD

The President's Prize held at Coxmoor GC on April 3rd was a great success, with 36 members and four traders present on a sunny though windy day. The winners were: 1st - Ian Whitehead (Hallamshire GC) 40 points. 2nd - P Unwin 38 pts. 3rd - E Marsh 36 pts. 4th - K B Heaney 36 pts. 5th - P Lyons 35 pts. 6th - J Kirkham 34 pts. This competition was also an ISEKI qualifying round, the qualifiers being: (0-9) K B Heaney; S Currie; J Ryan. (10-18) I Whitehead; E Marsh; P Lyons. Reserve J K Kirkham. (19-28) P Unwin; P Stain; B V Lax. Reserve T Wadkin. These players will compete at Keswick GC on June 19th in the Northern Regional Final.

We thank Coxmoor GC for courtesy of their course at short notice, the steward and staff for a lovely meal and Kevin Atherton and his staff for the super condition of the course. Additionally a special thank you to Brian Booth of Rigby Taylor for

AROUND THE GREEN

supplying beautiful glassware as prizes and to other trade members who donated so generously to our prize table. Finally thanks to Barry Heaney for his organisation of the event, without which it wouldn't have been possible. Last year's ISEKI champion, John Lax, has been knocked out early this year, no doubt due to playing with Derek, who brought John down to his level!

Following golf just one day later came our winter lecture, which was disappointingly attended by only 18 members, a reduction of 50% on the previous day's turn-out. The talk was given by Ian Misselbrook from Tillers Turf, to whom we offer thanks for a fine presentation and apologies for the lack of member support. The next date for your diary is our 27 hole Annual Tournament at Hillsborough GC on July 17th

IAN COLLETT

DEVON and CORNWALL

Our Guest Day meeting was held at Launceston GC on April 10th, with a bonus of witnessing so many Club secretaries and green committee officials as our members guests. The results of a combined Stableford score competition were: 1st - T Bennett and R Harris - 62 points. 2nd - E Barber and P Pearman - 61 points. 3rd - C Kitto and L Grindley - 60 points. Following an excellent meal the prizes were presented by our sponsors, Mr A Dommett of Devon Garden Machinery and Mr F Parkin of Mitchell, the Jacobsen dealers for Devon and Cornwall. An additional prize was given by Mr E Simcox of Jacobsens. Our thanks to them all and a special thanks to George Bailey and his staff, who prepared the course in their usual fine style, to the catering team for a superb meal and to Launceston GC for their generosity.

I would like to wish those who qualified for the ISEKI Regional Final the best of good fortune at Tredegar Park on June 27th - come back with winning smiles.

RICHARD WHYMAN

We lay the Big Rolls

For the best finish and fastest establishment

A variety of turf grades available, laid more efficiently and economically in big 25 sq.yd. rolls.

Please send me without obligation
 More information/demonstration Please tick
 A quotation/site visit

Name _____ GI.6.91
 Address _____



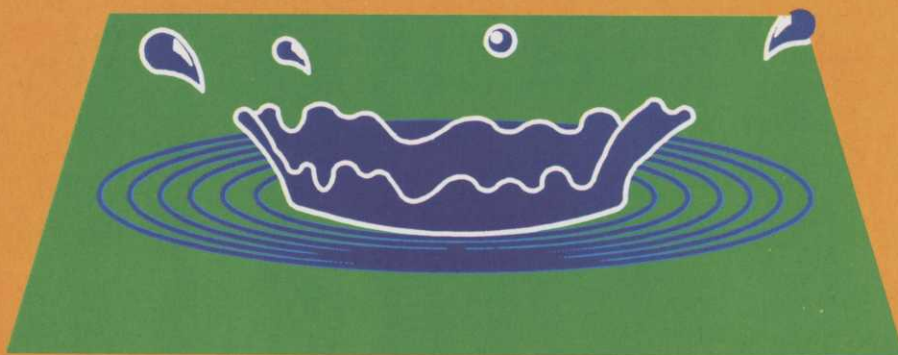


**LAWN[®]
TECH**
THE PERFECT LAWN ON A ROLL

Wetta Soil



CASTLEMAINE



**GREENKEEPERS WOULDN'T GIVE
A XXXX FOR ANY OTHER
WETTING AGENT.**

**KEEP YOUR TURF IN SHAPE THIS SUMMER WITH
WETTA SOIL AUSTRALIA'S NO.1 WETTING AGENT
AND**

**WITH EVERY 20LTS PURCHASED KEEP YOURSELF
COOL WITH A FREE COOL BOX PACKED WITH
CASTLEMAINE ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S MOST POPULAR
LAGERS.**

**SIMPLY COMPLETE THE READER REPLY PAID CARD IN
THIS MAGAZINE.**



MAXWELL HART

HEAD OFFICE

Winnersh, WOKINGHAM, Berkshire RG11 5HF
Telephone: Wokingham 0734 785655 Facsimile: 0734 785805

NORTHERN SALES & DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

17 Adlington Court, Birchwood, WARRINGTON, Cheshire WA3 6PL
Telephone: Padgate 0925 825501 Facsimile: 0925 812712

**OFFER CLOSES
30/7/91**

TORO Relieve Turf Stress (And Yours!)

... and now Toro the leaders of Turf Maintenance Technology proudly introduce a revolutionary concept to the practice of aeration ...

TORO HYDROJECT™ 3000



The Hydroject will aerate any soil type with high velocity water jets no matter how compacted, penetration to depths of between 4" to 20" ... with virtually no turf surface disturbance.



in a class of their own

To find out more about the truly exceptional Hydroject 3000 phone or pop the coupon in the post and TORO will be delighted to let you have 'facts and figures' that will amaze you and why not ... we're the world leaders!



TORO

distributed by

LELY (UK) LIMITED

Station Road, St Neots, Huntingdon, Cambs PE19 1QH
Tel: 0480 76971 Telex: 32523 Fax: 0480 216167

Please send illustrated literature of the TORO Hydroject™ 3000

Name

Address

Post Code

Tel

Gl.6.91