

JUNE 1992

GREENKEEPER

International



Flying the flag
for BIGGA's

NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Littlestone
August 10-12





Modus

Puts the **CARE** into **TURF**



Mainframe System

The Modus T Mainframe - 4, 6, or 8ft. working widths. Of proven durable construction with a wide range of implements to fit it's hydraulically controlled inner-frame.

- * Deep and Surface Aerators
- * Brush Banks and Conditioners
- * Rollers and Scarifiers

AND

The ingenious Terracore - a reliable mechanical corer at around a third of the cost of it's powered equivalent.

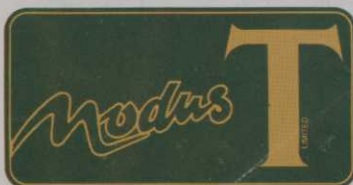


**IN THE FOREFRONT
OF TURF CARE MANAGEMENT**

Send for details of your **LOCAL** dealer
and arrange for a **FREE** demonstration.

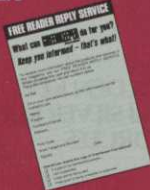
FREEPOST, The Brewery Park Industrial Estate, New Street, Wem,
Shropshire SY4 5DT Tel.: (0939) 233213 Fax: (0939) 233682

**NEW
MANAGEMENT
NEW
MODELS**



ALL THE DETAILS YOU NEED

Our **FREE READER REPLY SERVICE** keeps YOU in the picture



Use the post-paid Reader Reply Card facing Page 42 for further information on the products and services advertised in this issue. Just state the companies' Ad Ref numbers and leave it to us.

ADVERTISERS' INDEX
a quick reference guide

	Ad Ref	Page
AF Trenchers	203	4
Brian D Pierson	40	27
Briggs & Stratton		
	225	20
Cleveland Sitesafe		
	56	8
D&E Turf Maintenance		
	323	42
Devenish	307	42
Dixon & Holliday		
	214	24
Elwell Buildings	366	8
Esso	367	22
FAF	368	17
Fairway Golf Accessories		
	369	8
Farmura	88	16
Fen Turf Dressings		
	168	29
Hole in White	350	30
JH Hancox	370	20
Lely (UK) Ltd	61	43
Lease Management Services		
	371	17
Maxicrop	174	30
Modus T	62	2
Pattisson	35	24
Rhône Poulenc	59	4
Scandor Landscapes		
	338	8
Toro Irrigation	79	44
Town & Country	358	15
Watermation	33	27
Colleges		6, 31
Buyers Guide		35-38
Classified		38
Recruitment		7, 31, 39-41



Official publication of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association

JUNE 1992

GREENKEEPER

International

CONTENTS

Another winner for Westurf

'Enthusiasm' is the word which sums up South West and South Wales' trade show, with over 1,000 visitors and healthy trade support. David White reports from Long Ashton Golf Club.....Page 29



Management Courses have so much to offer

You chance to book your place on a selection of week-long courses aimed at improving the greenkeeper's lotPage 26

Further boost for profession

The future's looking good with more donations to the Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund.....Page 4

Grand by name...

Littlestone Golf Club's Malcolm Grand is gearing up for the BIGGA National Golf Tournament.....Pages 18-19

Which engine - petrol or diesel?

We look at pros and consPages 23-25

DEPARTMENTS

Letters

Why do companies offer brochures but not price lists? Is golf turning into a water sport? All these and more in our premier postbagPages 24-25

Faces and places

John Souter meets another BIGGA, a giant bridge for Aldwark Manor golfers... It's the page which tells you what's going on Page 5

Around the Green

Updates from our regional correspondents. Find out what's happeningPages 31-34, 42

COVER PICTURE:

Littlestone Golf Club, venue for BIGGA's National Golf Tournament. See our feature on Pages 18-19



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

BIGGA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Chairman: Roy Kates
Vice-Chairman: John Crawford

BOARD MEMBERS

Ivor Scoones George Malcolm
Harry Diamond Barry Heaney
Hugh Parry Paddy McCarron
John Millen George Barr

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, Universal Crescent, Houghton Road, North Anston Trading 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 Firl 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

© 1992 British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association



Take a closer look at what Greenkeeper

International can do to promote YOUR business

Here's what one of our advertisers has to say about the industry's most effective magazine:

"Kubota are major suppliers to the turf care industry and our compact tractors are widely used on golf courses throughout the UK. Greenkeeper International provides a vital link between ourselves and the purchasers of golf course equipment."

- BRIAN HURTLEY,
Vice President - Director,
Kubota (UK)

Find out more:

call Bill Lynch on 091 413 7218, Carol Dutton on 0207 570117 or BIGGA HQ on 03473 581.



BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition and Seminar Programme 1993

The BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition and Seminar Programme is now recognised as the industry's most significant indoor event. Contact Debbie Savage on 03473 581 for a BTME 1993 Information Pack and find out how your company can take part.

Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

Launched by Viscount Whitelaw at BTME 1992, the Fund provides the key to the future for greenkeeper, golf club and game. Individuals and companies can join the Golden Key Circle and Silver Key Circle. For details, contact BIGGA on 03473 581.

GOLDEN KEY CIRCLE COMPANY MEMBERS:
Iseki UK Ltd • ICI Professional Products • Toro Irrigation
Lely UK Ltd • Rufford Top Dress Supplies Ltd
Kubota UK Ltd • Lindum Seeded Turf • Hardi Ltd.



BIGGA GOLDEN KEY and SILVER KEY CIRCLES

Cash pours in to boost profession's future



The Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund continues to grow.

Former members of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association will be interested to note that the Trust fund established to administer the funds of the former Association has now been finally wound up by the Trustees and a second and final cheque paid into the Education and Development Fund. The fund has benefitted thereby to the extent of £22,611.53 and this has provided a firm base for the new fund to move forward and further advance the status of the profession and standards of golf course management. Over the last five years the Trust Fund has been wisely administered by Alan Gamble, Ivor Scoones, Alan Kite and the late Water Heeles. The thanks of all members are due for their stewardship.

Following the report in the May magazine that Gordon Child and Norman Exley have become members of the Silver Key Circle, another Regional Administrator, Elliott Small has joined them in membership. It is particularly encouraging that Association members wish to support the new fund and we look

forward to seeing Gordon, Norman and Elliott sporting their attractive silver key ties.

A donation of £1,000 has been received from the Golf Society of Great Britain. In expressing every good wish and encouragement for the Association's work, the Golf Society is pledged to support the amateur game and in pursuance of this sees the furtherance of the aims of the Association as highly appropriate. Neil Thomas, Executive Director comments: "This most welcome donation is further evidence of an increasing momentum within the game to support BIGGA's aims and objectives. This donation follows a previous donation in 1991 and the Association's Board of Management wishes to express its great appreciation to the Society."

The Golf Society of Great Britain was founded in 1955 by the late Sir Aynsley Bridgland of Princes Golf Club and aims to promote goodwill and the interests of ama-



Elliott Small

teur golf. It is non-profit making and donates large sums to golf's governing bodies towards international match expenses.

It is also most pleasing to report that the first donation has been received from one of BIGGA's sections. A cheque for £200 was recently presented by the Scottish Region Central Section and BIGGA Vice-Chairman John Crawford, who is also Secretary of the Central Section, reports that the donation was made possible by the section setting-up its own Education Fund a few years ago and that hopefully donations such as this can be continued in future years. Executive Director, Neil Thomas commented: "I am delighted at Central Section's initiative and it is the support now forthcoming from our membership which will give a real boost to the fund. Contributing Regions and Sections will be presented with plaques in recognition of their support. The progress of the fund since its launch by our President, Viscount Whitelaw, at the BTME in January has exceeded my expectations and enhanced promotion and financing of educational programmes in the future new seems assured."

The expert at your fingertips!

DATACHEM

DATACHEM is an easy-to-use computer software package to aid in the safe, accurate and efficient use of amenity pesticides.

DATACHEM is packed with a range of features beneficial to the pesticide user in any amenity and sports turf situation.

DATACHEM can be operated on most IBM compatible computers and is available on either 5.25" or 3.5" disks.



For more details: Phone Siôn Price on 0277 261414 ext: 272 or send coupon.

PLEASE SEND ME FURTHER DETAILS ON DATACHEM

Name

Company

Address

Phone

Rhône-Poulenc Environmental Products
Regent House, Hubert Road,
Brentwood, Essex CM14 4TZ

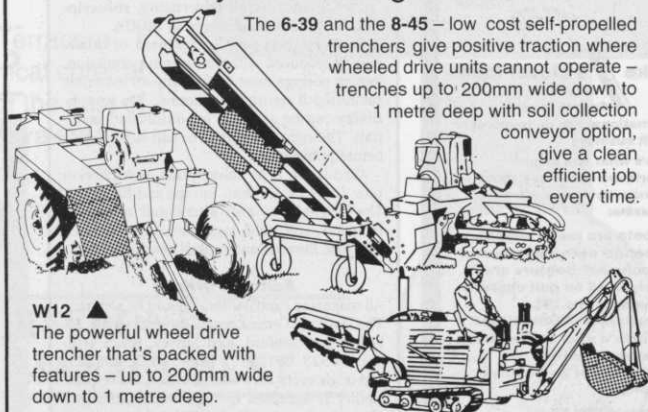


GI 6.92

AFT

The fairway to better drainage

The complete range of trenchers for today's modern golf course



The 6-39 and the 8-45 - low cost self-propelled trenchers give positive traction where wheeled drive units cannot operate - trenches up to 200mm wide down to 1 metre deep with soil collection conveyor option, give a clean efficient job every time.

W12 ▲
The powerful wheel drive trencher that's packed with features - up to 200mm wide down to 1 metre deep.

B-30
Vibratory mole plow/ trencher now available - ask for details.

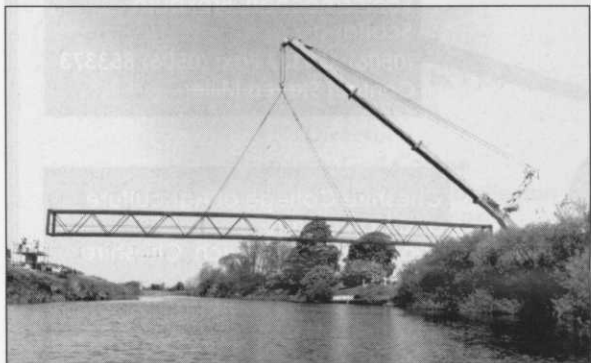
TRACKED TRENCHERS ▲
Three models to suit all applications and all soil types - the complete answer to heavyweight trenching.



AFT TRENCHERS LTD
Edgworth Road, Sudbury CO10 6TG
Tel: 0787 311811 Fax: 0787 310888

■ The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has announced that it will open a fully-staffed office in Singapore to manage membership activities and services in the Pacific Rim countries. Services will include education and training, certification, publications, conferences, trade shows and research – the same as in the United States. Their new operations will cover Japan, Guam, Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, Korea, The Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand and India.

GCSAA President William R. Roberts said emerging governmental interest and concern over environmental and development issues are driving the need for long term education and quality control throughout this region. GCSAA currently has a growing number of members in this area. Nearly 4,000 golf courses are in operation and hundreds more are planned or under construction.



■ Golfers at Aldwark Manor, built in 1876 and headquarters of BIGGA, had to give way to a giant crane recently as a 30 tonne 60 metre span bridge was eased into place between the fairways. Engineers used a 500 tonne mobile crane to lift the steel frame timber decked bridge, which now stands as a splendid course feature and access for golfers and maintenance machinery over the River Ure, running through the picturesque 6,171 yard Par 71 parkland course. This operation brings to an end a two-year project to extend the original nine holes (opened in 1978) to eighteen, and is the first new bridge to span the Ure since 1887, when Aldwark Toll Bridge was re-constructed.

The full 18 holes are now in play, making Aldwark Manor one of the few new courses in the region to be actively encouraging new members. Continued improvements to the golf and hotel complex has seen membership rise steadily and this now stands at 300 for the original nine-hole course.

Aldwark's new owners, Chessingham plc, awarded the bridge design and build contract to Beazer Construction NW Ltd, who in turn appointed Ove Arup and Partners to act as construction engineers and designers.

and Graham Paul. Graham is well known through several years with Rhone-Poulenc and takes over most of North London, Essex and Suffolk. John spent several years with Supaturf and takes over the South Midlands area. All four are BASIS certified, as indeed are all members of the Sta-Brite sales team.

■ Willie Arnold, long time 'Toro Man' in the north of Scotland, has moved to larger premises. His new address is Poynerneuk, Pitgair, by Turriff, AB5 37RZ. Tel: 08885 624.

■ Visiting the Shetlands recently, Scottish turfgrass consultant John Souter happened upon a ferry which connects the Shetlands to one of the northern isles called Yell. Imagine his surprise on discovering the ferry was named BIGGA. The explanation is that there are two islands around Yell, one called Bigga – the big isle; and the other called Langa, the long isle. The question must be posed – will members be able to negotiate advantageous terms?



■ Otterbine Barebo Inc., the acknowledged world leaders in water quality management and based in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, USA, are currently advertising their products in our magazine and of course you can contact them direct.

Nearer to home, however, Golf Course Services of Market Harborough look after their business in the UK and you can contact Mike Walker on 0858 463153. Not only will this take the strain off your telephone bill, but you won't have to take account of the time difference across the Atlantic...



■ Congratulations and good luck to Bob Lupton, long time secretary of BIGGA North Section, on his appointment as BIGGA Northern Region Administrator, taking over from Howard McAddey.

Bob, aged 38, is the course manager at Cleckheaton & District. He joined the BIGGA some 23 years ago and has always been a stalwart supporter of 'the cause', having been a long standing North Section committee member and serving specifically in 'The Chair', and as secretary/treasurer.



Sharp Fabb Mullins Paul

■ Sta-Brite Supplies Ltd announce new appointments to the board and two new territory sales managers. Sales manager Chris Sharp is now sales director, and Mike Fabb is confirmed as general manager and a board director. In addition, Sta-Brite's sales force has risen to seven with the appointment as territory sales managers of John Mullins



When?!

... January 18 – 22!

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
Marty Jones

**Teagasc National
Botanic Gardens**
Glasnevin, Dublin 9,
Ireland.
Tel: (0103531) 371 636
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 Fax: (0506) 853373
Contact Steven Miller

**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
Contact
Andy Cole

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

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



18 hole Golf Course under construction,
due to open Spring 1994
require

HEAD GREENKEEPER

with knowledge of modern USGA green specification,
and full green irrigation knowledge.

Post to commence 1 September 1992.

Salary negotiable.

No accommodation.

Applications in writing and full CV by 1 July 1992 to:

B W Craven Esq

Director

Romanby Golf Course

Yafforth Road, Yafforth, Northallerton

North Yorkshire DL7 0PE



**FORNHAM PARK
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**

HEAD GREENKEEPER

This is a key appointment, central to a major programme
of expansion at this forward thinking, innovative Club.

Applicants should have at least five years' experience
in a similar position, together with excellent
technical knowledge and the ability to achieve the
highest standards of course management.

In addition we shall require proven man management
skills enabling the Head Greenkeeper to lead
and motivate a small, committed team and to generate
ideas and provide positive input into our planned
programme of improvements.

For the successful applicant this represents a fine
career opportunity, with excellent remuneration
package (no accommodation).

Please apply in writing enclosing a full CV and current
photograph with references to :

Sean Clark Director of Golf

Fornham Park Golf and Country Club

Fornham All Saints Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP28 6JQ

Woodbrook Golf Club

requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Our head greenkeeper is retiring after 40 years
service.

We need a successor to maintain the Club's
reputation as one of Ireland's premier courses –
which has hosted many championships over the
years.

The successful applicant will be a fully
qualified, experienced greenkeeper, with
managerial skills. He must demonstrate sound
knowledge and practical experience of good
greenkeeping, equipment maintenance, staff
organisation, supervision and motivation, and a
proven record of golf course management.

Please send written applications with full CV
by fax to:

**The Secretary/Manager
Woodbrook Golf Club
Fax: 010 3531 282 1950**



Heworth Golf Club

(Tyne & Wear)

Applications are invited for the position of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

to become part of our enthusiastic
course management team.

Applications with CV to:

The Secretary

Heworth Golf Club

Jingling Gate

Heworth

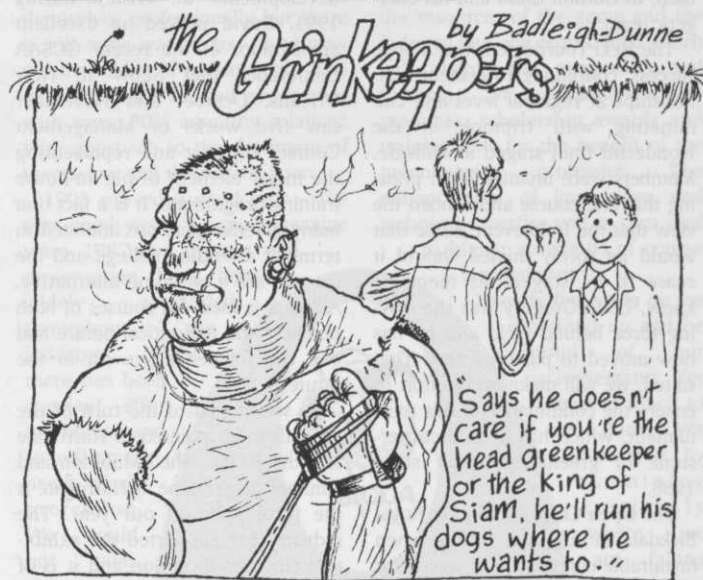
Gateshead NE10 8XY

The old saw about not picking up a 'lost' ball until it has stopped rolling is one that has an ironic ring of truth on many golf courses. Indeed, one course abutting a 'difficult tenant' council housing estate with an unusually high crime rate reported no less than 300 incidents of common theft of golf balls in a single season – helplessly witnessed by players as they hacked their way round the outer perimeters of the battlefield. Such thefts are not unusual, and are certainly not restricted to impoverished areas, though this Club's membership hit upon a novel if tedious method for combating the crime: Four-balls split into two groups with the first pair hitting toward the second, strategically positioned at 200 yards. When the first pair come alongside their balls the defenders walk back to the tee and hit to the area protected by their opponents. It works, but at the cost of tediously long rounds and added frustration in an already frustrating game – not surprisingly, foursomes are now increasingly popular! Earlier attempts at installing heavy chain link fencing topped with barbed wire had proven abortive, the miscreants simply hacking their way through or burrowing under the fence. A further unwritten law at this Club forbids members buying balls from any casual on course sources, no matter how cheap they may be.

Ball theft is the thin edge, though the demons that manifest themselves in the nightmares of most greenkeepers are of a far more grim nature. One major source of vandalism is that of the ill-titled 'joyriding' of stolen cars – with a golf green an inviting target for drag strip accelerations and hand brake turns. There is nothing joyful in the resultant misery and damage, which can range from deep surface rutting to broken irrigation pipes and almost always involves loss of play for several weeks – longer if the act takes place during the winter when grass just cannot heal itself. Increasingly the villains are not content with just taking out one green and delight in ruining several at once, on occasions culminating in rolling and burning the stolen car on the green.

Cars are not the only cause of wheeled damage however, for many courses with large open areas away from the clubhouse have been hit with a lesser version of skid-pan antics, these in the form of younger brethren with mountain bikes or lightweight pseudo dirt track motorcycles, who have discovered that bunkers and adjacent contoured areas make ideal tracks for performing 'wheelies'. Control of these antics,

WANDALISM



The battle against destructive forces

often performed in daylight, are not easy, for the riders can be exceedingly swift when confronted by authority – though one good ruse used to superb effect was the thrusting of an umbrella between spokes, the resulting damage seen as a very real deterrent.

Less traumatic though equally frustrating is the stealing of pins and yardage markers, these often lobbed into deep rough. The obvious answer on all high risk sites is to remove pins at end of play and to install permanently fixed markers (heavy timber or stone are best), embedding them deeply into the ground with cement.

Vandalism is not totally restricted to hooligans, for on many common land courses Joe Public is not above setting up a picnic for himself and his family on a green, with cricket stumps embedded in the fine turf for 'the kids to enjoy themselves'. I will remember on one occasion accosting such a gathering, only to be told in no uncertain terms to b----- off!

Few would deny that free roaming dogs are another problem, and it is hard to find suitable words of discouragement when the fangs of a Rotweiler or similar beast are slaving for action.

Canine defecation on turf is unpleasant to say the least and urine can cause severe scorching. Additionally, a rampaging dog hell-bent on hunting rabbits or wildfowl can cause untold damage in short time. Incidentally, have you noticed how dog owners so often resemble their 'pets'?

If your trolley shed is open to the elements, this can be an invitation for malicious invasion which often culminates in wheels being strewn over a wide area and trolleys drowned in the nearest pond or stream, or thrown through windows of the clubhouse or maintenance shed. Maintenance sheds have always presented their own special security problems, since they are often located (indeed, hidden) in remote areas away from watchful eyes. Here the rule must be to ensure maximum security at every point of entry, barring all windows and immobilising machinery whilst keeping fuel, lubricants, tools and valuable equipment additionally locked away in bullet proof chests or brick built rooms with very stout doors. Never forget that a flimsy door can easily be smashed open with a fire extinguisher or similar heavy object, so ensure the door itself is very stout hardwood or steel reinforced and

well protected by deadlocks and properly installed heavy hinges – if in any doubt, ask your local crime prevention officer to visit and follow his recommendations.

On the subject of fuel, lubricant or weedkiller, greenkeepers will be all too aware of the havoc that even a slight spillage on greens can cause, and one recent act of vandalism reported will serve to remind of the dire consequences. A disgruntled former employee broke into the sheds, purloined what was later discovered to be gramoxone, and spilled the contents over a green, wiping out a large area. It was necessary to cut out the offending area and completely re-turf, a costly and heartbreaking exercise.

Combating crime has never been an easy task, but there are a few ground rules which the wise greenkeeper will want to see implemented. At all vulnerable points of wheeled entry the installation of very solid precast concrete posts can deter all but the heaviest of vehicles, whilst the digging of deep and wide outer perimeter ditches will stop all vehicles save those that can be lifted, and the laying of 'sleeping policemen' on all approach roads will cause added frustration – deterrents all. On private roads, the fitting of iron gates will stop most intruders, who will be thwarted upon finding their way locked and barred at night.

Why do vandals especially target golf courses? Is it that they mistakenly perceive golfers as some kind of rich kids on the block: hurt the rich and you hurt ordered society? I have a theory that vandalism stems from the attitudes of couldn't-care-less parents, giving vent to violence, anger and frustration from their unloved offspring. Theories apart, if you are victim to vandalism and all else fails, consider the course of action taken by one Club, that of vigilante patrols over the peak hours of 10pm to midnight. Even the most persistent vandal jibs at being caught and a posse on the war-path will often prove the ultimate deterrent.

In his opening speech to the membership, Executive Director NEIL THOMAS was in buoyant mood in reporting a year of sustained growth and development, one in which BIGGA made a 'significant impact' in the UK...

ANNUAL REPORT

THE YEAR OF 1991 began in fine style with the now well-established West-urf, and though marred this time by poor weather it did little to dampen spirits. This show meets a real local need in the West and continues to attract both enthusiasm from the region and from those traders who rightly see it as a valuable shop window. Every credit, then, to Gordon Child and his energetic team.

The Iseki Tournament was a huge success, continuing to cement relationships at regional level and culminating with triumph at the wonderful final staged at Hillside. Members were unanimous in praising this fine course and echoed the view that the Iseki event is one that would be sorely missed should it cease to be staged. As members know, Colin Gregory was the driving force behind Iseki and he has now moved to pastures new. That stated, we will make every effort to ensure the continuance of this tournament, which has been a cornerstone of greenkeeper golf since 1988.

The Open Championship at Royal Birkdale in July was a time when favourable comment was voiced for our support team, suggesting that both in appearance and conduct our professional image was greatly enhanced.

For the National Tournament to be staged at Royal St David's in August it was a personal thrill and gave considerable pleasure to welcome those who had never crossed the border. They were not disappointed, for the event was voted by many as the best ever, culminating in a grand banquet and Welsh choir in full voice! A stunning few days for which we cannot thank ICI Professional Products enough in providing support and active participation.

As we moved towards autumn, there was a marked increase in activity beginning with the Ransomes International staged at Fulford. In October came the annual Kubota Challenge at the Belfry, an event in which the Greenkeepers have won six times out of nine – this year we defeated the EGU by eight matches to nil! Your Board sees a need to broaden the basis of selection for such events, which need to be used to promote the Association as well as the playing of golf. It has been decided to widen selection away from just results in the National Tournament and although golfing ability will be a consideration, regions will now be asked to nominate one member of the team both as a golfer and ambassador. This will provide five of the team, which will be completed with the overall nett winners at the National Tournament and Iseki Final,

together with a personal nominee of the chairman.

Autumn sees three major educational events centred on Aldwark. The Toro 'Student Greenkeeper of the Year' Award gave us a most worthy winner in Brian Story of Silloth on Solway. This is an Award Scheme which stimulates much interest and competition and can only be for the good of greenkeeper training generally. The ICI 'Greenkeeper of the Year' Award went to David Whitaker of Wisley and he was a most worthy winner given the developments at Wisley during 1991. David proved an excellent ambassador at the recent GCSAA Conference and Show in New Orleans. October and November saw five weeks of Management Courses running and representing the major element of our in-house training programme. It is a fact that many greenkeepers are inhibited in terms of attending college and the courses are a welcome alternative. Aldwark is ideal for courses of both practical and theoretical nature and one can foresee a growth in the future.

As we moved to the turn of the year all roads pointed to Harrogate and the BTME. The Exhibition and Seminar programme at Harrogate is the focal point of our year. The industry has supported the exhibition since its inception and it is of major importance to BIGGA's finances. The industry in supporting our exhibition has a right to expect the Association members to support its own exhibition. We have a lot going for us at Harrogate – this year's event was without doubt an outstanding success and it is fast becoming the premier event within the industry – so make sure that its future is not jeopardised by apathy and non-participation.

Much interest was expressed at the GCSAA Conference and Show in New Orleans in magazine subscriptions, membership and the BTME. The presence of BIGGA on an international stage is important as greenkeeping develops worldwide and whilst we now enjoy fine relationships with the US, Canadian and Swedish Associations, there is a clear need to consolidate our position in Europe where many greenkeeping associations are still in their embryo stages.

Coming to the National Education Conference at Cirencester, this has most certainly become a prestige conference and, like Harrogate, a focal point in our year. For the first time a sell-out occurred with a number of latecomers disappointed. The lecture programme is complemented by much greenkeeper debate and each year it is noticeable how many attendees return home enthused for the future of the profession.

Whilst the major events, awards, exhibition and conferences have undoubtedly further advanced the Association, much developmental

work has been undertaken both within the Association and through participation in wider developments throughout the game. We currently have thirteen approved colleges with over 1,000 students on Craft Level courses and a number of colleges running a Phase III – Supervisory course and some also a Phase IV Management course. During the last three years BIGGA has seen the need for higher qualifications, specifically HND/Degree level courses. Recently the first submission for an HND in Golf Greenkeeping was received for our observations and another is pending. The first HND course will be up and running at Cannington College this year. Demand will ultimately determine the need for such courses, but I would suggest that initially no more than two in England and one in Scotland would be the optimum need. In Scotland five colleges are working jointly to establish an HNC course as a forerunner to a full HND course. Progress is being sustained and this will further enhance the high standards that prevail in Scotland. Greenkeeping as a career is becoming attractive but it will only capture the interest and imagination of future generations if it can offer sound training up to and including degree level courses. This must be our aim and we will be encouraging the various bodies to support the system and concentrate resources through the approved colleges.

Work is advanced on the preparation of a greenkeeper training manual, commissioned by the GTC. This is being compiled by a Working Party with a major input from the approved colleges. Initial concentration is at craft level before moving onto supervisory and management levels. BIGGA is represented on the Lead Body for Amenity Horticulture and this manual will become the basis for National Vocational Qualifications in greenkeeping. BIGGA is actively involved in establishing NVQs for the profession and the NVQ system will play an important role in answering national training needs and in enabling individuals to develop their potential to the full.

Much is happening educationally – maintaining the momentum of progress will not be possible unless significant advances are made in financing courses and training programmes.

Two pence remains the princely sum (per member) collected by the Home Unions and paid annually to the GTC – yes, just 2p goes into greenkeeper education and training. Last year this produced a sum of £16,042 which was matched by the R&A. In addition a £5,000 contribution was received from the PGA European Tour. £37,000 then is the sum currently available to assist in the education and training of greenkeepers. Over and above this we are dependent on sponsorship and BIGGA's own resources to run

award schemes and courses. Financially, it's a sorry state of affairs but there may be some hope not too far ahead, emanating from 'The Way Forward', last year saw the formation of the Joint Golf Course Committee (JGCC). BIGGA supports the new structure – quite simply it has to be made to work if desperately needed resources are to be made available for education, training and research purposes. Regrettably from our view, the new structure has not got off to an auspicious start and there is a clear need for an end to the prevailing 'politics' along with a united approach if the new structure is to offer lasting benefits to both education programmes and much needed research within the game.

In terms of education and training, let me conclude on positive notes. It is pleasing to report that the presentation of the first Master Greenkeeper Certificate was made by Viscount Whitelaw at BTME. It is not easy to obtain, and let no-one doubt that the award indicates that the recipient has achieved the highest standards of excellence within the profession of greenkeeping. At the outset of the Association in 1987, BIGGA signified its intent to make education a number one priority and without any doubt the best exemplification of BIGGA carrying out its intent is the MGC. Many golf Clubs are now aware of and understand the Scheme – this is very important – and our experience indicates that they will support those employees who set out to obtain the Certificate. Club responses to BIGGA plans and programmes have generally been positive. However, there is evidence that for every greenkeeper who complains that his Club will not support his education, there are probably two or three Club secretaries who will say that they haven't been asked and were they asked would willingly support the staff concerned.

At the end of 1991, it was pleasing to announce that our numbers now exceed 4,000, giving us a strong membership base though with no room for complacency. For whatever reasons we lose some 500 members each year. It is quite true that we are on a growth curve because the number of new members each year exceed that figure. Perhaps this is normal, with members leaving the industry and being replaced. That being the case, there are still large numbers who are not members. If every member went out and brought one fellow greenkeeper into membership just think of the impact.

Membership of the Association brings many pleasures and benefits – it also brings obligations. Members abide by a Code of Ethics, but I sense that this Code lies dormant in most files. Our Constitution states that 'After five years from the inception of the Association, each full member shall be required, when

attending a formal national occasion, to dress in tie and jacket of the Association and to follow the guidelines on shoes, slacks and shirt'. January 1992 has now passed and we are some way from achieving this – look no further than the recent Iseki or Ransomes Tournaments for proof. Since 1987 we have sought to present our members professionally at such events, with BIGGA sweaters and shirts provided and on occasions blazers and ties have been lent. The Constitution must now be implemented. Greenkeepers have made great strides in presenting themselves professionally but there is still some way to go – even now we are talking of perhaps only 20% who take pride in their appearance with some 80% adopting a laissez faire approach to the detriment of themselves and their Association.

1991 proved a good year – the first good year – for our magazine since 1987. Its content and presentation have been widely applauded throughout the industry whilst there has been a constant effort to improve and to reflect the needs of the profession. We do not have chosen a **h a r d e r** year, in the midst of recession, to bring the magazine in-house. The industry has remained supportive and levels of advertising have been sustained – this augurs well for the future. We are in a highly competitive business and the magazine has to be run on strict commercial lines. This is happening and we are more than maintaining our own.

I have mentioned the industry and out there many companies who have historically supported the profession are experiencing very hard times. The great majority recognise the benefits of on-going relationships with individual greenkeepers and with our sections. It is in many ways a small and closely-knit industry where everyone knows everyone and amidst the competitive rivalry, a camaraderie exists. Many greenkeepers are at ease with company reps and pressure selling is rare and generally unwelcome by our members. At National level we benefit from a small number of sponsorship agreements, primarily aimed at pro-

moting the education and training of greenkeepers. Those agreements are very welcome and I would suggest mutually beneficial. They generally work well and over a period of three years have stood the test of time. The danger we face is of some companies perceiving others gaining benefit from their relationship with the Association to their exclusion and in time this could have a polarising effect. The launching of the new Education and Development Fund marks another significant advance for the Association. Financial contributions will now channel the resources of the game and the industry into one central fund which will enable the promotion and financing of educational programmes, scholarship awards and training aids for the benefit of the greenkeeping profession. The enhancement of knowledge and technical expertise will in turn lead to higher standards of course management.

Nearly five years on we can stand up and be proud of our achievements. Yet there is much to be done. We must start by examining critically where we are falling down before criticising others. Our biggest problem can be summed up in one word – apathy – the apathy of members particularly in seeking educational betterment. Whilst this can be seen as a product of past attitudes within Clubs, many of our members really do need to wake up to opportunities now becoming available. Many of them lack the confidence to pursue those opportunities having in the past adopted the traditional role of knowing their place. Our Management Courses are designed to instil the self-confidence needed to march into the secretary's office and make a case for financial support in the pursuit of training and qualifications. The pendulum is swinging and we can no longer wholly apportion the blame to reactionary and narrow-minded golf club committees. Again there is fear – fear of the agronomist; of the club secretary; of the green committee; of change and of the unknown. It is debilitating, insidious and can be career-long. Greenkeepers should have nothing to fear and here we get to the heart of the matter. Such

fear will only be overcome through involvement – in education, with BIGGA and in interaction with fellow greenkeepers. That is the way ahead.

Golf in the United Kingdom is now a wealthy game – that is undeniable. The distribution of that wealth is totally out of proportion. At the top end is the pro tour generating vast sums of money, but adopting an insular approach and seemingly showing little concern for the development of the game as a whole. As we go down the scale we bottom out with junior golf and the Association constantly seeking funding and support. If support is not forthcoming what future lies ahead for the golfing stars of tomorrow and what will be the quality of the golf courses on which they play? The work of the new JGCC will be substantial, it must address key issues and the solutions it puts forward will have fundamental effects on the future of the game in the UK.

There is no doubt that the game is now demanding ever higher standards in course maintenance and presentation – it is the technically experienced course manager who will best be able to meet the required standards. In turn he will be rewarded by a more realistic assessment of necessary salary levels within the profession. We can view the future optimistically – there are now tremendous job opportunities, but for those obtaining these top positions there will need to be more study and application, as well as a grasping of opportunity. This way lies the path to success.

The demands made on greenkeepers today never cease to amaze me. The depth of technical knowledge needed to be successful in the profession is extensive and ever increasing. There are heavy physical demands. There is still much ignorance on the part of Club committees and members to be tolerated and overcome each day. I stand committed to improving the position of greenkeepers and the greenkeeping profession and BIGGA will not be deterred in taking the profession forward to its rightful place at the forefront of the game – when all is said and done the most important employees of any golf Club are the greenkeeping staff.

Finally, my special and sincere thanks to our chairman, George Malcolm, for all he has achieved during his year of office. I have enjoyed his steadfast support during the year and no-one should be in any doubt of the extent to which George has promoted the Association. On behalf of you all, I conclude by thanking George for all he has done and achieved.



BIGGA will not be deterred in taking the profession forward to its rightful place at the forefront of the game

Nice and

EURO

Being an island nation, it is natural enough that many of us should regard the likes of Jacques Delors, the wheeling and dealing behind closed Maastricht doors and the infuriating parochial dictats of Brussels based Eurocrats with a fair degree of cynicism.

When the long running debate over our entry into the European Community becomes a final reality on the 31st December 1992, will it, we wonder, *really* turn the key to fresh opportunities for anybody prepared to cross the threshold? In my opinion, the short answer is 'Yes', especially for those of us involved in a whole range of activities which collectively forms an industry geared to supporting the game of golf.

Entry into the community of twelve will provide a wider choice of employment and free-trade opportunities: for greenkeepers, golf club managers, golf course architects, constructors, contractors and manufacturers of equipment and machinery essential for the well-being of today's golf course development, management, preparation and on-going maintenance – providing the Eurocrats are kept at bay!

Such opportunities are not only real, they have been on offer – and in many instances, taken-up – ever since golf started to become popular on the Continent. In the mid-1980s for example, agronomist George Shiels was asked to oversee the standards of greenkeeping and course maintenance at the Monte Carlo Golf Club. This eventually resulted in the on-the-spot appointment of Mike Merrick, a young English greenkeeper, as "Le Boss" of greenkeeping affairs on the slopes of Mont Agel, home of the Monaco Open tournament. At that time, Mike didn't speak a word of French. Having accepted the opportunity to broaden his career, he later told me that he spent the entire flight time from Nice back to Heathrow wondering how he would cope – and equally important, just how his wife would react to his news!

Twenty-odd years earlier, the late Sir Henry Cotton was taking advantage of his vast professional playing experience and imagination to create new golf courses in Portugal.

Going back even further in time, Bob Buckingham, head of Hampshire-based Toro machinery sales for Europe, tells me that golf course mowers manufactured by his company have been exported into Germany for over 40 years.

Exceptional cases you may think, but are they? Remember if you will that the game of golf has its origins buried deeply in our sporting history. We were building and caring for golf courses long before Bleriot's flimsy aeroplane was the first to stagger across the Channel in – when was it, 1907?

That was long before Germany's revolutionary diesel powered train, the 'Flying Hamburger' broke all existing pre-war railway speed records – and even longer still before General Franco led Spain into his bloody, military based dictatorship.



CEDRIC JOHNS
goes on the trail of
entente cordiale

Spanning some eighty-odd years, those events happened decades after the game of golf had become an organised sport in this country. Little wonder then that when it comes to the finer points of construction, preparation and maintenance of golf courses, the rest of Europe eyes Britain with respect. We have a history, tradition and knowledge of the game with which they cannot compete.

Why, for example, do you think that this magazine carries advertisements from Golf Clubs in France, Germany, Italy and other European countries inviting British applications for the position of head greenkeeper? Being an island nation – and a moderate people – we tend to overlook our own strengths. We are not too enthusiastic about blowing our own trumpets – but this is no time for modesty. We can and should get out there and show them a trick or two!

Some already have. Mike Greaves, whose Bucks-based company, Agripower, builds and maintains sports pitches and golf courses, views the advent of European free-trade as a positive step forward. "We have recently carried out work on a French golf course – our first involvement across the Channel – and I see this development as a good opportunity to extend our interest into Europe."

In the neighbouring county of Oxfordshire, White Horse Construction Limited say that they have received several enquiries from Continental Europe. "We have made no real attempt to promote ourselves – as yet – but we are keeping a close eye on the developments," reports the company's contracts manager, Kevin Smith. Down in Dorset, the Brian Pier-



son organisation have not only been employed on golf course work in Bordeaux and Toulouse but have also opened an office in Paris to service the French golf market. "Languages are a problem – especially when we receive very detailed specifications from developers over the Channel" says Mark Pierson. "Discussions at architect, developer and especially hotel group levels are easier" he says, "for most business people use English". Nevertheless, Mark is working hard studying both French and German. "Our standards of golf course construction are usually much higher than those accepted in other countries, yet surprisingly we are finding that our cost projections are lower", he concluded.

In Pocklington, Yorkshire, fine turf specialists Inturf say that although they are fully committed to existing developments in the UK and Eire they are fully aware of the potential of the European market. As managing director, Derek Edwards, put it, "I believe that Europe will be good for us – both as individuals and as a nation. Our present commitments mean that we cannot seriously promote ourselves in European markets until late '93. Nevertheless, we currently have plans to open a new operational base in Kent – when established, it will give Inturf the perfect entrée via the Channel Tunnel".

Dr Peter Hayes of the Sports Turf Research Institute is equally positive. "We have been providing advisory services throughout Europe for a number of years. Indeed, the demand for our services is increasing simply because of a lack of local expertise on the other side of the Channel." However, in the context of turf, Dr

does it...

Hayes expressed the opinion that even setting aside the possibilities of restrictions being imposed on the exportation of soil, the sheer weight of large deliveries might be uneconomic. In his view, British turf suppliers would find it worthwhile establishing a link with a similar, existing company and grow turf on the Continent. Equally, the possibility of problems arising when British companies get involved in other European countries can be real enough, he suggests.

In Germany, specifications for golf course construction are very much allied to German based DIN standards – which differ from our own BSI requirements. This raises the question of Brussels style bureaucracy! Negotiations are already under way (with the Sports Council and the STRI battling for the UK) to endeavour to reach agreement on the new Franco-German driven CEN standards, which will set the specification for the construction of greens.

At present, standards for the construction of soccer and hockey pitches and tennis courts are being debated. As an example of what this entails, Dr Hayes tells me that Germans are seeking to establish a standard for soccer pitches – similar to the 'super' levels laid down for the Olympic Stadium at Munich.

One can imagine the reaction of UK Parish or Town Councils or other local authorities faced with the costs of providing 'park's pitches' equating to those standards of excellence! The STRI takes the view that providing a grass pitch is able of producing an even bounce of the ball, has sufficient traction (grip) and that drainage is good, the actual components used in its construction is of relatively no great import...

Golf courses? Dr Hayes is of the opinion that this important area will not be discussed and finalised for another two or three years.

As might be expected, that doyen of British greenkeeping practices and construction methods – Jim Arthur – has his own views on the subject. "Bureaucrats and politicians are meddling in matters which are beyond their comprehension," says Jim, referring to attempts by Brussels to standardise everything – never mind golf. He continued, "British architects and constructors, some of the most experienced people on the European scene, are apprehensive about the underlying implications of the Euro-CEN standards relative to golf course design and construction. There is no logic in Eurocrats wasting their time and our money trying to impose themselves by creating 'rule book' standards which will apply to both construction and the management of golf courses. Because they have no real experience or tradition of the game they are being blinded by the American way of doing things. They perceive target greens as the ultimate way that golf should be played this side of the Atlantic. Unless we dig our heels in, we British are in danger of selling our birthright down the river!"

Over-riding Brussels, CEN and all that, Jim is convinced that the game of golf as we know

it will be taken over by professionals. "Europe or not, it will all come down to money" says Jim. "The game will deteriorate into a professional lottery – run by and for professionals."

Greenkeeping? "There are some very good young people coming through" he says. "Hopefully, they will not be compromised by the dictats of commercially minded entrepreneurs motivated by the wrong reasons."

Talking of greenkeeping, David Whitaker, course manager at Wisley, made some pertinent comments related to his experience gained during a two and-a-half year stint at Golf du Domaine Imperial, an 18 hole Swiss course. In charge of a 9-hole in this country and keen to better himself, David jumped at the chance of going to Switzerland. "I didn't speak French and my support team of locals had never seen a golf course before – never mind worked on one!" he says.

Nevertheless, David soon got to grips with his dual problems and says that he soon developed his labour force into a working team – who wanted to learn more. Like so many young greenkeepers, David moved – in his case to Switzerland – to broaden his experience but not to stay indefinitely. "I always knew that I would return to home soil at some time" he says.

In David's opinion, countries such as France, Germany and Belgium are waking up to the needs of providing greenkeeper training. "Lots of chaps went for the money," says David. "Now, thanks to the efforts of BIGGA, salary levels in the UK are catching-up fast."

British greenkeepers eyeing EC countries should also bear in mind that many of the new developments are based on America practices – sand based greens, creeping bents and wall-to-wall irrigation. These types of courses call for a radically different approach compared to traditional UK turf management techniques.

In the final analysis, Europe is of course all about people, so the last word on the subject goes to BIGGA's Education Officer, David Golding. "Europe has come to us for greenkeepers" says David, "especially since we have raised the level of education to the point where many young greenkeepers are of outstanding management calibre. "In contrast", he continues, "little formal training is, or has been, available to young people in countries like Germany, Spain, France, Portugal or Holland".

Equally he confirmed that BIGGA approved colleges are increasingly aware of the potential importance of golf on the European continent. This autumn, Cannington College (Somerset) is introducing an HND educational programme linking European studies with greenkeeping courses. Elsewhere, other colleges have set out to encourage the use of a second language. Yes, the signs are good for those with a positive attitude, n'est pas!

■ The author, Cedric Johns, is an ex Fleet Street journalist who now runs his own marketing consultancy. He is also the editor of 'Pipelines'.

New faces join BTME Steering Committee

Two new members have joined the 1993 BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition Steering Committee.

Lorna Tyson, from Lancashire College and Arthur Wood, from Iseki UK, were introduced at the Committee's first meeting for the 1993 event, at Aldwark Manor on May 21st.

The June 1st deadline for space allocation had prompted many exhibitors from 1992 to confirm their place for the 1993 event, the meeting heard. Together with new companies currently being allocated space, the Exhibition halls are rapidly filling up.

The Seminar Programme is now taking shape, together with the Social Programme, but details are still to be finalised. "Watch this space!" says Debbie Savage, BTME Exhibitions Officer.

Because of the big success in January, the Old Swan will once again be designated BIGGA's Exhibition and Conference Hotel. Rates have yet to be finalised, but price increases are expected to be modest and may not be increased at all.

A BTME newspaper is again to be produced for distribution to the trade. Companies planning to exhibit at the 1993 event are invited to submit information and photographs for publication.

For more information on the 1993 BTME, or for a copy of the Information Pack, contact Debbie Savage on 03473 581/2 or by fax on 03473 8864.

● BTME 1993 Steering Committee members are: Neil Thomas, Bill Lynch, Debbie Savage, BIGGA; Linda Manning, Arthur Wood, Iseki; Richard Bishop, Karen Smith, Ransomes Sims & Jefferies; Mike Coleman, Fuchsia Print & Publicity Services; Rachel Semlyen, Rolawn; David Palmer, Supaturf Products; David Boothby, Lely (UK) Ltd; Roger Mossop, ICI Professional Products; Jonathan Harmer, Farmura Environmental Products; Jonathan Gaunt, Golf Course Architect; Richard Manby, Joe Manby Ltd; Lorna Tyson, Lancashire College; Colin Gregory, Hardi Ltd.

Modus 'T' set up machinery factory

The new management at Modus 'T' have been keeping a low profile while setting up their 10,000 sq.ft turf machinery factory at Wem in Shropshire.

"Having a 24 year old engineering company up our sleeves meant that we knew what to do, but I definitely had trouble separating my 'upmilling scarifiers' from my 'cast iron fish plates', says MD Adam Greaves. Design engineering work on redesigning the Powercore and Tri-Master products is completed, with the Powercore MkII prototype undergoing extensive field trials. Inherited quality shortcomings have now been remedied across the range and all parts are dispatched within 24 hours. Details, Tel: 0939 233213.

As well as the damage which may be caused to golf greens and other areas of the course by pest and disease attack, there are also many physical & chemical causes of damage/injury which may occur. Obviously it is important to be able to distinguish between physical, chemical and biological causes of damage as this has strong implications in the development of an appropriate remedy. In this article, NEIL BALDWIN, the STRI's plant pathologist describes some of the more common sources of injury to golf greens and discusses ways of minimising the damage should a problem occur.

Damage to golf greens may occur for any number of potential reasons. For example, the damage may be deliberate such as vandalism, or accidental such as chemical or fertiliser scorch due to mis-application at the wrong time or at too high a rate. The use of modern turf care machinery with engines containing mineral oil and operated by hydraulic controls can lead to accidental spillages onto the green surface. Also, animal urine from female dogs or foxes may scorch severely. These various sources of chemical damage are amplified below.

Vandalism

Unfortunately nowadays, vandalism is of common occurrence on many golf courses, particularly those in which the public has free access due to rights of way established on the course, or on inner city courses which are surrounded by housing. Vandalism may come from many sources, for example disillusioned contractors have been known to wreak havoc on the turf areas under their care, as have club members who on occasion feel hard done by, thus seeking revenge. In many cases the cause of turf injury by vandalism may be readily identified. If a burnt-out car wreck is found in the middle of a green then the cause is obvious! However, in many cases identifying the toxic substance applied is not easy. Identification of the toxic substance used, ie. whether it only lasts in the short-term or whether it is residual, is vital as this has a direct bearing on control methods (see later). One of the most difficult to solve cases I have seen is where greens were scorched using a dry ice fire extinguisher, realised only when the equipment in question was found in adjacent heather!

Machinery

Despite high standards of machinery care and maintenance being the norm on many courses, sadly accidents do happen. For exam-

DAMAGE ON THE GREENS:

CLEARING

TIP

ple, spillages of petrol or diesel (due perhaps to an over-filled tank) may be the source of the problem. Drips or spillages of hydraulic fluid from leaking or split hydraulic pipes may also occur. Field trials at STRI (Figure 2) are currently investigating the use of new organic-based oils which are claimed to be less phytotoxic than mineral oils.

Chemical scorch

Perhaps the most important consideration when using pesticides is to read the label and follow the instructions carefully. Under normal usage chemical scorch due to over application of pesticides is rare. However, over application due perhaps to incorrect sprayer calibration may cause severe problems. Certain turf treatments such as wetting agents are widely known to scorch fine turf if not watered in after application, as demonstrated in STRI field trials (Figure 4). Thus the correct use of pesticides and other chemical treatments must be emphasised. Extreme care must be taken in the use of total herbicides as these chemicals will kill any turf in

which they come into contact. For example, heavy rain shortly after application may wash the total herbicide off the path or other area to which it had been applied, especially if the treated area is on sloping ground (Figure 3).

Fertiliser scorch

Dry weather (as we have seen over the last three growing seasons) or whenever turf is drought stressed, are the conditions under which fertiliser may scorch if not watered in after application (Figure 5). As the symptoms of fertiliser scorch bear an uncanny resemblance to those of fusarium patch disease, great care must be taken to identify the problem correctly.

Animal damage

Burn marks due to animal urine, particularly during the night by foxes, may be a problem. Characteristic symptoms are of circular patches, brown or straw coloured in the centre, with a lush green peripheral ring. This scorching effect is due to the fact that animal urine contains soluble salts, urea and other compounds which

may kill or sometimes stimulate turfgrass growth (Figure 1).

Recommendations for control

The procedures to be implemented when physical or chemical damage occurs to golf greens depends very much on the exact cause of the problem. It must be stated at the outset that the best solution is in the preventative sense, ie. not to let it happen in the first place! When this is under the greenkeeper's control, ie. operations such as fertilising, spraying pesticides and machinery maintenance, then naturally prevention is the best policy. However, animal damage and vandalism cannot be predicted and consequently minimising the damage caused is the only practical solution.

With all types of chemical scorch the greatest chances of success are if the problem is identified soon after it has occurred and action taken immediately. In the case of spillages of fuel, oil, pesticide concentrate or hydraulic fluid then removing chemical deposits by blotting with absorbent paper or by using a proprietary material such as the flowable formulation of 'activated charcoal, which has recently been marketed. The next stage is to wash off the turf surface with copious amounts of water applied to the spilled material. Addition of a wetting agent may prove beneficial at this time. The wetting agent 'new improved Turfex' contains label instructions for dealing with spillages of toxic chemicals. This washing procedure may work well if done soon after the spillage has occurred, however, if one or two hours have passed before the spillage is noticed the damage will have been done and severe turf injury will be the result.

Some of the worst scorch problems are caused by total herbicides being applied to golf greens, where of course their application was not intended. The problem is at its worst when a residual herbicide, eg. simazine, atrazine or sodium chlorate, has been applied. In these situations the STRI undertakes a laboratory 'growth test' whereby grass seedlings are grown in contaminated soil. Failure of seedlings to establish or poor rooting may indicate the presence of a residual herbicide, in which case the only solution is to remove damaged turf and soil below and then repair the whole area. If, however, the problem is due to a non-residual herbicide, eg. paraquat or glyphosate, then renovation and overseeding will probably suffice.

■ The author, Dr Neil Baldwin, is the Sports Turf Research Institute's Plant Pathologist.



1. Fox urine scorch. Note the stimulated green grass around the edge of the scorched area



2. STRI field trial evaluating oil/hydraulic fluids for adverse effects on fine turf



3. Total herbicide run-off causing severe damage



4. STRI field trial evaluating wetting agents for scorch effects



5. Fertiliser scorch, sometimes confused with fusarium patch disease



Now YOU
can unlock
the doors
to progress

GREENKEEPER
EDUCATION
and
DEVELOPMENT
FUND

BRITISH & INTERNATIONAL GOLF
GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

ACHIEVEMENT • GREATER CHOICE • OPPORTUNITY
SATISFACTION • OPPORTUNITY
ACHIEVEMENT • CAREER
ADVANCEMENT • PERSONAL
FULFILMENT • GREATER CHOICE •
JOB SATISFACTION • OPPORTUNITY
ACHIEVEMENT • CAREER
ADVANCEMENT • PERSONAL
FULFILMENT • GREATER CHOICE •
JOB SATISFACTION • OPPORTUNITY
ACHIEVEMENT • CAREER
ADVANCEMENT • PERSONAL
FULFILMENT • GREATER CHOICE •
JOB SATISFACTION • OPPORTUNITY
ACHIEVEMENT • CAREER
ADVANCEMENT • PERSONAL
FULFILMENT • GREATER CHOICE •
JOB SATISFACTION • OPPORTUNITY
ACHIEVEMENT • CAREER
ADVANCEMENT • PERSONAL
FULFILMENT • GREATER CHOICE •
JOB SATISFACTION • OPPORTUNITY
ACHIEVEMENT • CAREER
ADVANCEMENT • PERSONAL
FULFILMENT • GREATER CHOICE •

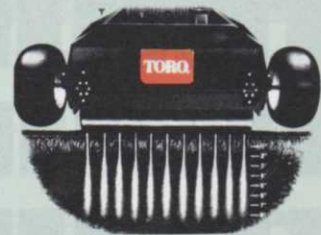
FIND OUT MORE:
Call BIGGA on 03473 581/2



Town & Country

SPECIALIST CONTRACTORS IN
TURF MAINTENANCE

“What’s going
on down there?”



HydroJect™ 3000

Compaction on Greens and Tees etc “in need of aeration”?
Get the new HydroJect working for you all year round!
Also our Vermeer TS 44 Tree Spade is for hire – transplanting
trees on site economically.

Call on Town & Country

For a competitive hire rate, and professional service within the
UK and all European countries.

Unit 4, Brainwood Farm, Cooksmill Green, Roxwell, Essex CM1 3SJ
Tel: (0245) 248402 • Mobile: 0831 634644 • Fax: (0245) 248449

AD
REF
358



I'LL BUY

Every buying decision means someone must make a financial decision. A greenkeeper can put enormous effort into researching the best machines for the course and making a selection after carefully evaluating demonstration performance and price. But if the person responsible for the financial decision says 'We can't afford it', then the proposal, irrespective of its value, is halted.

All too often a Club can afford it, but ignorance of the funding alternatives means that decisions are based on the assumption of a fixed financial 'pot' to cover all investment for the year. As a result, capital is rationed to balance investment priorities against the need for any substantial increase in membership subscriptions. Put simply, fixing the clubhouse roof may defer a decision on a new greens triple mower.

There is an amazing array of funding sources - from cash to banks and finance companies - but the funding options can be divided quite simply into 'Buy' or 'Hire'. The key difference between the two is who retains title (legal ownership)

to the asset? Under purchase options title passes to the purchaser either immediately (cash and loans) or at some later date (hire purchase and other deferred sale options). Under 'hire' options (eg. leasing) title never passes to the hirer, but that is not to say that Clubs which lease lose out. Some could have a lot to gain, particularly when the overall cost of funds is taken into account.

Where the Club is aware of the funding alternatives and is prepared to consider them, the question then becomes 'What is the best way to fund it?' and there are a number of basic criteria that a Club can apply to make a better financial decision:

• **Cost of Funds:**

Price and cost are two different concepts. For example, you know the price of a machine the day you buy it, but you only know what it cost the day you sell it. That is after you have totalled-up the running costs, including repairs and maintenance - not to mention how well it performed under different conditions. It's the same with funding. Lease or buy, you know the price at

the outset, expressed either as a rate of interest or as a repayment in pounds (£s) per thousand borrowed. However, the real cost is only known when all the costs and the benefits, eg. tax concessions and cashflow advantages are taken into account, together with any special fees charged in connection with the facility. For example, an arrangement fee charged by a bank for a loan or the percentage rebate of rentals passed to the lessee at the end of the lease. These are costs which are not immediately obvious. Interest too, can be expressed in a variety of ways. Simple interest expressed as a Flat Rate Percentage always looks more attractive than the corresponding True Rate. Therefore to compare the cost of one finance deal against another, techniques like Discounted Cashflow are valuable, even to non-commercial organisations.

• **Availability of Funds:**

For most Clubs the first call for additional funds will be the bank, either for working capital through current account and overdraft facilities or for longer term loans. How-

ever, it makes good sense to use a number of different sources of funds to spread the cost of investment and to relieve pressure on existing lines of credit. Finance companies, often subsidiaries of major banks, provide a choice of lease and purchase facilities at competitive cost to fund vehicles, machinery and fixed equipment.

• **Cashflow:**

There is a popular misconception that a deal done for cash must be the best deal, but will a new machine work any harder because you pay cash for it on day one? Instead, paying cash 'up-front' probably places an additional strain on existing lines of credit. It can even increase the overall cost if the funds are borrowed on overdraft. Better to plan investment with repayments matched to income. Monthly payments may be fine for most businesses, but not for organisations with seasonal income. The size and timing of payments should be fixed in advance to minimise impact on cashflow and to fit in with budgets. For example, it may be better for many Clubs to make payments in

**farmura
farmura
farmura
farmura
farmura
farmura
farmura
ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS**

Proven by research, specified by independent agronomists and regularly used by Turf Managers seeking quality and consistent results Farmura Environmental Products present their range of organic nutritional and turf enhancement products.

- **FARMURA LIQUID ORGANIC FERTILISERS** -
A complete range of proven products for fine turf to outfield, and land reclamation.
- **FLO GRO LIQUID FERTILISERS** -
A revolutionary range of clear liquid fertilisers - colour coded for easy identification.
- **FERROSOL LIQUID IRON**
A unique iron nitrogen bonded complex for green up and perfect presentation.
- **KELPLANT**
Water retaining soil conditioner - ideal for dry areas.
- **BLAZON**
Spray pattern indicator for all spray uses - will not stain skin.
- **FARMGRAN**
Seaweed based soil conditioner for use in construction top dressing and land reclamation.
- **ROOT DIP**
An essential aid to successful tree transplanting.
- **TURF IRONS EQUIPMENT**
For use on golf and bowling greens for the ultimate surface and reduced turf stress.

For further information contact your local distributor or fill in coupon and send to:-

Farmura Limited, Stone Hill, Egerton, Ashford, Kent TN27 9DU.
Telephone: Egerton (023376) 241 or Fax: 023376 419.

I am particularly interested in

- FARMURA FLO GRO FERROSOL KELPLANT
 BLAZON FARMGRAN ROOT DIP TURF IRONS

tick appropriate box

Name _____

Position _____

Address _____

Post Code _____ Tel No: _____

GI.6.92

*Natural solutions
to get you growing*

THAT

February, March and April each year that fit in with subscription income. Spreading the cost, rather than making one big payment each year, also takes pressure off cash-flow.

Sometimes things happen that fall outside existing plans and budgets. For example, a tractor breaks down and repairs are uneconomic compared with replacement. A carefully structured lease or hire-purchase agreement can put a new tractor on course in mid-season with payments timed to coincide with the following years subscription income. This reduces stress on current lines of credit. In addition, using credit instead of cash does not reduce your bargaining power, because the supplier is not aware of how you intend to fund the machine.

• **Investment Incentives:**

Excluding low cost loans or grants that may be available (eg. brewery loans) substantial savings can often be made by acquiring machinery and equipment on low cost Lease or Hire Purchase finance available with the machine through

the supplying dealer.

Whilst zero percentage finance is attractive, don't overlook longer term alternatives. If you intend to keep a machine for five years, why not pay for it over the same period. Where low cost funds are available it may pay to lock into funds with a true cost well below bank base rates for as long as you can. In addition, the fixed payments will help you budget more accurately.

Capital investment is essential if Clubs are to deliver what the members want - whatever that may be. One thing is certain, with increasing playing demands being made on every course, the green staff need up to date machinery and equipment to cope and that means additional investment. So, when putting a proposal to committee, or making your own evaluation, look beyond the technical justification for the machine, to the way in which it can be funded.

■ **The author, Eddie Henderson, is a director of NMB Farm Finance. He is also the current captain of the Agricultural Engineers Association Golf Society and a member of Aldwark Manor Golf Club.**

COURSECARE FINANCE

FLEXIBLE FUNDING FOR GOLF COURSE MACHINERY AND INPUTS

- LEASE PURCHASE
- LEASE FINANCE
- CONTRACT HIRE
- GROWCASH INPUT FUNDING

Whatever your finance needs, short or long term, machinery or inputs, contact FAF on 0800 378655 for advice, support and a really competitive quotation.



A member of the National Westminster Bank group

Farming and Agricultural Finance Limited, New Agriculture House, Barnett Way, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RT. Telephone: (0452) 371911.

HEAD OFFICE QUOTELINE 0800 378655

AD REF 368

LMS

REDUCE YOUR FINANCIAL HANDICAP

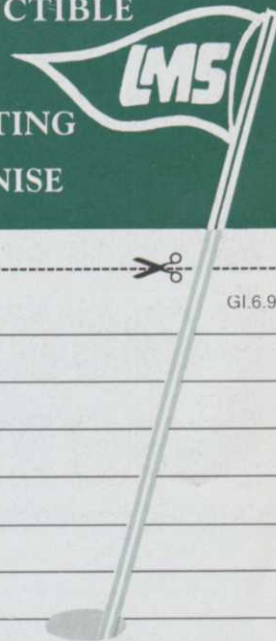
Every Golf Club increasingly has conflicting calls placed upon its valuable working capital. So the need for a totally dedicated leasing service has never been greater.

Lease Management Services provides an exclusive range of competitive funding options to help Golf Clubs equip to meet the demands of the present day.

We also have extensive vehicle purchasing powers enabling us to source any car of your choice at advantageous prices.

So contact LMS today to discuss all of your equipment and vehicle requirements, and at a stroke your club could be enjoying these benefits...

- LMS DEDICATED SERVICE
- LMS NO CAPITAL OUTLAY
- LMS 100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE
- LMS FIXED COSTS
- LMS SIMPLE BUDGETING
- LMS EASY TO ORGANISE



NAME _____

POSITION _____

CLUB _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

LEASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES LIMITED, ESHER HOUSE, ESHER GREEN, ESHER, SURREY KT10 8BU.

TEL: 0372 467711 FREEFAX: 0800 282374

AD REF 371

Just

by DAVID WHITE

It is not surprising that greenkeepers look to great locations for their own National Championships; and a quick perusal of previous sites upon which our champions have been crowned will reveal no weaknesses in that sphere, our quest being always for challenging courses that bring out the best in the best players.

Littlestone is no exception, located in that corner of Kent noted for its fine turf – a veritable gem of a links course so close to the sea we snuff the salt deep in our nostrils. It is a wonderful test of golf, playing host throughout its 104 year history to a multitude of championships, including use as a qualifying course for The Open.

This attraction as a championship site is easily explained, for though at first glance Littlestone appears to be wide open and begging to be murdered, it defends its honour with subtlety rather than great length and has an unusually high number of outstandingly fine holes. The fairways are quite wide, the turf a delight; and the greens are always swift but never impossible – and therein lies the rub. The greens are quite small, they are well defended by bunkers that properly defend – indeed every single one of its 94 strategic bunkers (added to at various times by James Braid and Alistair Mackenzie) play an absolute part in giving the course its reputation, this despite arguments that rage over the modern ball and its 'lengthy' nature. Add to this the breezes that sometimes snarl in over the English Channel, with their propensity to dry out those holding characteristics found inland; and you have a course where finesse beats the erratic slogger every time.

Malcolm Grand, the Club's dedicated head greenkeeper, is of the opinion that the run-up shot – the bump and run – will be the shot to practice; and as one who has dedicated all his working life to his craft whilst spending the majority of his time on linksland courses, his opinion is one would-be champions will do well to heed.

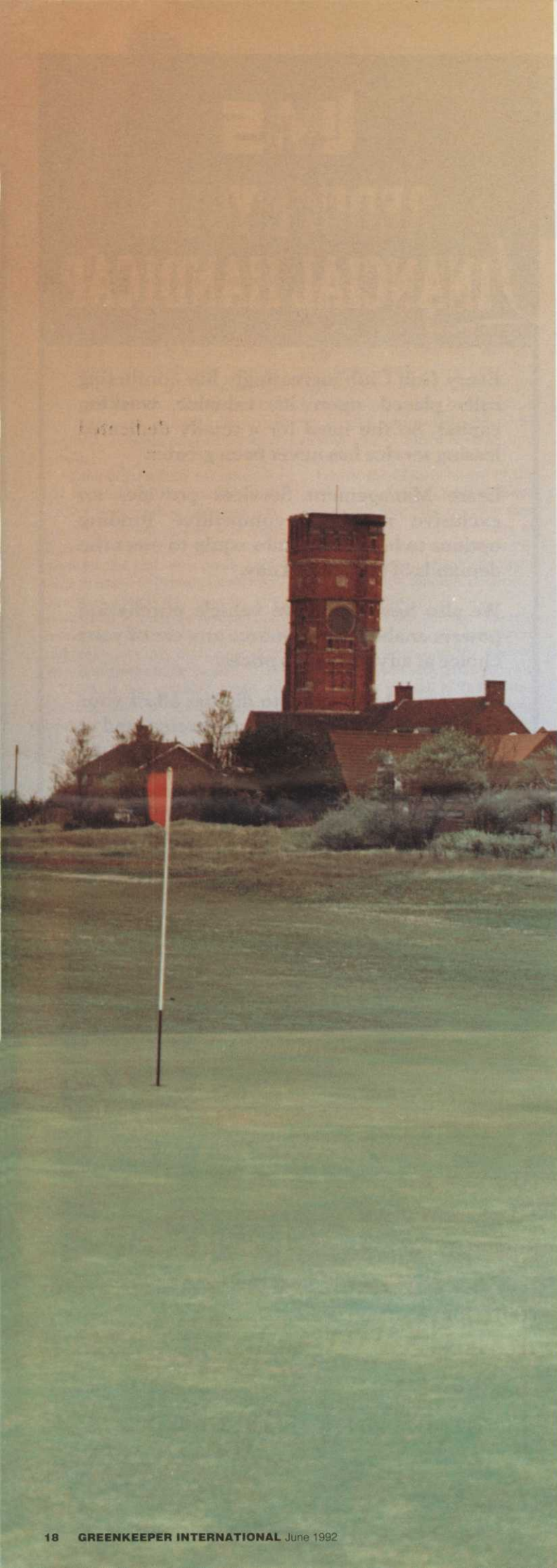
Meeting him was a real pleasure, made the more so by his immediate declaration that greenkeeping is a career that gives him huge pleasure and satisfaction, and when I learned that this love had been forged from early links with Rye – just down the road from Littlestone – where his father was in charge of the victuals at that famous Club, it came as no surprise.

Taking up the story, Malcolm told me that without parental pressure – though heeding Dad's sound counsel – he opted for the attraction of working in golf and joined the Rye greenkeeping crew under Frank Arnold, straight from school at 17, a move he has never regretted. There must be something about the magic of the place, for the 'Grand' invasion of golf continued when Malcolm's younger brothers, Simon and Garth, both took up greenkeeping careers at Rye; and though Simon has now moved to Highgate as first assistant, Garth remains a dedicated Rye man, working under Trevor Ockendon, who took over as head when Frank Arnold retired.

In the event, Malcolm left Rye following six very happy years in which he learned his craft well, moving for the first time to an inland course at Newark, though Malcolm and Trevor Ockendon remain good friends to this day, sharing in the same delights and challenges of managing true linksland golf.

Joining Newark as first assistant, Malcolm was to work a different type of course entirely, one where lushness prevailed and where tree planting (necessary following the front nine coming under the plough during World War II) was a seemingly continuous activity. Two years as first assistant was followed with promotion when head greenkeeper Les Bakin retired; and for a further six years Malcolm was the 'main man' – in his own words, 'a happy time at a happy Club'.

Inevitably for a Southerner, the urge to return to one's roots remained strong, though it was quite by chance that Littlestone came to Malcolm's attention. On a visit in 1986 to attend his sister's wedding at Rye (where else!) he heard on the



Grand, Malcolm!

BIGGA NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
LITTLESTONE GOLF CLUB, KENT

'grapevine' that Littlestone were seeking the services of a head greenkeeper and hot-footed along for a pow-wow with secretary Bill Bailey, who offered him the job straight away!

I asked him if he had inherited any problems at Littlestone, the answer being a categorical *no!* 'The course was in lovely condition', he said, 'indeed, just as it has always been'. Offering an opinion as to this phenomenon, he suggested that perhaps it was because in the so-called boom years when everyone was mucking their greens up by applying fertiliser by the truck-load, Littlestone had the good sense not to waste their money. 'Are you still mean with fertiliser', I asked, to which Malcolm grinned before replying, 'the fertiliser reps get fed up calling on me, for we use so little. Last year we used none at all save a liquid 50/50 feed dressing on the greens – just to keep them pretty – and you can see for yourself how good they are'.

Indeed, I have to admit those Littlestone greens putt as well as they look, which is very well indeed; and would opine that this might also be down to the intelligent use of water. Throughout those aforementioned boom years Littlestone was without automatic irrigation, and although they now have this facility, the past two years have seen drought orders enforced, with minimal night-time watering only. Though forced upon them, this is in many ways a blessing for the predominating bents and fescues, kept to perfection principally by the use of the hand-held hose.

'I'm very happy with the Watermation system installed, complete with TW2 controller, and it's a boon if used intelligently', says Malcolm, though he chuckled when recalling early conversations with the installer: 'how does all this high-tech stuff work?' he asked, 'don't know', came the reply! He has it mastered now, thanks to some schooling at a Watermation training session, though he thinks the real learning is largely down to experimentation and using the system – playing with it.

If I am allowed another opinion here, I would suggest that Malcolm's avowed credo – minimal watering at a rate just enough to keep the grass alive, is extremely sound indeed, for

though links golf is different – with its humps and hollows, its bounds and ricochets – it is this very difference that makes it attractive beyond measure. The green committee at Littlestone do well to insist upon maintaining the status quo, for once a links course is allowed to degenerate (not too harsh a word) into lushness and 'green grass at any price', the quality that is links golf is lost forever!

We talked of visits from the STRI, Malcolm pointing to the advisory reports emanating from agronomist David Stansfield and suggesting that nothing much had changed over the years. 'From Jim Arthur's earlier visits, when he was agronomist for the R&A Championship Committee, down to the present visits of David Stansfield, the same sensible, logical and

workable ideas still persist, he said, 'Jim Arthur's policies are still very much with us, albeit written with a different pencil – nothing much changes, which pleases me'.

Malcolm has had one big surprise this year, a pleasant one but a surprise nonetheless. I asked him when he first learned about the BIGGA Championships coming to Littlestone. 'When you shook my hand four months ago, on the first of your photographic visits', was his candid reply. 'When you came and said to me "getting ready for the big one?", I thought you were referring to the English

Ladies Stroke Play Championship, which is here at the end of July. I didn't let on to you, but I had no idea; and it was only when I got home and found my latest copy of Greenkeeper International that I realised you were not kidding!'

It says something for the man that he took this surprise in such good spirit, and as he was quick to point out, 'we are always ready for the big occasion anyway, my policy being that the course should be as good for a monthly medal as a British title championship. Big events don't frighten me, but I would be kidding you if I didn't feel a little apprehensive at the thought of being judged by my peers – I've no holiday booked until the event is history and I'll be on tenterhooks until the BIGGA Championship is over – then I'll either be sacked or relaxed!' He laughed at this com-

ment, but I have a sneaky feeling he'll be relaxing come sundown on August 12th.

'Will you be 'tricking' up the course in any way, creating anything out of the ordinary?', I asked. He grinned – 'I'll look to make it as tough as its 6,424 yards can play for those three days, but at Littlestone in August the weather will do all the tricking for us. The course can and probably will dry out to an extent that will make it 'fiery' and the run-in approach shot will be called for, though players may get a false impression from the grassy fairways on the first five or six holes. There is no logical reason why these fairways should yield more grass cover – perhaps it's how reclamation from the sea has left us – but we often need only to gang-mow just these six, leaving the rest! Green speed will also be dictated somewhat by nature, which means fairly fast – or downright rapid if the drying winds take control! I rarely need to cut lower than 3/16" on the mainly fescue/bent surfaces. We've a wee bit of *Poa annua*, but I verticut the life out of it – weekly if the greens look as though they can stand it – and the slit-tiner gets used regularly, with as many passes as possible, from the end of summer 'till spring. The greens drain freely and we never have any surface water even after a downpour, nevertheless I run the Vertidrain over every two years or so – largely as a safety measure'.

Malcolm is confident that if the weather holds to form – which means little rain – tight lies will be the order of the day, which will please the better players no end. He has supreme confidence in his loyal staff; with first assistant, John Stickels, having no less than 22 years service with the Club – a veritable Godsend. 'They're a fantastic crew: dedicated, loyal and very hard working – I cannot praise them highly enough' – commendation indeed!



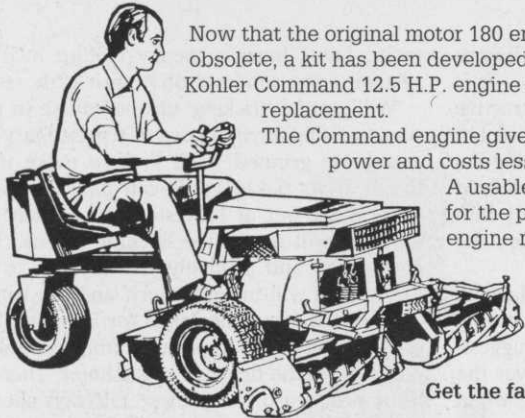
Malcolm Grand: 'I'll be on tenterhooks until the BIGGA Championship is over'

MAJOR MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT IN THE LITTLESTONE STABLE

5 Tractors: (2) John Deere (1) Kubota (2) Old Internationals	3 Lloyds Paladins 1 6' Perfect rotary 1 each Cushman drag-net, top-dresser, sprayer, multi-depth aerator and brush.
2 Cushman trucks	1 Ryman Sod cutter
2 Ransome 180s	1 John Deere brush cutter
1 Jacobsen Tri-King	1 McConnel Ditch-King
2 sets Ransomes Hydraulic Mounted 5s	1 Royer Power Screen
1 set Ransomes 214 rough-cut and thatching reels	1 Compost shredder
2 Toro greens mowers (GM3 & GM300)	3 Tipping trailers

● Machinery is shared with the adjacent Warren course, which is also maintained by the Littlestone team. An additional nine holes at the Warren have recently been constructed by Malcolm Grand and his crew.

REJUVENATE YOUR RANSOMES MOTOR 180 WITH A KOHLER COMMAND ENGINE



Now that the original motor 180 engine is obsolete, a kit has been developed to fit the Kohler Command 12.5 H.P. engine as a replacement.

The Command engine gives more power and costs less to run.

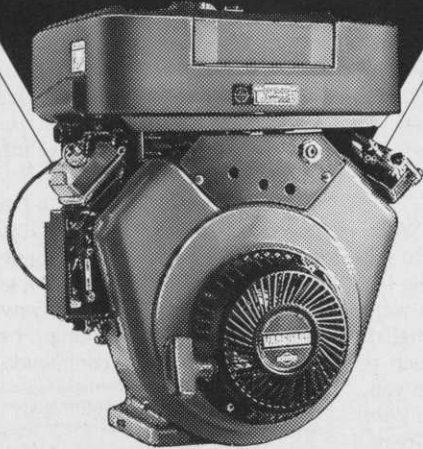
A usable machine for the price of an engine makes economic sense.

Get the facts from:

J. H. Hancox Ltd., Alcester Road, Portway,
Birmingham B48 7JA. Tel: 0564 824343.

AD
REF
370

AT THE HEART OF A WINNING COMBINATION



VANGUARD

the name you can trust from



Briggs & Stratton UK Ltd, Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4JE
Tel: (0277) 262552. Fax: (0277) 262547. Telex: 995295.

AD
REF
225

ENGI

Petrol or diesel, which is best? Of course the answer depends on so many variables but probably the most important of all would be the type of equipment to be powered. A solidly built, heavy diesel engine could be suitable for the larger ride-on commercial mowers but is it right for equipment that travels over sensitive greens and other fine turf? Perhaps a lighter, quieter, vibration-free OHV petrol engine is a better alternative. The advantages of petrol over diesel can be summarised as follows: Typically a 12kw petrol engine will weigh only 32kgs, reducing the chances of equipment leaving ruts or compacting the surface. As the petrol engine tends to be more compact it allows equipment manufacturers to reduce the overall size and weight of the equipment.

Low noise levels: Comparing like for like a petrol engine will be quieter than an air cooled diesel so it is often necessary to build expensive enclosures to reduce noise levels from diesel engines to acceptable levels.

Lower vibration: Modern petrol engines such as Briggs & Stratton's Vanguard 16HP V-Twin have very low vibration giving high levels of operator comfort and minimising the need for a reinforced chassis and mounting plate.

Better starting: Especially in cold weather the petrol engine will normally start easier than the diesel due to its lower compression ratio and the higher volatility of the fuel.

Fuel economy: This is the area where the diesel usually has the biggest advantage but the latest OHV petrol engines are up to 30% more fuel efficient than the older side valve designs. And of course they can all run on unleaded fuel, which now costs about the same as diesel. The fuel consumption for a 12kw petrol engine running on a typical 50% load would be approximately three quarters of a gallon an hour.

Lubrication: Modern petrol engines now have pressure lubrication systems with external oil filters – just the same as their diesel cousins.

The environment: Improved carburettor design has resulted in lower emission levels and catalytic converters will soon be available for some engines. Most petrol engines can also be run on environmentally friendly LPG (Liquid Propane Gas).

Equipment manufacturers often offer a choice of engine allowing prospective purchasers to make the decision themselves on which type of power unit is most suitable for their operation.

In recent years there have been many improvements in lightweight, high speed diesel engines which make them suitable for purposes for which they would not have been considered a few years ago. The diesel unit, because of its high compression ratio – often in the region of 20:1 – has to be a robustly constructed engine which in turn is one of the factors that leads to a long service life. Often they are now of a size that makes them interchangeable with an existing petrol engine which is fitted to an expensive piece of machinery.

Diesel advantages: Amongst the advantages of the diesel are a much lower combustion chamber temperature leading to far longer valve and piston ring life, less dilution of the oil on the cylinder bore during cold starting and a very much improved fuel consumption. If 'red' diesel is being used, fuel bills can be cut by as much as 75%. It is normal for a diesel engine to run for 1,500 hours before it needs decarbonising and the injector cleaned and reset and a further 1,500 hours before a rebore needs to be considered. As many engines are built to have two or three overhauls in their lives, a total life of 10,000 hours is not an unreasonable expectation. This, together with the outstanding fuel economy, will repay the extra first cost of a diesel engine many times over. The essential advantages of the diesel engine are: Robust construction, long engine life, good fuel economy and reliability.

INES

Then the question is, can I get an engine to fit my machine? The answer is most probably yes, as engines are now available in a very wide range of configurations from single and twin cylinder air cooled units which can be obtained in horizontal or vertical crankshaft form through multi-cylinder water cooled units. Engines are available with drive from either or both ends of the crankshaft and with additional PTO's for hydraulic pumps. Starting can be by rope, recoil, hand crank or battery. Power ratings can be from about 5hp onwards with very good torque characteristics.

As much machinery used on golf courses is imported from America (where fuel is cheap) the use of high horsepower petrol engines goes by unnoticed. In the UK, however, petrol is very expensive, particularly in relation to gas oil or 'red' diesel, so much so that a diesel engine can more than pay for itself in fuel saving in less than a year. If these savings can be made on a long life engine for one piece of equipment, imagine the scale of economy when a whole fleet of golf course equipment is considered; and as every course manager and greenkeeper will know, cost is of paramount importance. All courses have tractors and therefore diesel fuel will be readily obtainable. Its extended use will reduce the quantity of highly inflammable petrol that needs to be stored at any one time.

Now that diesel engines are made to be more readily started, many of the small units can be as easy to start on the recoil as a petrol engine. The multicylinder indirect injection engines have heater plugs and many or all of the features found on modern automotive diesel engines to ensure that they are trouble-free cold starters.

The diesel no longer need be regarded with suspicion, for it can be easily started, is reliable, economical and has a very long service life. There is a type and configuration for nearly every job on a golf course. As we have already seen, engines can be bought from small air cooled single cylinder versions to multicylinder liquid cooled units with their own radiators. Now is the time of year to consider re-engineing



that expensive equipment with a long life, low fuel consumption diesel engine.

■ Greenkeeper International acknowledges the assistance given in compiling this comparison feature from Briggs & Stratton (petrol) and Tecnamotor (diesel).

Engine efficiency means less pollution

by HUGH TILLEY

Fuel economy was the prime goal for engine development a few years ago but now the goal posts are in front of lower emissions and pollution control – reflecting demand by customer, user and the general public. In particular the golf playing public is expecting mowers to be seen (but only if essential), but not heard nor smelt, (nor should they smoke or otherwise pollute the atmosphere). For the operator there are also health and safety hazards in noise and toxic and obnoxious emissions which have to be avoided. Development is also taking place in engine management systems which offer considerable scope for improvement in engine efficiency, the main factor restricting their introduction appearing to be cost and acceptability.

There is a clamour for bio-degradable and synthetic oils though this ideal has yet to match the reality. There has been rationalisation in the number of makes of small engine used in turf machinery, perhaps as smaller makers fall behind in R & D and marketing, and today is the day of the lightweight, high speed, compact diesel engine, especially for the professional who values the greater economy and reliability they offer – so

says one leading maker of such engines. Another manufacturer suggests that one gallon of diesel will do the work of three gallons of petrol, similarly he estimated the service life of a diesel to be twice or three times as long, perhaps 10,000 against 3/4,000 hours. This may be exaggerated as the latest petrol engines also have improved consumption and a longer service life. A number of American manufacturers have been a little tardy in adapting their machines to diesel – because 'gasoline' is cheap (in America). In the UK, diesel has many advantages and prime reasons for specifying it include the ease, safety, and convenience of storing. Considerations over whether to specify diesel or petrol must also look at annual running hours: some machines will never put in sufficient hours to justify the extra cost of a diesel engine. Significant advances have been made in petrol engines, and petrol is still the predominant fuel for pedestrian operated equipment, and because weight, simplicity and cost are usually important, most are air cooled. Much noise has been designed out by better balanced components and improved ignition chambers, and the trend is towards overhead valves which, while more complex and expensive, do

result in better ignition, – thus a cleaner, quieter burn and improved fuel efficiency.

Solid state or electronic ignition has made a dramatic improvement in both the reliability and performance of small petrol engines. Most people have also been converted to low octane unleaded fuel without real trouble. Many of these petrol engines now have automatic decompression systems which dramatically reduce the effort required to start them, this is particularly noticeable with recoil starters, but it also applies to key starting. Because the engine spins more readily so is it quicker to start -making 'first pull' starts more of a reality. The saving in broken cords and frustration can be quite real too.

Diesel engines are now available from about 5hp, and while they are more expensive than an equivalent petrol version they may now be very little heavier. Air cooled versions can be expected to be noisier than an equivalent liquid cooled version, but the deeper note of the diesel may be more acceptable than the more penetrating tone of an air cooled petrol engine.

The latest generation of diesels, particularly for ride-ons etc., are likely to be compact multicylinder water cooled designs, and these → 23

YOUR BUSINESS WILL RUN SMOOTHER AFTER AN OIL CHANGE.



ESSO

Lubricare

QUALITY OILS

21 → will be seen more and more widely on golf courses as manufacturers ranges expand. These engines are inevitably of the indirect injection type which means they have a pre-combustion chamber. This 'feature' may be lost on the average greenkeeper, whose main interest is whether they work reliably. What he will notice is that indirect injection engines (usually) need the air in the cylinder to be pre-heated (with a glow-plug) before they will start, whereas the direct injection design, prevalent on tractors, will normally happily start after a few turns of the starter – battery drain is about the same either way. Indirect injection is slightly less economical on fuel although paradoxically it is actually more fuel efficient, it is also significantly quieter with a lower level of particulate emissions – ie. smoke, – telling advantages which come from the better controlled and relatively slower burn of the fuel.

Despite the extra complications of radiator and circulation system and the extra cost, the majority of compact diesel engines have liquid cooling, usually water. The significant advantages of this are in providing a more effective medium for heat transfer, and by providing a sound deadening jacket around the noise generation combustion chamber. If radiators and so on are an abhorrence, or unsuited for other reasons, perhaps an air cooled petrol engine is the better option.

The 'engine management system' on most small engines is a hand/foot throttle and mechanical governor with advance and retard mechanism. Motor racing is pioneering electronic controls which sense more parameters faster, and as well as the setting of the throttle and the engine's revs they can monitor load and power demand to give a faster response and significantly better fuel efficiency. The first (and currently only) manufacturer to use electronic engine control in the turf industry is Huxleys with their Electronic Drive Control (EDC) on the Huxtruk. While not fully integrated into the engine this unit controls engine and hydrostatic transmission according to the power and speed demands of the PTO

Liquid cooling provides added advantages

and wheels, ensuring these are maintained at the speed set by the operator. Huxley's experience is that the EDC unit responds faster and more positively than the mechanical governor on the engine, and they claim quieter operation, reduced engine loading and lower fuel consumption. The unit was proven in similar hydrostatic drive applications in the construction industry. Turbo-charging is also becoming increasingly acceptable, and while in the first instance it was seen as a way of increasing the power of an engine, by 'blowing' extra air into the cylinder, it does offer a method of improving combustion efficiency and so reducing emissions. Turbo-charging places greater burdens on the oil, however few manufacturers are now specifying specific oils for diesel and turbo-diesel engines. Reducing emissions also includes reducing crankcase emissions – a major source of pollutant, and this means better ring sealing, and lower oil consumption. Lower oil consumption has a down side – there is less 'topping up' to replenish the additives in the oil. At the same time engine manufacturers are trying to extend their service intervals. If there is a lesson to be learned it is that the less often one fills or refills the sump the better quality of oil one ought to buy. One major lubricant manufacturer told Greenkeeper International that they have looked (and continue to look) at oils on the golf course (literally as well as metaphorically). Their conclusion is that bio-degradability has limited value, as much of the damage from oil spillage comes from suffocating the leaf and root of the grass, thus a wetter and water may be the best answer. They

also speculated that equal problems come from the additives and pollutants, often toxic heavy metals, which are in the oil.

Several firms are offering synthetic lubricants, particularly greases or special purpose lubricants such as chain-saw oil. Teflon and other additives are available which can reduce friction and thus wear – claims are many, but few are actively 'sold' by either engine or oil suppliers. A major problem with engine lubrication is that the oil has such a multitude of tasks to perform: to clean, intercept and hold in suspension the products of combustion and wear, transfer heat (from piston etc), protect against corrosion and reduce noise as well as lubricate. Typically there may be nine different additives to augment the base 'oil' in these duties.

Most engine oils are now multi-purpose, in other words, suitable for both petrol and diesel engines, normally aspirated or turbo-charged. It may be possible to save money by going for a cheaper oil if none of your engines requires a high performance oil, but the saving is so small that the wisdom of this must be questionable – and if you upgrade to a new diesel mower or tractor you may be left with a drum of oil which you should not use in it. Most of these refinements (in engine and oil) came by evolution rather than by revolution, and it is only when you consider today's technology against the engine in your ten year old mower that you realise the strides technology has made – nor is there reason to believe that the next decade will not bring further advances. (As a point of interest, my mower is 33 years old!)

Correct approach to chemical usage: sensitive and sensible

Careful chemical selection and weed control programme planning will do much to answer the growing public and legislative pressures related to herbicide use in sensitive areas, according to Mark DeAth of weed control specialists Nomix-Chipman.

Speaking on the options for environmentally-friendly weed control at a specialist water quality seminar in London, Mr DeAth advised local authority and amenity managers to examine their options in detail. With the choice being between residual and non-residual herbicides, there are four primary strategies available to specifiers today, he said.

"The ultimate in environmental acceptability is to use non-residuals only. This will obviously have a higher cost in that at least two applications will be needed each season to give an acceptable level of weed control. However it also poses the least risk of water contamination.

"Another option is to alternate between residuals and non-residuals, using a residual in a single application one season followed by a non-residual which may require several applications the next," he continued. "This will reduce the chemical burden on the environment while maintaining good weed control."

"The third possibility is to combine non-atrazine and simazine residuals with knock-

down herbicides. This eliminates the use of atrazine and simazine but maintains a high level of weed control from a single application at a comparable cost to a triazine-only programme.

"Finally, the most economic option is to use triazine mixtures. Although this will control weeds over an entire season from just one application, it carries the greatest risk to local water supplies. No official restrictions have yet been placed on the use of triazine mixtures, but it is widely accepted that curbs will soon apply."

DeAth went on to outline factors which govern the choice of weed control strategy, including the availability of labour, the need for operator safety and the application equipment to be used.

With herbicide application becoming as important as chemical choice in achieving the best balance, he defined the key application needs. Systems should maximise labour productivity, minimise spray drift and operator contamination, maximise chemical use and minimise chemical disposal problems.

"Whatever strategy is chosen, there are a number of operating guidelines which should be followed to minimise the risk of water contamination," he concluded. "If there is any doubt, seek professional advice from suppliers and ensure that all advisers are BASIS qualified."

OBITUARY

Joe Gillett – always proud of his 'calling'

It is with regret that I now inform fellow BIGGA members of the death of Joe Gillett, the much respected head greenkeeper of St Annes Old Links Golf Club from 1953 until 1981.

Joe, as all who knew him will surely recollect, was a great character and a skillful golfer who played with great enthusiasm, especially remembered as a worthy winner of the Ransomes Trophy at Wallasey in 1971.

Joe came from a family of greenkeepers and began his illustrious career in 1931 at the Fairhaven Golf Club. He was always proud of his calling and it gave him great pleasure to see his chosen profession grow from strength to strength.

We are all proud to have known him and on behalf of all his many friends and members in BIGGA, I send our deepest sympathy to his wife, Barbara, and to his family.

GEOFF WHITTLE

Pattisson



Manufacturers & Suppliers of Golf Course and Driving Range Equipment.

Aluminium posts and inset panels have made these colourful new tee plates an attractive addition to the wide range already available, and were well received by the visitors to the Harrogate Exhibition



PATTISSON & CO LTD

342 Selbourne Road, Luton, Beds LU4 8NU

Tel: 0582 597262. Fax: 0582 505241



Letters to the editor are always welcome. They should be signed and carry the writer's address and telephone number. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity, libel and good taste. Please send letters to: The Editor, Greenkeeper International, 13 Firle Close, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 2HL

Price cuts ■ Testing times

■ To my knowledge, most head greenkeepers prepare annual budgets for their respective Clubs and, once approved, work within accepted limits. To do this effectively one must have up-to-date prices and I am thus bound to ask 'why is it so difficult to get these from stockists?'

Writing in late April, I have received just one 1992 price list, and this came through the pages of Greenkeeper International. When requesting lists the excuse offered is often that they are still 'at the printers' or 'one will be sent' (still waiting!) and I am prompted to ask: why are they not printed at the same time as brochures, which are always in abundant supply?

Do stockists resist sending them for fear of price comparisons, or are they just saying to themselves 'greenkeepers need the products anyway, so why bother?'

I would like to think this letter will bring me some price lists, and would urge suppliers to send brochures *only* when they can be backed up with prices.

SAM MORRISON Head Greenkeeper,
Royal Aberdeen GC, Scotland

ate strategies are used and problems addressed. Our younger greenkeepers who feel their exam mark is below their ability at practical greenkeeping may well have a specific learning difficulty and should get specialist testing as soon as possible, as help should be available. The test for adults can cost around £25 and there is often a waiting list to endure. However, if a specific learning difficulty is established, help can be obtained in many areas and examining boards can allow extra time and/or make a greater allowance for spelling/grammar errors in such cases.

I think more discussion needs to take place on the subject in order to remove the cloud of academic failure from some of our able workers. How can the Association help? What can a head greenkeeper do if he believes one of his staff has a dyslexia problem?

More information about resources is available from local Dyslexia Institutes - details in local phone books - or contact the Dyslexia Institute, 133 Gresham Road, Staines, Middlesex TW18 2AJ.

RICHARD HEASLIP
Hainault Forest GC, Essex

■ I am writing to you to raise the subject of dyslexia. Over the last couple of years we have been in the process of getting help for our son, aged ten. Well, what has this to do with greenkeeping people you may ask? I shall try to explain.

We came to realise that our son was having learning difficulties, particularly in reading, writing, and also in short term memory, although he had no trouble solving practical problems. We took him to the Dyslexia Institute for assessment. The report confirmed our fears - in spite of an IQ of 120, specific learning difficulties were identified.

It was in conversation with the psychologist that she told us the Institute had been consulted by an agricultural college to advise of ways they might identify and help students who have problems. It had become apparent to the college that agriculture tends to attract a higher than average number of people who have some form of learning problem and greenkeeping must be included in this.

With more and more emphasis placed upon written examinations, this, in some circumstances, could preclude individuals with natural flair and ability from advancing to their full potential unless appropri-

■ I read with interest the articles (May G.I.) about water features on golf courses. Certain points led me to wonder how hazards such as these are now influencing the design of new courses in the British Isles. At Bank House they have 18 holes and a driving range in a limited site of just 120 acres. I presume that most of the 13 lakes must be used as safety zones between fairways, as opposed to being created for irrigation storage purposes or as part of the strategy of the course design.

I cannot admit to having visited the site, but the article gives the impression that the lakes are not in naturally occurring depressions which would normally collect surface water, especially when they are merely two feet deep.

What most interests me is the reason for creating all these lakes. I presume it is the 'Florida influence', as a majority of the resort courses in Florida feature lakes highly, but why? Is it to make the courses more difficult, or to improve the playability of the course, or is the real reason to provide further income for the developer in the resale of 'lake balls'? I think so, especially as they are becoming an increasingly profitable product in most pro's shops

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 22, Bassett Down Ind. Estate, Hay Lane, Swindon, Wiltshire SN4 9QP
Tel. Sales: 0462 700547 • Works: 0793 845199 • Fax: 0793 845191

AD
REF
35

AD
REF
214

Letters

■ Golf isn't a water sport ■ Training is The Way Forward ■ A waste

nowadays, often selling at a premium. One resort course I know on the outskirts of Norwich undertakes several dredging operations throughout the year, a highly profitable exercise.

Surely this relates to the type of course being offered to the golfer – the developers of 'Pay-as-you-Play' courses are keen to keep players moving as swiftly as possible. If a golfer hits his ball into a lake, he doesn't have a choice – the ball is irretrievable, he has to forget it and play another. This means that five minutes are not otherwise spent looking for a ball in deep rough or scrub and it keeps the golfers moving. (Unless of course the golfer keeps playing each subsequent shot into the lake!)

This, however, has a detrimental effect on the standard of the golfer. How can a player ever become proficient at shots from different and varying lies if the only hazards on the course are water, closely mown semi-rough or widely spaced staked trees. Where is the rough and deep rough?

I feel that the element of surprise is, effectively, being removed by incorporating an excessive amount of lakes into a golf course design. Maybe this is best explained by the following analogy: two golfers tee off down a par 4 hole, one hits his ball straight, the other slices into the rough and scrub. The latter finds to his surprise and great pleasure that his ball has come to rest in a clearing – allowing him a shot to the green, with a chance of halving or even winning the hole. He has, in effect, been given a reprieve, but he has still got to be able to play a good recovery shot to take advantage of the situation. This makes for exciting golf. A lake allows for one result only – unplayable: reload! As a hazard it is so final, whereas deep rough will always provide for the possibility of another result – that which is based on an element of luck or good fortune.

Thinking back to some of the most exciting Open Championships, this element has always provided spectacle. Take, for instance, the memorable final rounds of Watson and Nicklaus at Turnberry in 1977. The result was uncertain right down to the final putt, and it almost swung in Nicklaus' favour after he made a remarkable recovery shot from a fortunate lie amongst the gorse and then proceeded to hole his putt for a three from the edge of the green. Watson was left with a

two footer to take the Championship by a shot, which he confidently holed.

Had Nicklaus' tee shot drifted into a lake as opposed to the gorse, the Championship would have been over before they had even reached the final green. And what an anticlimax that would have been.

My point in writing is an attempt to explain that there will always be a strong objection against the move towards golf as a water sport. It may well appeal to golfers in the USA but I fail to see it gaining nationwide approval in Britain. Firstly because of increasing problems relating to water shortages and to restrictions set by the NRA, and secondly because of the British golfers' reluctance in having to keep buying new balls.

Do not misunderstand me, though, because invariably, carefully located and well designed water features on a golf course can provide the perfect effect or setting. Depending upon the character of the site, a lake can be considered to be useful for several functions: in providing a positive outlet for drainage purposes; as part of the strategy of the golf course design when a natural depression exists; or for storage purposes for an irrigation system. Ideally, though, the latter will not be visible from the main playing areas.

It is up to the architects of these new courses to convince the developers that there are alternative ways of creating a hazard. In many cases I regard a lake as a 'cop-out' – where the architect lacks the imagination to provide something more stimulating.

I appreciate that the flow of golfers through these new facilities has to be maintained, but surely there has to be some compromise somewhere and by this I mean to provide some thick rough (or heather and gorse) in strategic locations on the course to give the golfer something to really get his teeth into.

JONATHAN GAUNT BA (Hons) Dip LA.
Golf Course Architect, Forest Gate,
London

■ For those sceptics amongst us who sometimes question the standing and direction of our Association, whilst suffering from a seemingly terminal dose of apathy, I would like to report on our (BIGGA Kent Section) strides forward and the recognition we are receiving.

David Wood and myself recently

attended a seminar organised by the Kent Golf Union at Rochester and Cobham GC, aimed at secretaries and captains. David was invited to talk on Greenkeeper Training, something that would have perhaps been unheard of at such an event in the past. Other speakers included Keith Wright, secretary of the EGU, on the role and objectives of the Union, Henry Wylie on the diversity of golfing organisations and Derek Pulford on the role of the County Unions. Much time was devoted to the speakers and delegates were involved in what turned out to be a fairly lively debate, mainly inspired by David's address. It would be fair to say that a minority of the delegates embarked on a spree of 'greenkeeper bashing.'

The usual chestnuts came to the fore: 'why do greenkeepers need training? They then ask for better wages and conditions or are poached by other courses or organisations'. 'One of the newly constructed greens on my course is appalling, it must be the greenkeeper's fault (even though he didn't build it!) and what yard stick can we use to show ineptitude and sack him!' Also 'why do greenkeepers need managerial, accounting and computer skills to cut grass' – this from the odd secretary no doubt fearing for his job. These comments were vigorously countered by Keith Wright, Brian Evans (KGU), David and myself, and it is clear that the Golf Unions and perhaps the majority of delegates actively support our efforts for a strong force of well trained, educated and skilled greenkeepers.

One of the keys to all this will be communication, with this seminar demonstrating how in the past this has been sadly lacking. I read the journals of the EGU and the Secretaries Association and it is clear from reading them that we all suffer the same problems and difficulties in carrying out our duties. These seem to be the haphazard way some Clubs are organised, the lack of funds available and the lack of active management policy in some areas.

As Keith Wright was at pains to point out, the EGU is the most poorly funded Union in Europe, although it caters for more golfers and offers a greater service – and as the gent with the dodgy greens also pointed out, he would like to have an agronomist look at them, but his Club and committee couldn't find one cheap enough!

I am pleased to say some were very keen for BIGGA to provide more information on training – perhaps encouragement for us to move forward and do more. Finally, may I thank Brian Evans and the KGU for a cracking event – I can't wait for the next one, for it is clearly what is needed to enhance co-operation, communication and response to 'The Way Forward'.

PAUL COPSEY Head Greenkeeper,
Barnhurst GC, Bexleyheath, Kent

■ The 'concerned greenkeepers' of West Sussex GC raise an important issue in your May edition. Our company gave consideration to the problem of container wastage at the design stage of our green foliar feed, Agrimaster, and we opted to reduce the number of plastic containers in circulation while offering a high nutrient input at the same time. In the result one 25 litre container of our concentrate proved sufficient for treating 18 golf greens, thus greatly reducing wastage, storage space and handling.

From time to time we have recovered empty containers from some of our larger users but transportation and cleaning costs (including investments in equipment) make this a discouraging proposition. Perhaps the plastics industry should itself take some responsibility for the recycling of packaging materials. However, we acknowledge the legitimate concerns of West Sussex GC and remain willing to discuss the matter with any interested parties.

ROGER WEST

Technical Director, Agriland Ltd.
Bournemouth, Dorset

■ In July of this year my husband, Eric Palmer, will have served 50 years as a greenkeeper – 41 of those as a head greenkeeper.

During his career he has worked on just three courses, Sitwell Park in Rotherham, Abbeydale in Sheffield, and his present Club – Hickleton near Barnsley.

His dedication to his work cannot be surpassed and he is and always has been a credit to his profession. He has seen so many changes over the years and I feel justly proud of him – indeed I have learned quite a lot myself.

Eric has been nominated by his first assistant for the 'Greenkeeper of the Year' award, but notwithstanding this I feel his 50 years of dedication deserve recognition.

MRS MARGARET PALMER

Baby, Doncaster, S Yorkshire

Management Courses



'In just a week at one of our Management Courses, greenkeepers can pick up a fantastic wealth of knowledge, new ideas, techniques and tips from top industry experts. Don't miss out!'

- DAVID GOLDING, BIGGA Education Officer

Join the buzz!

BOOKINGS are now being taken for the **BIGGA Management Courses** - fast becoming recognised as the best events of their kind throughout the entire industry.

And thanks to the continued financial support of Kubota UK and the Greenkeepers Training Committee, the in-house courses will once again be held at Aldwark Manor. In stylish surroundings delegates will be able to gain valuable knowledge, pick up new ideas and exchange views with their counterparts on other courses and some of greenkeeping's top names.

For six weeks commencing in mid-October, Aldwark Manor - home of BIGGA HQ - will be buzzing with all that's happening to make tomorrow's greenkeeper better equipped than ever before.

This is the fourth year of the courses. Delegates who have attended in the past will be aware of the need, therefore, to book early. It's a rolling programme, so book straight away for your next year. If you haven't already witnessed the superb facilities at Aldwark Manor, apply today for Year One. Priority will be given on Years Two, Three and Four to delegates who have attended in previous years.

Attendance at each week's course qualifies delegates for eight Credits to go towards the Master Greenkeepers Certificate.

Remember, there are **no** examinations to take at the end of the Management Course. Your learning process comes from the quality daytime sessions - and from informal discussion in the bar afterwards.

Cost per week, to include accommodation (twin bedded rooms), all meals and tuition fees is £280 +VAT = £329.

To reserve your place, complete the pre-paid postcard in this magazine. If you have any queries or you need more information, call Sue Gudgeon on 03473 581/2. There are only limited places available and interest is always high: book straight away to avoid disappointment.



Management Courses Autumn/Winter 1992: TIMETABLES

Year 1 16-20 November 1992 or 23-27 November 1992. Delegates per week: 20

	9am - 12 noon	1.30pm - 4.00pm	4.30pm - 7.00pm
Monday	Delegates arrive at BIGGA HQ for lunch at noon	How to manage your time more effectively: David Illingworth	Introduction to computers: Fred Robinson
Tuesday	Computers: continued Fred Robinson	Grasses for the Golf Course: Andy Newell STRI	Communication workshop: Nick Bisset, Askham Bryan College
Wednesday	Conservation on the Golf Course: Robert Taylor, STRI	Problems associated with the maintenance of Greens, Tees, Bunkers, Surrounds and Fairways: STRI speakers	
Thursday	Health & Safety Update: Jon Allbutt		
Friday	Turf Grass Diseases: STRI speaker	Delegates depart following lunch	

Each day: Coffee break: 10.30am • Lunch: 12 noon
Tea break: 4pm • Dinner is served at 7.30pm

Year 2 2-6 November 1992 or 9-13 November 1992. Delegates per week: 20

	9am - 12 noon	1.30pm - 4.00pm	4.30pm - 7.00pm
Monday	Delegates arrive at BIGGA HQ for lunch at noon	Assertiveness: Frank Newberry and Lesley Moore	Report Writing: Frank Newberry and Lesley Moore
Tuesday	Verbal Presentations: Frank Newberry and Lesley Moore	Leadership: Frank Newberry and Lesley Moore	Presentation: Frank Newberry and Lesley Moore
Wednesday	Health & Safety at Work Act 1974: Jon Allbutt		
Thursday	Preparing a Health & Safety Statement of Safety Policy/Preparing a Risk Assessment (COSHH-FEPA): Jon Allbutt		
Friday	Fertilisers: What are the Options? David Lawson, STRI	Delegates depart following lunch	

Each day: Coffee break: 10.30am • Lunch: 12 noon
Tea break: 4pm • Dinner is served at 7.30pm

Year 3 26-30 October 1992. Delegates per week: 20

	9am - 12 noon	1.30pm - 4.00pm	4.30pm - 7.00pm
Monday	Delegates arrive at BIGGA HQ for lunch at noon	Job Interview	Writing and Assessing CVs
Tuesday	Team Development	Managing Performance: Paul Whiteley and Frank Newberry	
Wednesday	Surveying: Robert Everett, STRI		Finance: What are the Options? Keith Jaynes
Thursday	Construction of Golf Greens: Brian D Pierson, British Association of Golf Course Contractors		
Friday	Preparing and Implementing a Course Policy Document: David Stansfield, STRI	Delegates depart following lunch	

Each day: Coffee break: 10.30am • Lunch: 12 noon
Tea break: 4pm • Dinner is served at 7.30pm

Year 4 19-23 October 1992. Delegates per week: 20

	9am - 12 noon	1.30pm - 4.00pm	4.30pm - 7.00pm
Monday	Delegates arrive at BIGGA HQ for lunch at noon	Advanced Public Speaking	Marketing and Customer Care
Tuesday	Negotiating Skills: Paul Whiteley and Frank Newberry	Working Under Pressure: Paul Whiteley and Frank Newberry	
Wednesday	First Aid		
Thursday	Health & Safety at Work Update: Jon Allbutt		
Friday	Presenting a Course for Championships: Bruce Jamieson, PGA European Tour	Delegates depart following lunch	

Each day: Coffee break: 10.30am • Lunch: 12 noon
Tea break: 4pm • Dinner is served at 7.30pm

VERTIDRAIN HIRE

CALL THE EXPERTS

Call Lisa Pierson
NOW for your spring
and autumn
vertidrain treatment



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

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

AD
REF
40



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

AD
REF
33

BIG ROLL KEEPS TURNIN'

There is a perversity in big business that belies good sense in that it feeds and flourishes on bad news, with the world of fine turf certainly no exception. One company rubs its hands with glee as another reports falling dividends or losses, a contrariness difficult to understand when one appreciates that almost any bad news in a given industry may have a knock-on negative effect. Taking this a stage further, I still wonder how many companies talked themselves into recession by taking too much notice of the doom and gloom fed to them in the 'heavies'?

What is even more surprising is that bad news moves faster than good, gathering rumour upon embellishment upon innuendo as the story travels down the line. Thus it was with the snippet which circulated less than two months ago, purporting to tell of the demise/bankruptcy/closure/insolvency/receivership of Lawn Tech, the Lawn on a Roll company. This was a story that had my telephone humming for several days, versions changing with the tide.

My nature is to sniff out the truth and I was therefore heartened by the suggestion of Andy Church, the ex-Tottenham Hotspur head groundsman turned sales manager for Lawn Tech, who ventured the idea at Westurf that the true telling of their story would do much to clear muddied waters, whilst perhaps serving as a salutary lesson to others on the perils that lurk for the unwary when conducting business in the 1990s, together with the miserable inconsistencies and utterly unfair laws prevailing in company liquidation.

To begin at the beginning, readers should understand that Lawn Tech are not turf producers, rather they are the inventors and manufacturers of Big Roll turf laying machinery and independent suppliers and layers of turf grown by others within the industry, notably Inturf. Their work is the laying of big rolls in a controlled fashion, undertaken for the contractor doing the job on a given site. They began by developing their new machinery in 1990, completing trials by the end of that year and founding the company proper in March 1991, funded by independent sources. At the beginning there was almost universal scepticism about whether the system would work, even from Inturf, though they were eager to be proved wrong and Inturf's managing director, Derek Edwards, intimated that if it proved successful the machine could change the face of the industry and his company certainly wanted to be where the action was!

Taking up the story, Chris Bradshaw, the company's sales director, told of a successful first year when from a standing start they laid no less than 500,000 square yards, mainly fine turf for greens and tees. Being totally frank, he also admitted that in being very hungry for business the company failed to look carefully enough at some of those they were working for, and in the

process they picked up irretrievable debts to the tune of £80,000. In particular, one single company (owing the major part of that £80,000) went into liquidation only to start up in business again the following week! In a sentence, Chris opined that this practice was obscene and should be illegal. Rightly and visibly angered, he further suggested that his anger is not just a personal thing, for he knows of other companies where the same thing has happened, rather a frustration for the injustice of a system which allows the miscreants to pull a 'fast one' and then re-form the same company under a different name on the same premises, using the same assets and employing the same people. Since company law dictates that this is not an illegal practice, there is a total impotence to get back at them – or for that matter, to get even!



This debt left the company strapped for cash going into winter – an obvious leaner time in the turf industry – and their position was rapidly worsening. They were left with three alternatives. Perhaps the simplest was insolvency but the consequences for this were too miserable to contemplate. The next was to struggle through, which was just possible, though in doing so they would be putting others at risk if they failed and therefore of hurting creditors even more by going down in a much bigger way. The final option was to enter a Corporate Voluntary Arrangement (CVA), a system whereby a deal is made with creditors to pay what is derisively called a 'dividend' – a part payment of the debt, though substantially bigger than any resulting from insolvency – with an assurance that since the creditors were effectively helping the ailing company to stay in business, they would obviously be the first to benefit when the corner turned and the company became self supporting. The CVA method can only be entertained when a company can demonstrate to the courts (putting aside its immediate financial problems) that it is a viable business with a future.

With a few rather piddling exceptions, the creditors rightly opted for CVA and have been most supportive. Added funds were provided by

the investors the day after CVA (March 27th) and this is held in escrow until the Inland Revenue can OK figures (which they know are right, but the Civil Service can be so slow...) when creditors will receive payment.

Inevitably there has to be some sacrifices at all levels, and the company has taken a long, hard look at itself and brought in economies to become altogether leaner and meaner. The company is now run by Chris Bradshaw and Richard Pickance, the finance director originally put in by investors to act as their 'policeman' and now a shareholder. Chris pointed out that the recession had hit their business hard but late, coming very quickly and effectively reducing prices for the service they provide by about 20%, not by any reduction in material, labour or running costs, but simply from gross profit, in order to remain competitive.

What they definitely could not afford to do is fund any more bad debts. Specifically, their major debtors came from outside the fine turf area – from landscaping to be more precise – and from discussions within the fine turf industry they now realise that this sector is one in which to tread very warily indeed, to be treated with caution or indeed suspicion.

They will now concentrate predominantly on golf, cricket, bowling and the like – and will look with an eagle eye at total ability to pay. Chris admits they were often so eager to get business that they were reluctant to press overly hard for payment. 'It seems silly now', he says 'and we'll not make the same mistakes again'.

Other economies include trading down on costly company vehicles – Chris has changed from a 4WD Nissan to a much more practical pick-up, which can be used by anyone and is a veritable workhorse for carrying machinery – and slimming down on staff by utilising well trained self-employed landscapers to augment the permanent turf laying team of six. An air of complete optimism prevails where just six weeks ago there was despondency.

Summarising, their future looks decidedly brighter and the feeling is that the recession is easing. Perhaps, Chris suggests, this is in part due to the country feeling more settled about the political future, quite irrespective of the colour of government. On the business front their 'phones have never been busier and deliveries of new machines are taking off – two scheduled for Sweden and a veritable gaggle off to the United States, where they have taken a storming market lead.

New, innovative companies often need more than a modicum of good luck to set them safely on their way; and certainly they can do without being stripped bare by unprincipled crooks. Time will tell if the formula is right now, but there can be no denying that the will to succeed at Lawn Tech is alive and well.

There is little doubt that Westurf is here to stay, growing both in quality and stature with each passing year. As a meeting place for greenkeepers and green chairmen in the South West and South Wales the excellent site at Long Ashton Golf Club knows no equal, and as a shop window for greenkeeping products and services it is undoubtedly reaching the parts that other shows cannot reach!

It is hard to put a finger on its success, but if there is one word that sums up Westurf '92 to a tee that word must be *enthusiasm*. This was evident in the enthusiasm generating from the hard working trio comprising Gordon Child, Ivor Scoones and Hugh Parry, who worked like Trojans to ensure that not a single thing was left to chance, and to a team of willing helpers who were as well drilled as any army - parking cars, directing traffic and making visitors feel very welcome indeed, despite a chilling wind which kept everyone on their toes.

The trade were equally enthusiastic in voting the event well worthwhile and this was borne out by increased participation, with 66 exhibitors taking up 92 stands and including many first time attendees. Informed gossip around the stands was of an upturn in business and traders general optimism indicated that perhaps the worst of the

dreaded recession is coming to an end.

Quite apart from well supported trade stands, demonstrations of new and established turf care machinery were seen to be very busy indeed, kept buoyant by a constant stream of enquiries and helped by an exhibition of tempting equipment presented in colourful fashion.

As is to be expected, the importance of education was highlighted by the representation of Cannington, Sparsholt and Pencoed Colleges from the South West and South Wales region, along with the Welsh college of Mold and backed up for the first time by the welcome appearance of an STRI stand, manned enthusiastically by Tim Colclough, the 'man on the spot' for those in the West.

Both BIGGA and IOG stands were kept busy with a constant stream of members dropping by, and it is good to see the friendship between the two Associations still thriving in this region - indeed Ted Cavell of the IOG was most helpful in adding support to the worthy efforts of Gordon Child - many thanks, Ted.

With over one thousand visitors through the gates by mid-day, Gordon can feel justly proud of Westurf and, glutton for punishment that he is, he is looking forward to repeating the whole exercise on April 28th 1993, even though organising this event is no lightweight task.



Westurf '92

Report and pictures by DAVID WHITE



BIGGA winners selected to play in the Barenbrug International Golf Trophy received their tickets from Barenbrug's Michel Mulder



Richard Horner, Better Methods Europe



Old comrades meet up again



The putting contest on the ICI stand



Andy Hardy of Gem Products

F
E
N
T
U
R
F
D
R
E
S
S
I
N
G
S
L
T
D



ANGEL COURT, DAIRY YARD, HIGH STREET,
MARKET HARBOROUGH
LEICESTERSHIRE LE 16 7NL

Telephone:
0858 464346/433003
Fax: 0858 434734

FENDRESS™ BRITAIN'S No. 1 COPIED BUT UNRIVALLED

NOW AVAILABLE:

- Fendress Regular
- Fendress Superfine
- Economy Top Dressing - for Tees and Approaches
- Sand/Loam Top Dressing
- Rootzone Mixes
- Highest quality Screened East Anglian Fensoil

- Fine Screened Sedge Peat for Fairways
- Fine Screened Sandy Loam
- Kiln dried Sand and Washed Grit for Vertidrain
- Lime-free Silica Sands
- Bunker Sands - White - Cream - Pink or Yellow, including Moneystone

Bulk deliveries nationwide ● Please phone for quotation
● Special discounts for large quantities

YOUR ASSURANCE OF QUALITY AND SERVICE FROM THE PEOPLE WHO CARE

AD
REF
168

Supplied complete with **BIGGA LOGO** attached

BIGGA and BETTER OFFERS

BLAZERS

You don't have to win the ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year award to wear a BIGGA Blazer! Whatever the occasion, represent your profession with pride in our NEW RANGE of quality Blazers – supplied complete with badge.



THE OFFICIAL BIGGA UNIFORM

Blazers

BIGGA Blazers (including badge)
Order No. B16 £87.95

Glenmuir Sweaters Sizes: 36" – 50"
Colours: Navy, Pansy, Black, Claret, Oxford Grey, Royal, Crimson, Light Grey, Peacock, White, Blue Mist, Natural, Bottle, Emerald, Azure, Blue, Carmine, Helio.
Order No. B01 £27.95

Glenmuir Moffat Shirts

Short sleeved, 60% cotton /40% polyester. Can be worn with or without a tie. Sizes: XS – XXL (36" – 50")
Colours: Light Yellow, White, Burgundy, Jade, Pale Blue, Navy, Black, Stone, Peach, Candy, Ferrari Red, Bermuda Blue, Peppermint, Sky Blue, Oxford Grey, Ascot Blue.
Order No. B03 £14.95

Blazer Badge

Order No. B09 £11.95

Ties:

Colour: Navy, Light Blue, Green.
Order No. B07 £4.50

Tie Bar: Order No. B13 £2.95

Visor: Order No. B11 £4.95

Lapel Badge: Order No. B14 £2.45

BOOKS

A Manual on Golf Course Construction, Turf Establishment and Cultural Practices, by James B Beard £22 inc. postage

Code of Practice for the use of Approved Pesticides in Amenity and Industrial Areas. A second edition of the 'Orange Code' – attractive, easy to follow presentation. £12 inc. postage

Specifications for a Method of Putting Green Construction, written by members of the USGA Green Section and edited by William H Benguefield.

..... £2.50 inc. postage

RAINSUITS

The amazing all-weather Neptune II rainsuits keep you dry when it's wet and they're designed to be cool and comfortable – even in warm weather!

Made from a revolutionary new fabric, these rainsuits are quiet, soft to handle and lightweight. What's more, the microporous fabric allows perspiration to pass through the outer membrane without letting in wind, rain or humidity.

In the rain, they're guaranteed to keep you dry. BIGGA have teamed up with manufacturers Pro-Quip to bring you these weatherproof jacket and trouser sets at an unbelievable low price. They're available in Navy/Silver or Navy/Jade with different styles for men and women. And because of a cancelled export order, ALL rainsuit orders will be supplied with an extra pair of trousers – absolutely free!

The garments are fully guaranteed for a year. Colours: Navy/Silver and Navy/Jade. All trousers are Navy. Men's sizes available: S (38/40"), M (42/44"), L (44/46"), XL (46/48") and XXL (48/50"). Women's sizes: 12, 14, 16, 18.

Your cheque will not be cashed until your order is despatched

£74.95 Inc. P+P

Men's style

£69.95 Inc. P+P

Women's style

EXTRA PAIR OF TROUSERS FREE WITH ALL ORDERS

ORDER FORM

Place your completed order and cheque made payable to BIGGA in an envelope and post to: BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF.

Ref No.	Product Description	Colour	Size	Quantity	Price

Name:
Address:

Prices are inclusive of postage, packing and VAT. Photocopy this form, or use a plain sheet of paper, if you don't want to cut up your magazine.

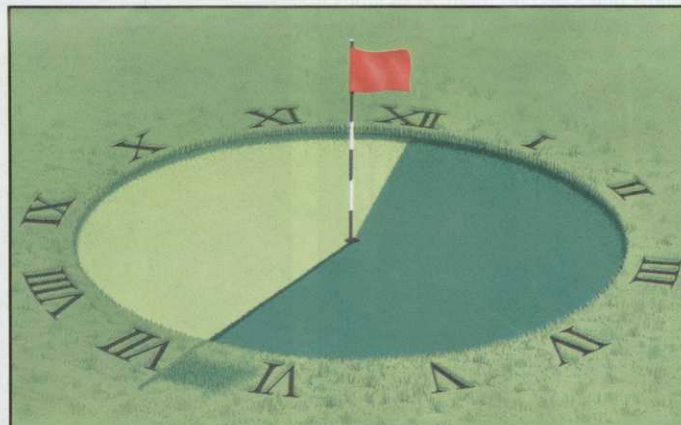
A BRAND NEW PRODUCT FOR GREENKEEPERS

Hole-in-White™ EUROPE

A fast, efficient way of colouring the inside of a putting hole. Supplied complete.

Skinner's Farm,
Eppings Lane,
Stapleford
Tawney,
Romford,
Essex RM4 1ST
Tel: (04028) 435

AD REF 350



You'll see the difference in ours!

Apply Seagreen and see dramatic greening of your turf – within hours!

With added iron, Seagreen improves the colour of your turf without encouraging top growth. Seagreen also contains seaweed extract – renowned to stimulate root growth, leading to increased tillering.

Contact us now for further information and the name of your local distributor.

Seagreen

Maxicrop
Seagreen, not growth

Maxicrop International Ltd., Weldon Road, Corby, Northants, NN17 1US.
Tel: 0536 402182 Fax: 0536 204254 Telex: 34565 MAXINTG

AD REF 174

AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

Will section reporters please note: Final copy date for inclusion of 'Around The Green' material in the August issue is July 1st.

NORTHERN

Everyone should now be flat-out cutting, slitting, dressing etc., and I guess you must all be too busy to play in our golf events, for they are not filling up very well. I'll give you a further reminder of these: Invitation Day at Shipley Northcliffe GC on Wednesday, 19th August (members must be accompanied by one of their Club officials). Autumn meeting at Scarborough Southcliffe GC on Wednesday, 30th September.

We also need names of those wanting to play for the section in the Roses Match. This is fully sponsored so all you have to do is get there (and win!). The venue for this is Stockport G.C. on Friday, 28th August. Names to me by 'phoning 0274/590463 please.

A recent event was our annual dinner dance where 26 people enjoyed a fine evening with good food and wine and excellent company. Of those attending, 12 were colleagues from the trade; so only 14 greenkeepers and wives out of almost 600 greenkeepers and wives on my list turned up. Come on you guys out there, this is your section, please support it. A lot of work goes into planning events for your benefit and if BIGGA didn't exist we would all be back to square one with poor wages, poor opportunities, poor education and poor conditions. We have come a long way, but support is needed to keep the momentum going.

I am trying to organise a first aid training course for the autumn. I'm sure it must be useful (not to mention possibly life-saving) to have at least one trained first-aider on every Club staff. The course can be undertaken in a few ways, either at your own Club or at one venue. Also, a number of options are open with half day, one day, two day and four day courses all available. Please give this matter some thought and ring me if you are interested. I need to know numbers as soon as possible to enable me to organise what you want. Certificates will be issued on completion of the course whilst those aiming for Master Greenkeeper certification will gain 3

credits - all useful additions to your CV.

There are a few moves around the section: Gary Dyson takes over at Darrington and Adrian Holroyd moves from Lightcliffe to Ripon. I hear they are both about to join us and I look forward to seeing them soon. I am also losing my own right-hand man, Robert Gee, who is moving just up the road to Lightcliffe as head man. I suppose he will be forever on my doorstep borrowing tackle, but best of luck anyway to Robert, Gary and Adrian. More very good news is that Bradford's Ralph Smith has returned to work after long illness. Hope to see you soon Ralph, back amongst your friends in the section.

A potential disaster was averted when the location for our spring 'do' was cancelled just 12 hours before tee-time. Fortunately, Ganton GC kindly agreed to let us play at short notice and we thank them for accommodating us so very well. The qualifiers were: Div. 1 - E Walsh, R Gee, M Hannan and M Lealman. Div. 2 - E Paley, L Nelson, C Garnett and R Johnson. Div. 3 - L Kirkbright, A Gamble, D Cockburn and M Bryant... all of which means that last year's 'champ', Telford Jarvis, is out!

Cleckheaton GC have appointed Andrew Fowler as deputy course manager to replace Robert Gee and 'yours truly' is resigning as section secretary to take on the post of regional administrator. My thanks to everyone who helped me during my time in office.

BOB LUPTON

EAST MIDLANDS

Firstly, a belated note of thanks to Peter Jones and Phil Helms at Collingtree Park for entertaining the section back in March. I'm sure this well attended visit was an eye-opener to many, seeing such good surfaces so early in the season.

Thanks are also due to Chris James of Erringtons, and to Toro for providing lunch.

Our Spring Tournament at Wollaton Park on April 28th attracted 54 entrants, and a competitive day of golf produced some excellent scoring. Winners in each section were: Greenkeepers - (handicap 0-9) 1st Russell Allen, 2nd Phil Refin, 3rd Glen Miller. (hcp. 10-18) 1st Phil Jennings, 2nd Jamie Bedford, 3rd Clinton Hare. (hcp. 9-24) 1st Adey Porter, 2nd Ian Dunmore, 3rd Mark Bindley. The trade/associate winner was Mike Franklin. Many thanks to all the staff at Wollaton, and to those section members who helped to organise an enjoyable day.

We are pleased to welcome the following new members: Paul Sumpter, Kibworth G.C. Barry Gostinshie, Western Park G.C. Jeffrey Cassidy, Western Park G.C. Steven Linthwaite, Western Park G.C. Matthew Buckley, Oakmere Park G.C. and Andrew Richardson, who is a student member at the Lancashire College.

Finally, it gives me the greatest pleasure to offer congratulations to Graham Arnold on his completion this year of 25 years at Erewash Valley. I understand (from the king of the second helping, Mr Barsby) that this is also Graham's silver wedding anniversary, so congratu- → 32

RECRUITMENT See also Pages 7, 39-41

Hirst Priory Golf Club (South Humberside)

invite applications for the position of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be experienced in course management in order to supervise the construction of greens on this new course.

This is a good opportunity for the right candidate to become involved in the early stages of construction.

Applications in writing to:

Mr P Fitzgerald

Saxon Willows, Carrhouse Road, Belton, Nr Doncaster DN9 1PG

Garesfield Golf Club

Vacancy:

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications invited for a Head Greenkeeper of proven ability to take responsibility for all course management and future development.

Negotiable competitive salary offered to applicant with necessary experience and commitment.

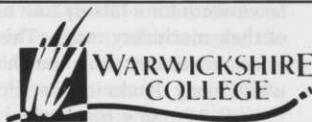
Apply in writing with CV to:

Hon. Secretary

Garesfield Golf Club, Chopwell, Tyne & Wear NE17 7AP

Closing date: Sunday June 21st 1992

GTC APPROVED COLLEGES



Quality Day and Block Courses for Greenkeepers to give you technical and management expertise.

— Your career depends on it

— Write or 'phone for our Course Directory

The Registrar, Warwickshire College for Agriculture

◆ Horticulture ◆ Equine Studies, Moreton Morrell, Warwick
CV35 9BL. Tel: 0926 651367

31 • lations are doubly in order. In recognition of his services, Graham is shortly due to fly out to Disneyworld for a holiday sponsored by the Club. Best wishes Graham, and don't worry about the flight, for after a few pints of Ilkeston anaesthetic, I'm sure all will be well!
TONY HOWARTH

MIDLANDS

On April 7th the Midlands Section played their Spring Tournament at Stourbridge GC. The day started out with rain and though this continued for most of the day it did not prevent us from enjoying a well prepared course, for which we thank the Stourbridge green staff. Congratulations to Steve Wood, who won the nett prize with an excellent come-back in the afternoon; and to Paul Loffman, who was the low gross prize winner.

Our thanks to Stourbridge GC for the courtesy extended to us, along with our best wishes to them for a successful period of celebration in this their centenary year. I would like to also thank the many people – both individuals and companies – who again gave support and help in running this tournament.

Both our knock-out competitions were drawn at the Spring Tournament, revealing some interesting matches. These are scheduled to be played by certain specified dates and competitors are requested to keep to them. Should you have any queries, my 'phone number is 0789 762912.
DEAN CLEAVER

NORTH WEST

Caldy GC on the Wirral peninsular played host this year to the annual tournament between the North West Section and the North Wales Section. Rick Fletcher and his staff had manicured this lovely and very testing course to perfection, and although the weather was not at its best the course certainly was. Many thanks to Rick and his staff and to Caldycote GC for allowing us the courtesy of their magnificent course.

The result of the match was 5-3 to North Wales, and our congratulations to Terry Adamson and his team. Enjoy your win, boys – it will be your last! I would like to thank everyone who played (even though some were dragged in at short notice), for making the day a very pleasant one. During the run-up to the match and due to unforeseen circumstances, our sponsor reluctantly had to pull out, leaving us with the problem of who would pay for the meals. There was no need to worry, for a knight on a white horse (in the form of Andy Hardie from Gem Professional) arrived to pick up the tab. Many thanks to both Andy and Gem for saving the day.

Howard McAddey, a former treasurer on the NW committee and regional administrator for the Northern Region, has had to relinquish his administrative post due to pressure of work. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Howard for the sterling work he has put in during his term of office, and hope that once the pressure is off a little he might join us on the NW committee once again.

The ISEKI regional final has been changed from Cleckheaton GC to Bury GC and the date is now Monday June 29th. All qualifiers will have been informed. The Summer Meeting is at Worsley GC on Thursday July 9th with the tee reserved from 1.30pm till 3pm. Soup and sandwiches will be served at 12.30pm with dinner and prize presentation in the evening. Proper dress is essential and you must also bring along

AROUND THE GREEN



your membership card. This competition is included with our spring and autumn tournaments for the aggregate trophy sponsored by Aitchens. All enquiries for this tournament to Paul Pearse, 1 Swan Close, Poynton, Stockport SK12 1HX. Tel: 0625 859258.



Finally, if you have any news, views or problems – please call me on 051 7245412.
BERT CROSS

NORTH SCOTLAND

The section committee held a meeting at Nairn GC recently, with a full turn-out and a lively evening ensuing, thrashing out section business. Our thanks to Nairn GC for the use of their plush conference room.

Hopefully, by the time you read this report we will all have had some warmth to go with the recent rains – this to encourage life into the grass up here in the North. Late springs following on from relatively mild winters are becoming the norm; and at my Club – Tain GC – the course is getting much busier in the winter with week-end golf choc-a-bloc. The result is that greens get no rest before the new season arrives. Thus far we are coping, but maybe an enforced period of rest will need to be considered in the future. We are back to full staff with the return (from a 4 month working holiday in Switzerland) of John Urquhart, now an accomplished skier and sporting a bronzed look.

Next month will see The Open Championship at Muirfield, when I am looking forward to once again being part of the Greenkeeper Support Team. I hope to see a few more North members involved this year, for it really is a great week for renewing old friendships and forming new ones.

It has not taken Mike Wilson of Kingussie long to regain his place in the North District Golf Team since his return from Wales. He joins other regulars, Steve Macintosh (Muir of Ord) and George Paterson (Fortrose), to give us greenkeepers a good representation in the team. In fact 'yours truly' was invited to play last September, but only when someone else failed to appear and the game was being played at Tain. I hesitated to accept and my chance was lost, with one of the selectors standing in by using my clubs while his wife brought his own sticks over.

Congratulations to Willie Milton, long time North member and ex treasurer, on his election to life membership of BIGGA. This is a just reward for all the time he gave on our behalf. The July report will feature the section outing at Montrose and the first four winners of the 200 Club.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to express disappointment at the content of some letters in recent issues of our magazine. It seems to me that 'slagging off' a previous contributor is no way forward for a professional association. Constructive criticism is one thing, but members

may be put off writing for fear of retribution in a later issue. I am sure it does not look good to non-members who read these letters.

AIN MACLEOD

SURREY

Foxhills GC were our hosts for the recent Spring Meeting, which consisted of 36 holes over the Longcross and Chertsey courses. Despite the excellent condition of both courses, coupled with fine weather, the scores were unusually high: Overall winner – D Barnes 143. 2nd – J Hunter 152. 3rd – N Whitaker 153. Scratch – R Christie 153. Trade – B Wilmott 164. Best a.m. – N Shade 72. Best p.m. – M Yolston 77.

Thanks were extended to Foxhills for their excellent hospitality and courtesy of the facilities, along with praise for Nevill Shade and his staff for presenting the courses so well. In addition, our thanks to those trade members who kindly contributed to the prize table. Iseki qualifiers will be notified shortly and are reminded that the regional finals will take place on July 6th at Chelmsford GC. If you cannot play on this day please notify Derek Walder in order that reserve players may participate.

By now the Huxley Bowl should be well under way and I would request that winners convey the results to Derek promptly, in order that the competition be kept moving.

ROGER TYDEMAN

CLEVELAND

Are you happy as a greenkeeper? Are you a member of BIGGA? Are you a qualified greenkeeper? Phase III is a supervisory block release course at college and even if you think Phase IV is too advanced, you should never stop learning or training. The colleges want students, so talk to a course tutor. Above all don't under estimate yourself, for college staff are very, very helpful. Try a greenkeeper training course and surprise yourself with success.

Golf courses need trained people to help them train others. Training never stops and the pleasure is both in individual success and in helping others to obtain success. Go forward now and contact your college with a view to improving your career – book in for September. Above all; talk to a BIGGA section secretary, your Club secretary, your head greenkeeper or someone who you know will guide you and help you to improve your professional status. Best of all be smart, clean, polite and create a good image. Polished shoes and the wearing of a BIGGA tie is a good way to start. Play golf and see if the course is as good as you prepared it. Finally, remember that Clubs pay college expenses and in Phase II you are trained for spraying qualifications as well.

BRUCE BURNELL

MID ANGLIA

On March 10th our members visited Lloyds of Letchworth for a factory tour and demonstration of their machinery range. This proved to be an informative, enjoyable and hospitable day, for which many thanks to all at Lloyds.

April 21st saw the first of our golf tournaments, a 27 hole Iseki qualifier played at Verulam GC, St Albans. Although the date chosen was difficult (the first day following the Easter break) some 28 members entered with the following results: Handicap 0-9 R McKeown, G Boulton, G Bruce, C Brook and A Freeman (reserve). Handicap 10-18 A Grew, E O'Hanlon, N Whitaker, G Smith and J Chapman (reserve). Handicap 19-28 M Ellis, J Cassidy, R Saunders,

D Piggott and I Jones (reserve). Those who qualified will compete next at Brockton Hall GC, Stafford, on July 16th. The event was won by Alan Grew with a score of 107-12, Neil Whitaker was second with 108-14 and third was G Boulton with 108-8. The longest drive was Geoff Smith with 260 yards and nearest the pin on 17 was G Boulton.

Many thanks to Geoff and his team for preparing the course and to the officers and staff at Verulum GC, particularly the vice-captain, who bought wine for us to enjoy along with an excellent meal. Cheers! Let us hope this occurs at all future events! Many thanks also to Colin from Rigby Taylor for his hard work and organisation, not forgetting their sponsorship of the tournament.

Two of our members have moved Clubs recently: Phil Quarmby has left Beadlow Manor to become head greenkeeper at Mentmore GC, while Mark Ellis, who was previously at Woburn G&CC has joined Phil as his deputy. I'm sure all members wish them every success in their new positions.

Finally, a reminder about the Summer Tournament at Bedfordshire GC (Biddenham) on July 7th. All entries must be with Chris Brook by June 15th by entry form only. His telephone number printed in April was incorrect and you should note the correct number: 0462 442488.

PAUL LOCKETT

SOUTH WEST

"Shut the gate and keep out the draught" was the cry, only to fall on deaf ears. The early warm spring weather took a nose-dive at Swindon GC as a gale lashed the course for our section Iseki Qualifier. All competitors deserved a prize just for finishing, never mind the scores, for it was not a round I would care to repeat too often. Still it all goes to prove one thing: if you're going to buy an Iseki tractor, make sure it has a cab! The course was extremely well presented, which is more than I could say for some members of our party. Please, please remember when you are out with the Association, you are representing the profession of greenkeeping and the right image is all important. Our grateful thanks to Swindon GC for their hospitality, and apologies for the one or two problems encountered during the day. Thanks also to Iseki, the main sponsors, also to ICI & Avoncrop for prizes. The results were: 1st A. Johnson (Saltford) 96-28=68. 2nd D. Summerell (Castle Coombe) 88-16=72. 3rd L. Johnson (Saltford) 96-22=74.

The team for the South West Regional Finals on 17th June is: Division 1 - P Godwin (5), J Kane (6), K Millar (4), C Fudge (3), and P Thorne (4). Division 2 - M Swales (10), M Gray (11), S Montacute (15) S Earl (12) and J Scoones (18). Division 3- A Johnson (28) L Johnson (22) M Powell (26) J Leigh (23) and P Cox (24). Reserves are L Millar (4) J Farley (16) and C Sealey (28).

All good wishes to David Summerell as he takes up a new post in Spain, after bringing the prestigious Castle Coombe course almost up to its opening. Congratulations to Pat Smith, Grasscare Manager, T H White, on the birth of his daughter, Hannah, also to all twelve of our first FEPA trainees on successfully completing the foundation module training day and the subsequent exam. Grateful thanks to Bristol & Clifton GC for generously allowing us the use of their clubhouse and machinery shed for this purpose.

I look forward to receiving more applications for similar courses during the autumn. Also on

AROUND THE GREEN



the training front will be Extended Emergency First Aid and Safe Use of Chainsaws. All training days carry certificates and qualify for M.G.C. credits, further details on application to the secretary (home 'phone number 0285 651908).

The next event is the Summer Tournament at the Cotswold Hills GC., Cheltenham, venue for this years' Gloucestershire County Championships. I'll look forward to seeing you all then - well turned out, naturally.



PAUL WORSTER

SHEFFIELD

The winter lectures have now come to a close. The section thank Rotherham GC for the support they have given so willingly in allowing us to use their facilities, also to David Milbourne, Rotherham course manager, for making sure everything was in order prior to us all arriving.

The April lecture was on the Rules of Golf, and for those members that did not attend, you missed a real treat. Mr Peter Greenhough, a member of the R&A Rules Committee gave us a superb lecture. Thanks must go to Derek Neve, the head greenkeeper at Brough GC, for innovating not only a worthwhile talk but also an enjoyable one. When Mr Greenhough had finished he said he would be pleased to answer any questions from the floor. The response was very encouraging, in fact you had to be quick to get your say. Oh, by the way, no cross out balls to be used in BIGGA tournaments, they are not on the list of approved golf balls. Penalty-disqualification.

EDUCATION: David Golding will help us arrange a day in our area to enable members to be trained in basic first aid. In view of FEPA and COSHH I feel we must take advantage of this offer. If any member is interested, please let me know so that I can make the appropriate arrangements. Tel: 0298 81337.

COMPETITIONS: Please note all entry fees must be paid for by the closing date on the entry form.

RAFFLE PRIZES: At each lecture or golf event a raffle will be held and any member wishing to donate a prize is asked to bring it along. Contributions will be much appreciated.

TO THE GREEN CHAIRMAN: The goals of our (BIGGA) members for the golf Club are the same as those of your members... a high quality course of which we can all be proud. With a little help from Mother Nature and patience and co-operation from the membership, we will obtain both our short and long term goals.

TO THE GREENKEEPER: Hold your head up high; and you will be calm, confident and assertive, whatever happens to you. Remember, what you think you will be you will become. **GOOD LUCK.**

JANE RYAN

EAST SCOTLAND

A cold windy day greeted our arrival at The

Glen GC for the start of our annual Spring Tournament. This was the first time that many of our members had played this excellent course for until this year it had been a municipal. Our thanks as usual go to the captain and committee for the courtesy; the catering staff for the excellent meals and to head greenkeeper George Paterson and his staff for the condition of the course. Fifty six members, guests and trade attended and the lucky winners were: Best nett G Ferguson (Royal Musselburgh). 1st class C Graham (Goswick). 2nd class S Melville (Lothianburn). 3rd class G Hobbs (Torpin Hill). Veteran W Blair (Kingsknowe). Guest J Lockerbie (Baberton). Trade K Hunter (Frews). Knockout T Murray and S Crawford (Ratho Park).

Iseki Qualifiers.

1st class: C Graham, A Holmes, P Bowden and S Crawford. 2nd Class: G Ferguson, S Melville, J Neilson and R Bullock. 3rd Class: G Hobbs, A Gordon, W Armstrong and A Forrest. Reserves: 1st Class: G White. 2nd Class: I Bell and R Frame. 3rd Class: P Black. These players will be notified of future arrangements in due course.

Future Events:

Tuesday, June 23rd. Scottish at Kingsknowe GC. Thursday, August 6th. Willie Woods at Swanston GC.

Tuesday, Sept 22nd. Autumn Tournament at Newbattle GC.

Thursday, Oct 1st. Half day tournament at Gifford GC.

Wednesday November 25th AGM at Kingsknowe GC.

Friday December 4th. Annual Dinner Dance.

Section News:

Things have been very quiet over the past few months, with no movements on the job front. Membership has increased and we are hopeful that the trend will continue. Six committee members attended the Association AGM at York on April 6th and our own committee meetings are being held on a very regular basis, thus ensuring the smooth running of the section. The committee for this year is: Chairman, CJ Yeaman, Vice Chairman, P Ormiston, Secretary, W Blair, Handicap Convenors, G Wood and S Greenwood, Social Convenor, S Dixon, General Committee, J Neilson, T Murray and R Hogarth.

WILLIE BLAIR

DEVON & CORNWALL

Our guest day meeting was held at Launceston GC on April 8th, with April showers turning into a monsoon just days before our meeting and making arrangements very difficult. My thanks to Clive Ralph for his sterling support and I hope he hasn't yet pulled out all his hair yet! Our thanks also to George Bailey and his merry men for all their hard work in making the course playable.

On the day itself, the sun shone for the first time in weeks and all 22 pairs enjoyed playing on the well presented course whilst competing for the Jacobsen Salver. Prizes were kindly donated by C R Willcocks and West Horticulture, both being dealers for Jacobsen turfcare equipment in

Devon & Cornwall. Following an excellent lunch Mr R Chitty of Willcocks and Mr P Smith of West Horticulture presented prizes to the lucky winners: 1st A Cann and I Downing (Bude Guests) 67 points and the Jacobsen Salver. 2nd B Ridgeway and K Broad (Greenkeeper & Guest) 66 points. 3rd R Parr and B Heggie (Greenkeeper and Secretary) 65 points.

Our thanks to Launceston GC and all their staff for making our day so successful, ➔ 34

33 also to John Mitchell, who spent most of the afternoon checking cards. As this meeting concluded our '91-'92 winter programme I would like to thank all our many trade friends who, as usual, have supported our meetings so generously. Long may they continue. I would also like to thank all members who attended our meetings over the winter, for without their support the section would be the poorer.



To those who were unable to attend, we look forward to seeing you next winter, when you may be sure a warm welcome awaits you all.

RICHARD WHYMAN

NORTH WALES

Our first competition of the season was held at Caldycote GC on the Wirral; where the North Wales section played the North West in some very spirited matches. The result doesn't really matter, but we won! Thanks to Caldycote GC and its committee and members for allowing us to play our match, and our congratulations to Rick Fletcher and his staff for a course which was in excellent condition. We hope to see Bert Cross and some of the North West lads on our patch again next year, and in the interim we wish you all a good season.

I would also like to wish Alan Sharp and his staff all the best on the opening of Chirk G&CC in April. Finally, I would like to hear from any members of the South Wales section who might be interested in a match against our section. Please write to me with your views to 33 Mill Lodge, Llandegfan, Menai Bridge, Anglesey. LL59 5YB or 'phone me on 0248 713490. Once again, I would welcome calls from any members who have any views or queries, or indeed anything they wish to say within these section reports.

D S PROCTOR

SOUTH WALES

St Mellons GC in Cardiff was the venue for our Spring Meeting, held on April 9th on a warm sunny day. Such was the weather that some of us might have cast our thoughts to all the work we could have been doing on our courses. That stated, the competition was not one of the best attended, which may well have been due to the weather plus those who cry-off with illness at the last moment. The event was our Iseki qualifier, with the following results: Winner (Cardiff Cup) Adrian Panks -71 (won on countback). 2nd Malcolm Davies 71. 3rd Leslie Hallett 74 (on countback) 4th Tony King 74. 5th Hugh Parry 75. Low Gross- Steven Price 79. Prizes were donated by Gem Professional, Steve Elms, Avoncrop Amenity Products and ICI, for which grateful thanks.

On behalf of the members I would like to thank the committee and members of St Mellons GC for allowing us the courtesy of their course and facilities throughout the day, also to the steward for attending to our liquid refreshments and Mr Gooch for providing the fine food which was enjoyed by us all.

Finally I would like to congratulate head greenkeeper Steven Price and his staff for the good condition of the course so early in the season.

ISEKI qualifiers: (0-9) S Price (4) M Jones (7) H Morgan (8) A Jenkins (9) M Davies (10) reserve P Swain (11). (10-18) A Panks (12) T King (12) H Parry (15) P Lacey (16) N Owens (18) reserve D Jones (12). (19-28) T Garland (19) S Lindsay (19) B Price (20) R Kitcher (20) L Hallett (24) reserve P Long (24).

AROUND THE GREEN



Will all members remember the handicap certificates and membership cards MUST be shown at ALL competitions. A £5 deposit must be sent for each competition, which will be set aside toward the entry fee and evening meal. Please take note: anyone not sending a deposit will not be allowed to play in the competition.

PHIL SWAIN

SUSSEX

The first section competition of '92 was held at Seaford (Blatchington) GC - what a treat! The course was in superb condition, the weather just perfect and the views over the English Channel and the South Downs were brilliant. Just a shame there were not more members to enjoy the day.

The day started with an 18 hole medal round sponsored by John Shaw Machinery, with the following nett results: 1st Stuart Shelford (Ifield G&CC) 67. 2nd Chris Reed (Crowborough GC) 69. 3rd Peter Ray (Haywards Heath GC) 71. The trade/guest prize was won by Geoff Yelland of Rigby Taylor with 72.

Following lunch our golf continued with a Stableford round sponsored by Rigby Taylor, the results being: 1st Duncan Haste (East Brighton GC) 40 points. 2nd George Barr (Ham Manor GC) 33. 3rd Andy Paynter (East Brighton GC) 31. The trade/guest prize was won by Gary Ogilvie of Parkers with 34. Iseki qualifiers will be notified by post in due course.

Many thanks to Seaford GC for the courtesy of their course; and to Bob and his staff for their splendid efforts.

The next section event will be on June 10th, an 18 hole afternoon match at Copthorne GC.

MARK WILTON

EAST ANGLIA

Our 1992 season got off to a good start when 41 players dusted off their clubs for the medal round at Bungay, which is a pretty little place (if you stay straight) kept in good shape by Mick Mean and his men.

We had three handicap sections (good, not so good and keep practicing) for the Iseki qualifier, with the nett results being: (0-9) 1st Dave Wilkinson 68. 2nd Alan Carter 69. 3rd Peter Howard, 4th Mike Fance. (10-18) 1st Dave (HG) Wells 2nd Mike Verlay. 3rd Steve Norris. 4th Sam Sylvester. (19-28) 1st Tom Smith. 2nd Toddy Huddleston. 3rd Mike Stead. 4th Ernie Hart. A good day out was had by all and our thanks to Bungay and Waveney Valley GC for a lovely day.

'Uncle' Sam would once again like all replies regarding golf tournaments back on time please, and NO 'phone calls at 10.30pm the night before - I am NOT joking! Alan Carter is now the man to moan at when your handicap is mutilated, for he has taken over the job from Steve Freestone (with Steve's blessing, I might add).

Something to smile about or cringe over if

you are on the receiving end, with the best news always coming from the bar when talk gets to the nitty-gritty regarding our beloved green committees. The latest is the story of a head greenkeeper who found his pay frozen until the rest of head greenkeepers in East Anglia catch up with him. A bit like saying to the manager at Sainsbury's 'you've got to wait until the manager of The Happy Shopper catches up!' - Who says communism is dead? What will they think of next... answers on a postcard please.

On a sad note I must report the death (just before Easter) of Russell Allison, groundsman at Norwich City FC for 40 years. On behalf of all members of the East Anglian section I extend our deepest sympathy to his family, especially to his son (also Russell) who is himself a groundsman (third generation) at NCFC, following both father and grandfather. Russell's stories were legendary, he was a fine man and will be sorely missed.

MICK LATHROPE

CENTRAL SCOTLAND

The section's Spring Tournament was held recently by courtesy of Crail Golfing Society at Balcomie Links, Fife, and despite the atrocious weather some 46 members and guests had an enjoyable day. Some were merrier than others and perhaps this was due to 'liquid insulation' against the cold and rain - which helped. Prior to our tournament, the east coast of Fife had been experiencing its driest spring for twenty five years: then the following day the weather returned to normal - perhaps someone up there was trying to tell us we should have been working instead of enjoying ourselves.

The prize winners were: Scratch and M.&M. Trophy - R. Wilson, Kinross, 72. Nett and Souther Trophy - D. Peddie, Alloa, 67. First class: 1st. (handicap) C. McKay, Crail, 69. 2nd. N. Ballingall, Lundin G.C., 72. Second class: 1st. A. Robertson, Grangemouth, 70. 2nd. N. Rawlinson, St. Andrews, 74. Trade: I. Thomson, Provan Chem. 73. Guests. A. Howson, Grangemouth, 70. Stewart's Quaich, A. Purdie & C. McKay, Crail 143.

Our sincere thanks go to the secretary and captain of Crail Golfing Society for presenting the prizes in the evening, to the club steward and staff for looking after us so well in the clubhouse, and to Allan Purdie and his green staff for having the course in such excellent condition so early in the season.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery go to John Henderson, formerly of Dunfermline GC, who was taken ill recently. Hope to see you back at section events very soon, John.

Congratulations and every success in their new appointments go to Graeme Downie and Ronnie Cunningham, who have taken over at Braehead and Dunfermline respectively.

The annual prize draw dinner has been arranged for December 4th at Sterling GC, with Ernie Walker, former secretary of the SFA, as our guest speaker. More details will follow in the coming months.

JOHN CRAWFORD

BUCKS, BERKS & OXON

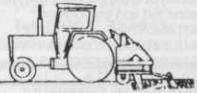
Now that summer has arrived I expect you will all be too busy to read this column, so this is my golden opportunity to put in anything I choose! Seriously, the busy time is probably just as well, for there is not too much happening at the moment - which leads me nicely into my first duty - an apology for the absence of a BB&O report in May. This was simply a mat- ➔ 42

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 £23 per month.

Aeration

AERATION & DRAINAGE SERVICES



For Hire: Hydrojet, Verti-Drains and Turf Conditioners, etc.
Contact: Paul or Lesley Wright, Aeration & Drainage Services, 20 Westminster Close, Eastbourne, Sussex BN22 0LQ. Tel: (0323) 506725 Mobile: (0860) 838241

COMPACTION? POOR DRAINAGE? POOR GROWTH?

Whatever your soil problem we can help. Call **C&P Soilcare Ltd (Terralift™)** Tel/Fax: 0449 741012

Aerators

AERATORS

Problems with dirty water or algae bloom? Let Otterbine clean-up your lakes and ponds. *The world leader in water quality management.* Available from leading irrigation companies. Full details from:

Golf Course Services, 6 Stuart Road, Market Harborough LE16 9PQ. Tel: 0858 463153 Fax: 0858 410085

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

MARTIN BROMAGE TREE MOVING

- Tree Planting
- Tree Surgery
- Tree Stump Removal



Nationwide Service
 Wood Lane, Down Hatherley, Gloucester GL2 9QB
 Tel: (0452) 731199
 Mobile: (0831) 577777

TREE STUMP REMOVAL

Small amount of ground disturbance plus complete **TREE SURGERY SERVICE** Fully insured. **BJ Landscapes** Tel: Aldershot (0252) 26055

Artificial Grass

ARTIFICIAL TURF

For Golf Greens, Permanent Tees, Field and Multi Sports.

GOLF MATS

For Driving Ranges and Courses

Filtotrex Ltd

139 Gloucester Terrace Bayswater, London W2 6DX
 Tel: 071 262 8159
 Fax: 071 262 0170

TEETECTOR TEE MATS

The mat with the guarantee Unique heavy duty golf range and municipal mats. 25mm hand finished woven pile. 20mm shock pad. Professional galvanised and painted frame. Any size, any shape. Double sided. Free Demo unit available. Trade welcome. Putting surface. Contact:



Evergreens UK

2 Extons Units Market Overton Oakham, Leics LE15 7PP
 Tel: (0572) 838208
 Fax: (0572) 838261

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.

MELCOURT INDUSTRIES LTD

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

Buildings



NATIONWIDE SERVICE
 Storage for all your greenkeeping equipment. **Elwell Buildings Ltd**
 Tel: 021 553 5723 • Fax: 021 580 1172



Club Houses Driving Range Buildings Greenkeepers Stores

Designed, Manufactured & Constructed, Architectural & Engineering Services. FREE Initial designs & costings PLEASE CONTACT



Ivan J Cooper Ltd Steel Framed Buildings

Moorside Works, Cauldon Lowe, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 3ET
 Tel: 0538 702282 Fax: 0538 702662

Cockleshell

THE NATURAL PATHWAY MATERIAL. WHY?

- Will not damage mowers
- Always looks clean
- Superb drainage
- Easy to lay
- Great value for money

Chatsworth Street, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria



Tel: (0229) 430477
 Fax: (0229) 430488

Compaction

THE PROBLEM... COMPACTION THE SOLUTION... TWESE 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



You expect to read a corny message in this space - so here it is - **BUY A BUYERS' GUIDE IN GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL - IT WORKS!** Call 03473 581/2

Compost



MANUFACTURERS, SUPPLIERS

TREE AND SHRUB COMPOSTS
 MULTI PURPOSE COMPOSTS
 MULCHES
 SOIL CONDITIONERS
 PEAT ALTERNATIVES
 FERTILISERS
 SOIL ANALYSIS AND LAND RESTORATION SERVICES ALSO AVAILABLE.

All Landtech products and services are offered on a nationwide basis.

For further information please call us on:
SOUTHERN Tel: 0403 864999
NORTHERN Tel: 0573 223121
 Fax: 0403 865444

Construction



ConstructGolf Ltd "ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY"

Course Renovation & Construction Specialists for Golf Greens, Tees, Fairways and Drainage

1 Briggs Fold Road Egerton, Bolton BL7 9SG

Telephone: (0204) 50211
 Mobile: (0836) 500561

Contact:

Robert Hall (Operations Director)

TAYLOR'S CONTRACTORS



PT (plant) GOLF course and sportsfield construction services Drainage and Trenching services
 • New irrigation pits made • All tracked machines have low groundpressure tracks
 • Drivers all certificated
 • Nationwide service

CONTACT PAUL TAYLOR AT (WEST POINT) BOUNDARY MEANYGATE HUNDRED END, NEAR PRESTON, PR 4 6XE

TEL: 0772 812824
 MOBILE: 0831 239330

F3 FORCE LEISURE

EXPERTS IN GOLF COURSE AND SPORTS FIELD CONSTRUCTION

The Limes Telephone: 37 High Street, (0734) 323718
 Theale, Reading Facsimile: Berkshire RG7 5AH (0734) 323496

PUTTING PLANS INTO PRACTICE



White Horse Contractors Limited

CONSTRUCTION DRAINAGE VERTIDRAINING
 Tel: (0865) 736272

S. E. DAVIS & SON LTD

-Specialists in mixing USGA spec sand/peat Root Zone mixes.

Plant Hire available with drivers experienced in Golf Course Construction.

-Multi-belt Powerscreen with shredder available.

Please contact: **ANDY DAVIS**
 (0527) 893343/892716
 Mobile 0831 268547

R. A. SLEATH & SON
GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION
AND SPORTSGROUND DRAINAGE

Work undertaken for many leading Golf Course Architects
 Distance no object

Contact:
Geoffrey R. Sleath
 Tel: Rotherham (0709) 862109 Fax: (0709) 862075

Specialists in
SPORTSFIELD and GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION
Conservation & Leisure Ltd

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



Golf Build
 (UK) Ltd

GOLF COURSE AND DRIVING RANGE CONSTRUCTION

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

Course Accessories



AGORN

NORTH WEST REGION - MOBILE VAN SALES
 MAIN AGENT for TACIT course equipment -
 Buckner Irrigation - plus wide range of accessories
 Request a call today: LYMM CHESHIRE WA13 9SA
 Tel: 083 182 6468



Pattison

Manufacturers and suppliers of golf course and driving range equipment

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

HERITAGE FAIRWAY LIMITED
 UK Manufacturers of
DRIVING RANGE EQUIPMENT
 Ball Dispensers, Washers, Collectors

For a fully illustrated brochure
 Tel: 0273 602637 or Fax 0273 571621

Drainage



AGRIPOWER LTD.

Construction
 Drainage
 Stone Picking
 Verti-Draining

Tel: (02406) 6776

Fertilizers

NEW Sierrablen™ Turfmix
Controlled Release Fertilizer
 offers the complete turf feed for the entire season.

First ever to offer controlled release NPK and immediately available Nitrogen, Phosphate and Iron.

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

For Hire

FOR HIRE

Grasshopper ZTR Mowers with or without grass collection, **Compact Tractors** with wide range of attachments including **BLEC Stone Rake** and many more. All enquiries welcomed.

MULTIPOWER EQUIPMENT



Effingham, Surrey KT24 5NA.
 Tel: 0372 453411. Fax: 0372 456552.

Golf Course Equipment

ADVANCED TURF MACHINERY

Suppliers of new and used compact tractors and golf course equipment.
 Tel: Milton Keynes (0908) 281660 Fax: (0998) 281305

Grass Cutting Equipment



PowerShift

Re-conditioned equipment now available.

- One Yanmar 336 33hp 4WD low hours
- One Ford 1210 4WD Turf Tyres + mower deck
- One SISIS Diesel Hydromain with cab
- One John Deere 755 with loader

Tel: (0382) 24152

Reconditioned Golf Course Machinery!

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY OR EXPORT. PHONE FOR CURRENT CATALOGUE NOW

GREENSWARD ENGINEERING COMPANY (0532) 676000

OR DIALING FROM ABROAD + 44 532 676000



Grass Germination



TILDENET

- GERMINATION SHEETS
- FROST PROTECTION SHEETS
- TARGET NETS
- PERIMETER NETTING

AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD DISTRIBUTORS

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

Grass Seed Mixtures



Mommersteeg

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.L. 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

BOREHOLE WATER ABSTRACTION

- ★ Borehole Drilling & Construction ★
- ★ Pumping Equipment Installation ★

John Hambly Associates
 Tel: 0252 734815 Nationwide

BRITISH OVERHEAD IRRIGATION LTD.

- Manufacture Equipment •
- Design and Install Systems •

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



PARA IRRIGATION LTD TORO

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

MIDLAND IRRIGATION
 2 Fairdene Way, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 5JS.
 Tel: 021 358 1246

All leading irrigation equipment installed and serviced.
 Service contracts available.
 Contact Mark Ganning on above number or 0860 270866

PRIME WATERMEN LTD
 Wangford, Beccles, Suffolk NR34 8AX
 Tel: 050 278 481 Fax: 050 278 729

Weathermatic Distributor

IRRIGATION TECHNICAL SERVICES

All leading manufacturers equipment maintained and serviced • Fault finding on all cable systems • Cable detection • Irrigation system troubleshooting • Spring start up - Winter shut down • Contractor training.

Contact **Stuart Mills**,
 Tel/Fax 0202 874216
 43 Pinehurst Road, West Moors, Dorset



APPROVED TORO SERVICE CENTRE

L.S. Systems



for

- ★ Water Storage Tanks ★
- ★ -Spraylances + Couplings ★
- ★ Dosatron - Simple Fertiliser 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

MIST IRRIGATION SYSTEM CONTROLS

Specialists in electrical control systems, for sports turf and horticulture.

- ★ INSTALLATION
- ★ FAULT FINDING ON MULTI-WIRE, 2& 3 WIRE DECODER SYSTEMS
- ★ CONTROL PANELS
- ★ PUMP REPAIRS/OVERHAULS
- ★ FULL SERVICING ON OLD AND NEW SYSTEMS
- ★ PRE-SEASON START UP COMPLETE WITH REPORTS

WE ARE ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE
 MIST IRRIGATION, UNIT 19, HIGHTOWN IND. EST., RINGWOOD, HANTS BH24 1ND
 Phone (0425) 474614 • Fax: (0425) 471296

Your customers are reading this: tell them all about your business with an advertisement in **GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL**

Watermation

Manufacturers, designers and installers of **AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION** for 21 YEARS

Tongham Road, Aldershot, Hants GU12 4LL
 Tel: 0252 336838 Fax: 0252 336808

HUNTER

Gear driven sprinklers including the new golf range available from **S.G.I. Sales**

6 Stuart Road, Market Harborough, Leics LE16 9PQ
 Tel: 0858 463153 Fax: 0858 410085

NOW YOU HAVE A CHOICE!



STRANCO

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



ISIS TORO

-IRRISERVE- IRRIGATION ENGINEERS

Installation, Sales and Service North West of England, covering Lancashire and Cumbria
 Contact: **Paul Rimmer**
 Tel: (0772) 601534

Irriserve, Unit 9, Twin Lakes Industrial Park, Bretherton Road, nr Preston PR5 7RF

I.L.S. for all aspects of
GOLF COURSE IRRIGATION

- Installation • Service
- Extensions and Improvements
- Pumping Systems

Oundle Road
 Lutton
 Peterborough
 PE8 5ND

Tel: Oundle (0832) 272450

FLANDERBLADE LTD
 Specialists in golf course irrigation

20 Whiteacre, Littlehampton,
 West Sussex BN17 7JA
 Tel: (0903) 724545
 Full member of B.T.L.I.A.

B SERVICE **TORO** IRRIGATION

BELL TURF & IRRIGATION SERVICES

East Midlands Area
 Installation, Sales and
 Service

Everton, Doncaster, DN10 5DR
 Tel: (0777) 817410

Wright Rain
RAIN BIRD

The unbeatable partnership
 in golf course irrigation

RINGWOOD, HANTS, BH24 3AS
 Tel: (0425) 472251
 Fax: (0425) 472258

T. & G. TURF IRRIGATION SERVICES

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

A National Irrigation Service

Consultation Free

Professional Planning and Design

Quality Products

Programmed Installation

Maintenance Service

Call Roger Davey
 on (0460) 41939

OCMIS IRRIGATION
 Solutions you can trust

Mower Spares

MOWER ACCESSORIES LTD

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

65 Forncett Street
 Sheffield S4

Tel: 0742 765825
 Fax: 0742 765855

Pathways

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS.

Good stocks of top quality 20mm Washed Breeze Ash, well tested and approved for footpaths and small roadways.

EXCELLENT drainage and clean to walk on, ideal for growing new turf. Quick rooting. Samples on request. Screened path gravel available, golden brown in colour.

(All other materials supplied).

24 hours Order No. Tel: 0860 513846
 Unit No. 3, Fittells Yard, Spurlands End Road,
 Gt. Kingshill, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 6JA.
 Tel: 0494 715858 • Fax: 0494 713060

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 GROVEBURY ROAD,
 LEIGHTON BUZZARD BEDS LU7 8JL

Railway Sleepers

ASHWELL PLANT SALES LIMITED
 Timber Division

Criton Industrial Estate, Stanford Road, Orsett,
 Essex RM16 3DH
 Telephone: 0375 892576 Fax: 0375 891736

HOW TO KEEP YOUR TEES IN PLACE

FIRST Buy your long life Jarrah

SECOND Buy your Tee section and 3" angle

THIRD Telephone 0375 892576 Ashwell Plant Sales who have all the above in stock now

FOURTH If you need crossing sleepers, telegraph poles, RSJs or 12" steel tubes, we have these in stock

Depot in Midlands and South Transport nationwide arranged

RAILWAY SLEEPERS
 8"6" x 10" x 5"
CROSSING TIMBERS
 12" x 6" up to 16' long

Price quoted for number required.
 Tel (0233) 625121 or 620277
 Fagg's Fleet, Whitfield Road,
 Ashford, Kent TN23 1TY

Sand/Silica Sand

Drinkwater Sabay Ltd

(EBENEZER MEARS)

KINGSLEY FINE WASHED SAND

for Tees • Greens • Bunkers
 and drainage sands and shingles

Wintersells Road, Byfleet, KT14 7AZ
0932 345616

ECC QUARRIES

Complete range of dried graded silica sands for all purposes.

Contact John Deavin at
 39 Hockliffe Street,
 Leighton Buzzard,
 Bedfordshire LU7 8HB.
 Tel: (0525) 372201.
 Fax: (0525) 851572.
 Telex: 825868

Martin Brothers

The leading supplier of
MONEYSTONE
 Britain's
 most popular,
 top quality
BUNKER SAND

NATIONAL SUPPLIERS
 Tel: Alderley Edge (0625) 584571/
 585143. Fax: (0625) 586130

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

ARC BUCKLAND INDUSTRIAL MINERALS

Sand and Silica Company

COMPLETE RANGE OF HORTICULTURAL SANDS

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

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

Screeners/Shredders

GRADE ALL

GRADE ALL INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
 Manufacturers of the S5100
 Screener/Shredder

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

Signs

QUICKSIGNS

Embossed aluminium and engraved signs for the course, clubhouse and pro shop

Pinewood Road, Ash,
 Aldershot, Hants GU12 6DG
 Tel/Fax: (0252) 341360

SHELLEY SIGNS LIMITED.

ENTRANCE "I" MARKERS & GENERAL SIGNS.
 IN HIGHLY DURABLE GLASS REINFORCED PLASTIC.

EATON-ON-TERN, MARKET DRAYTON,
 SHROPSHIRE, TF9 2BX.
 Tel: 0952 541483 Fax: 0952 541755

Tee Mats

Alan Bracey & Son

ARTIFICIAL GRASS TEE MATS & PUTTING SURFACES
 from
 Alan Bracey & Son
 Sport Surfaces
 80 Station Road, Broxbourne,
 Herts. Tel: (0992) 460807
 Fax: (0992) 442946

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 1964

Suppliers of
 TC-P DRESSING
 VARIOUS GRADES OF SCREENED
 LOAMS AND TOPSOILS
 BUNKER AND WASHED SAND
 Honeypot Farm, Honeypot lane,
 Edenbridge, Kent
 0732 865433 (office)
 0860 543370 (mobile)
 0732 867770 (fax)

Trenchers

CASE TRENCHERS
TRENCHER PLANT SALES

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

Turf

INTURF

For High Quality Cultivated Turf harvested in conventional square yard rolls, and on the big roll turf laying system

Tel: (0759) 304101 Fax: (0759) 305229

Grasslands

Specialist Seed Grown Turf Producers
 Covering the SOUTH EAST.
 Grasslands Turf Farm, Ashford Road, New
 Romney, Kent TN28 8TH. Tel/Fax: (0679) 67130

Turf Dressings

Martin Brothers

"The Tops in Top Dressing"

The finest quality
 top dressings and sands

Martin Brothers (UK) Ltd.
 NATIONAL SUPPLIERS
 Tel: (0625) 584571
 Fax: (0625) 586130

ACTION LINE 0625 584571

FEN TURF DRESSINGS LTD
for
Fendress Top Dressing
Fendress Superfine
Economy Dressing
Rootzone Mixes
Screened Fensoil
Fine Screened Sedge Peat
Kiln Dried Sand
Bunker Sands - screened soils

2 Angel Court, High Street,
Mkt. Harborough, Leicestershire
Tel: (0858) 464346/433003
Fax: (0858) 434734

BAILEY'S OF NORFOLK
supply
Professional Turf Dressings for the Profession

GOLF TURF DRESSINGS
Approved formulations for use in
Construction and on the finest greens,
tees and fairways.

SAND
All requirements catered for including
lime free. Kiln dried sands available.

SCREENED TOP SOIL
Including the finest Black Fenland Soil.
Screened loams to customers'
individual specifications.
We also produce and supply root zone
mix and always have vast stocks of
cockle shells for immediate delivery

DELIVERIES NATIONWIDE
BAILEY'S OF NORFOLK
Brick Kiln Road, Hevingham,
Norwich, Norfolk NR10 5NL
Tel: 060 548 607
Mobile: 0860 661603

FAIRFIELD TURF LTD
Quality topdressings,
sands, rootzones & topsoils

06794 731
Fax: 06794 737

BL BOUGHTON LOAM LTD.

For
**TURF DRESSINGS
ROOT ZONE MIXES
SCREENED TOP SOILS
BUNKER SANDS
HORTICULTURAL
COMPOSTS**

Telford Way, Kettering,
Northants
Tel: 0536 510515

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

Turf Netting

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

Verti-Drain Hire

ROSS OLIVER
SPORTS GROUND CONSTRUCTION
AND MAINTENANCE

The most comprehensive service in
the south west including
● **VERTI-DRAIN** for Greens and
Sportsgrounds
● **STONE PICKING**
● **RYAN HOLLOW TYNER**
● **SAND SPREADERS**
● **DIRECT DRILLS**

Contact: Ross Oliver, Greystones,
Trebudannon, Cornwall TR8 4LP
Tel: (0637) 880257 or (0841) 540222

E & S SPORTSGROUND CONTRACTORS

Only a sample of our services:
Drainage
Verti-Drain
Overseeding
Sand Spreading

Contact: RICHARD VEITCH
39 Knox Green, Binfield, Bracknell,
Berks RG12 5NZ
Tel: 0344 860690

Toro Hydroject, Vertidrain Coremaster 12
and Ryan Greensaire + Core Harvester,
Charterhouse, Sisis and Gill Overseeders,
Ransomes 214 and Beaver 308 Fairway
Scarifiers. Large range of tractors from 16 -
60 HP, as well as machinery for sale.
List and further details from:

Richard Campey
Marton Hall Lane, Marton,
Macclesfield
Tel: 0260 224568
Fax: 0260 224791

WORTH DRAINING

**VERTIDRAINING and
HOLLOW CORING HIRE**
with the G.A. 30

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

SEWARD
TURF MAINTENANCE

No. 1 in the NORTH
Ten years experience
using only the best.
2 x 1.5m and
1x 2.5m verti-drains;
Coremaster complete with collector,
fairway overseeder
Contact Michael Seward
on (0904) 765949 night or day

HERONFIELD HIRE
(Solihull)

Vertidrain, Moore Sportsfield
Over-Seeders, Verti
Over-Seeder for Greens & Tees,
Toro Aerators, Case Trenchers
& Sportsfield Slitters etc.

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

You expect to read a corny
message in this space - so here it is -
BUY A BUYERS' GUIDE
IN GREENKEEPER
INTERNATIONAL - IT WORKS!
Call 03473 581/2

VERTIDRAIN
Hire Co

VERTIDRAIN MACHINERY
SLIT DRAINAGE EQUIPMENT
AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Contact Peter Holmes,
10 Carson Road,
Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 2RE
Tel: 0427 613035 • Mobile: 0831 359394

Classified
For Sale

AERATORS
Classon Model 800 Tractor Mounted
48" Aerator, fitted with standard 1/2"
Tines, complete with Core Collector.
Ex-Demonstration Unit. Current price
£7,390, only £4,950.

Multipower Equipment, Effingham,
Surrey KT24 5NA.
Tel: 0372 453411. Fax: 0372 456552.

GRASS CUTTING EQUIPMENT
Lawn Genie pick-up Mower, cuts and
collects almost any length of grass
and leaves a good finish. 48" model,
Ex-Demonstration Unit, 3-Point
Mounted PTO Drive. £1,750.

Multipower Equipment, Effingham,
Surrey KT24 5NA.
Tel: 0372 453411. Fax: 0372 456552.



RFE Turf Machinery Ltd

For the largest
selection of
refurbished
professional
turf machinery.

Tel:
(073081) 5775
or
Fax:
(073081) 5844

Ex-Demonstration & Used Machinery For Sale

ISEKI TA 530 4WD TRACTOR 36 HP CAB
Ex-Demo
KUBOTA B8200 ROLL BAR 500 hours
ISEKI COREMASTER 12 Ex-emo
TORO 216 FULLY REBUILT
RANSOMES MOTOR 180 New 16 HP V-
Twin Engine
SISI AUTO-ROTORAKE Choice of two
MULTICORE TRACTOR MOUNTED
HOLLOW CORER
ROYER SOIL SHREDDER New engine
ROYER POWER SCREEN
TORO 70's and 108's Choice
JACOBSEN GREENSKING Greens &
Thatching Units
BEAVER LM368 GANGS Twin Roll Units
TURNER 40 FLAILMOWER
CHARTERHOUSE VERTI-DRAIN
GREENS MODEL

EFG GARDEN MACHINERY
Halifax, W. Yorks 0422 882165

Well Borers

Improve your course's water supply and
reduce your water costs
WATER SUPPLY & FILTRATION LTD.
Specialists in well drilling, filtration
and irrigation systems.
Tel: (091) 488 7558
Fax: (091) 488 1877

Buyers' Guide entries bring results.
Call 03473 581 for details

Richard Campey

KUBOTA 2150 HST fitted Lewis
Landlugger Loader 4 in 1 bucket and
Lewis Backhoe Turf tyres, only 130
hrs. As new (List over £20,000)
available for£11,250.00

JOHN DEERE 755 c/w Front Loader
and mid mtd deck. Low hours
.....£6,250.00

KUBOTA 8200, Agric tyres, low hrs
.....£3,950.00

FORD 1210, Turf tyres c/w Agar mid
mtd rotary deck£4,150.00

MF 240, Turf tyres, tidy£3,950.00

FORD 4110 4WD, Turf tyres, only 730
hrs, immaculate£10,350.00

FORD 335, Turf tyres, tidy£4,650.00

RANSOMES TURFTRAK 21D,
Ex Demo low hrs, c/w front mtd triple
mowers and rotary deck - as new
.....£9,750.00

Large selection of gangmowers,
triple mowers, spikers
and scarifiers available.

Tel: 0260 224568 For further
Fax: 0260 224791 details

NEW and UNUSED

1x 5ft Turfmaid Sweeper
Collector.....P.O.A.

1x 7ft Turfmaid Sweeper
Collector.....P.O.A.

1x 5 Gang Gangmaster
Mower. 6 bladed Cylinders
Fixed & Floating Heads.
Hydraulic Folding...P.O.A.

Tel: 0823 666471

Grass Seed

AMENITY GRASS SEED MIXTURES

Inter Seeds
Growing for Success.

Inter Seeds Limited
Thorn Farm Evesham Rd. Inkberrow Worcs. WR7 4LJ.
Tel. (0386) 793135 Fax. (0386) 792715

Business Services

FREELANCE COPYWRITER
Specialist in Amenity
& Agriculture industries offers
help with your press releases/
adverts/magazine
& brochure entries/user stories/
company literature. Competitive
rates, satisfaction guaranteed.

Contact:
Glyn Bryan, Michaelmas
House, Aston, Oxon OX18 2DJ.
Tel/Fax: (0993) 851559

The City of Rochester Upon Medway

The City Council's Direct Services Organisation has recently won the 5 year contract for the Management of the Deangate Ridge Sports Complex and are now seeking a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be fully experienced in modern greenkeeping methods, possess a recognised qualification, have practical knowledge of modern machinery and irrigation systems and have ability to motivate staff.

The person appointed will also be part of the management team for the complex.

Salary negotiable. Rented housing accommodation may be available.

Application and job description can be obtained from the Personnel Services Manager, Civic Centre, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 4AW.

Telephone Medway (0634) 732706
(24 hour answering service).

*Interviews will take place during week commencing
13th July 1992.*

Closing date: 29th June 1992



DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

Qualified greenkeeper required for Championship Links.

Salary by negotiation.

No accommodation.

Applications, with full C.V., to The Secretary,

WEST LANCASHIRE GOLF CLUB

HALL ROAD WEST · BLUNDELLSANDS
LIVERPOOL L23 8SZ.



EAST SUSSEX

NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

East Sussex National Golf Course Venue for the 1993 GA European Open

Set in the beautiful rolling countryside of the South Downs in the heart of East Sussex, the East Sussex National Golf Course is looking for an *Assistant Superintendent* to join its team of hardworking, conscientious staff.

With 4/5 years experience and a minimum qualification of City and Guilds stage I and II, the successful applicant will be required to motivate and supervise staff, and take responsibility for programming and overseeing the day to day maintenance of one of the 18 holes under the guidance of the Course Superintendent and Course Manager. The East Sussex National Golf Course prides itself on the high standard and

quality of the condition of its two eighteen hole courses, three hole teaching academy and practice range and this is an excellent career move for an ambitious and confident greenkeeper who can demonstrate sound and positive team management, self motivation and a willingness to learn new methods and techniques.

Please apply in writing enclosing a current CV to:

Ken Barber, Golf Course Manager, East Sussex National Golf Course, Little Horsted, Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 5TS.

Closing date: 30th June 1992.

HEAD GREENKEEPER

required for

**South Wales parkland,
championship course**

(This is a proprietor owned club)

In addition to organisational skills, a thorough knowledge of modern greenkeeping machinery is required, together with the ability to motivate staff.

Salary by negotiation.

Applications to:

**The Administrator, Fairwood Park Golf Club,
Fairwood, Swansea SA2 7JN
Telephone: (0792) 297849**

Thurlestone Golf Club

HEAD GREENKEEPER

required at this well known, picturesque Golf Club on the South Devon coast; due to impending retirement of current holder.

Successful applicant should have suitable qualifications and experience in all aspects of course management and be available to take up position by end of the year.

Salary negotiable. No accommodation.

Apply in writing with full CV by 31st July 1992 to:

**The Secretary, Thurlestone Golf Club,
Thurlestone, Kingsbridge,
South Devon TQ7 3NZ**



The Wildwood Golf Club

wish to appoint a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited for the position of HEAD GREENKEEPER at this prestigious new golf course in Surrey. The course construction is complete and it will be open for play in August 1992.

Applicants must have the necessary experience to take this course through the grow-in establishment period. The successful applicant will be directed by Jack McMillan & Associates – only persons of proven ability need apply.

Applications in writing with full CV to:

**JACK McMILLAN
The Wildwood Golf Club
Horsham Road, Alford, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8JE**



THE BELFRY

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Reporting to the Course Manager, you will be responsible for the operation of planned course maintenance programmes for the Brabazon and Derby golf courses with a team of 15.

Aged 25+ you will have at least two years in a similar position, possess City and Guilds in Greenkeeping Levels 1 and 2 and Spraying Certificates PA1 and PA2.

You will also be looking to develop your skills towards the 1993 Ryder Cup.

Temporary live-in accommodation may be available, salary negotiable for the right candidate.

Please apply in writing with CV to:

**Melanie King, Training & Personnel
Manager, The Belfry Hotel, Lichfield Road,
Wishaw, North Warwickshire B76 9PR.**

Closing date 30th June 1992



DE VERE HOTELS



Due to an industrial dispute in the postal services, applicants for the position of

Course Manager (May issue)

are requested to fax applications to:

L J Meade Fax: 010 353 61 301028

If you have any difficulties please telephone.
Tel: 010 353 61 301015

Sene Valley Golf Club

require a

QUALIFIED ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

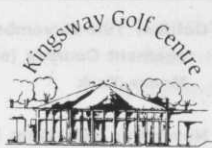
This 18 hole private members club is seeking an experienced greenkeeper with City & Guilds or equivalent qualifications to join an existing staff of five.

Salary negotiable. No accommodation.

Applications in writing with full CV to:

The Manager

Sene Valley Golf Club, Sene, Folkstone, Kent CT18 8BL



requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

for a 9 hole course and par 3 pitch and put, and a planned additional 18 hole course.

Applications in writing with full CV to:

**Managing Director, Kingsway Golf and Leisure Centre
Cambridge Road, Melbourn, Nr. Royston, Herts SG8 6EY
Telephone: (0763) 262727**

GREENKEEPERS AND COURSE MANAGERS

Seeking a career move?

SEYMOUR PERSONNEL

is an agency designed to help you meet your requirements.

Confidential and effective service

For further details contact:



84a Guarlford Road, Malvern, Worcestershire. WR14 3QT
Telephone: (0684) 569204

Employment Agencies Act Reg. M4363

Hunley Hall Golf Club, Brotton, East Cleveland

require a

FULLY QUALIFIED HEAD GREENKEEPER

as soon as possible

FOR A NEW COURSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

BIGGA Rates of Pay

No accommodation.

Apply in writing with full CV to:

OCM Associates Ltd

The Studio

Mid-Boreland, Kirkcudbright DG6 4UY

Fife Regional Council - Education Committee

Elmwood College

Cupar Fife

Horticultural Division

LECTURER IN GREENKEEPING AND GREENKEEPING MANAGEMENT

Salary Scale £12,924 - £20,127

Applications are invited for this newly created post.

Applicants must possess a Degree or approved Diploma and have relevant experience in Greenkeeping or Groundsmanship and preferably a background of experience in a training role.

Application forms and further information are available from the Principal, Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife KY15 4JB, telephone (0334) 52781.

Applications should be returned by 30 June 1992.

Invitations to attend for interview will be issued by 17 July and interviews will be held on Wednesday 12 August 1992.



The Botley Park Hotel and Country Club

requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

For our two year old 18 hole golf course, set in beautiful Hampshire countryside. The successful applicant will have suitable qualifications and experience in all areas of course management. Ability to manage and motivate staff, organise work programmes and to have a good eye for attention to detail.

Applications in writing including salary expectation and a full CV to:

Mr G Aymes, General Manager, The Botley Park Hotel and Country Club, Winchester Road, Boorley Green, Botley, Hants S03 2UA.

Telephone: 0489 780888

Woking Golf Club

requires



A recently trained young greenkeeper to join a happy experienced team on mature heathland course. Excellent equipment and staff facilities provide a congenial position with good rates of pay and prospects. Local man preferred.

No accommodation.

Please write giving details of experience to:

**The Secretary, Woking Golf Club
Pond Road, Hook Heath, Woking, Surrey GU22 0JZ**

34 → ter of there being little to report (again), this because your section is run efficiently by a great committee (and knowing my luck, none of them will read this!). Now on to business.

We will require names of greenkeepers who would like to play in our section matches. These include fixtures against Mid Anglia, BB&O secretaries & captains, and including one or two others in the pipeline. So – don't delay, rush your name forward together with Club and handicap, to Dave Porter, c/o Ray Clark, Flat 1, Temple GC, Henley Rd, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 5LH.

On behalf of all section members I congratulate Roy Kates on becoming the national chairman of BIGGA and on receiving the fine red blazer. I'm sure we'll see him sporting it at many of our golf days and section functions. Last, but not least, a little note from Bob Woodward requesting that those wishing to make contact should call him at home after 6pm on 0628 664512. Please, don't call him at work as it is difficult to get messages on time – thanks.

RAY CLARK

AYRSHIRE

Our spring meeting was held on April 30th at Irvine Ravenspark, where we were welcomed with a persistent downpour upon our arrival at 9am. After long deliberation (about five minutes!), it was decided to dismiss the morning round in favour of some welcome discussion and a few rounds of pool and dominoes. A wise decision, as it turned out to be at least playable in the afternoon, although not for 'yours truly'.

Many thanks for the efforts of the bar and clubhouse staff for altering things to suit us, to Cunninghame DC for the use of their course; and to the greenkeepers for their sterling work in keeping the course open. Also to the young

AROUND THE GREEN



greenkeeper who warned us about the 'gators in the everglades at the bottom of the course!

Prize winners: Scratch -G Brown, Turnberry, 75. Handicap 1st class: – 1st J Devlin, KCDC, 82-12=70. 2nd W 'Arthur' McMeekin, Turnberry, 79-7=72. 3rd H Diamond, KCDC, 79-6=73. 2nd class:- 1st J Johnstone, Turnberry, 93-20=73. 2nd S Wilson, Western Gailes, 93-18=75. 3rd D Whiffen, Dumfries & Country, 89-14=75. Trade D Duthrie, 77-6=71. New member, A Gallagher, Skelmorlie.

It is with regret that I report the death of Jock Robertson, ex head greenkeeper at the Troon Municipal courses. Jock was a real character and will be sadly missed by his many friends in the greenkeeping world.

On the move: John Kinder is coming to us; moving from the Bushes in Paisley to Dumfries and Galloway. Robert Johnstone is moving from Ardeer to Newport and John McLaughlin is moving from Turnberry to assistant head at Dumfries & County.



Finally, we all wait with bated breath for the invitations to arrive for the grand opening dance at George's new 'mansion' at Turnberry.
DUNCAN GRAY

COMING UP

July 16th-19th: The Open Championship – Muirfield, Scotland

August 10th-12th: BIGGA National Golf Tournament – Littlestone GC, Kent

September 8th-10th: IOG Trade Exhibition – Peterborough, Northants

September 24th: ISEKI Championships Final – Coventry GC, Warwickshire

October 12th: TORO/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award – Aldwark Manor, York

October 14th-15th: KUBOTA Challenge – The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire

October 19th-November 27th: BIGGA Management Courses (six weeks) – Aldwark Manor, York

November 11th-12th: IOG Scotsturf Trade Exhibition, Edinburgh, Scotland

November 12th-14th: Golf Course Europe '92 Show – Monte Carlo

November 24th-26th: Golf International 2000 – Sandown Park, Esher, Surrey

December 7th – ICI Professional Products Premier Greenkeeper Award: Finals – Aldwark Manor, York.

D&E TURF MAINTENANCE LTD FAIRWAY AERATION THE EASY WAY



THE TORO FAIRWAY AERATOR

SHELTON CAMBRIDGE SAND GROOVER

TRILO MINI VACUUM/SWEEPER/SCARIFIER

Are Your Fairways on **ZERO** Maintenance?

For Hire "U" Drive or operated

Contact: Dave Stephenson, D&E Turf Maintenance Co. Ltd., St. Johns Schoolhouse, Central Parade, Shildon, Co. Durham DL4 1DL. Tel: 0388 772844 Evenings 0836 376944 Hire.

A NATIONWIDE SERVICE CONFORMING TO BS 5750

AD REF 323

**SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER
MUST END SOON!**

On 30 and 50 cubic square yard loads we would be very surprised if the massive savings available during our limited offer weren't acceptable to you. Simply give us the opportunity to impress you with a quote!

OVER 150 GOLF CLUBS!

...have already been supplied with cockleshell by us for use on their paths, including Sunningdale, St Georges, North Hants, Knole Park, Shirley Park, Grims Dyke, Boyce Hill, Orsett and Gerrards Cross.

They know how cockleshell...

...can save time and money

...doesn't damage mowers

...always looks clean – especially after rain

...can be used on all your paths, right up to the edge of the grass

...can be put directly onto sand and stays on the surface

COCKLESHELL
The 'natural' choice for paths

DEVENISH LTD.

Suppliers of shell sand and top soil

60 Hambro Hill, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 8DH

Tel: 0268 743866 • Fax: 0268 743867

Nationwide deliveries

OVER 100 YEARS IN BUSINESS!

AD REF 307

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

TORO have also introduced a unique 24hr 'unit-down service' ensuring immediate call off of any replacement part from central stores or from your local dealer ... and to back this up, there's TORO's 72hr Trans-Atlantic parts service. For the 'finest package deal' in a highly competitive market have a word with TORO ... take a demo you'll never regret it.



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
 Fax: 0480 216167 Tel: 0480 76971

Please send illustrated literature of the TORO HydroJect™ 3000

Name
 Student
 Address
 Post Code
 Tel
 G1.6.92

THIRST QUENCHER!

Nothing compares to Toro when it comes to satisfying a natural demand for a thirst-quenching reviver, especially at grass-roots level!

So take a tip, if you are considering automatic irrigation, splash out on a Toro system. The results can, you'll discover, be quite stimulating.



Think irrigation. Think Toro.

Toro Irrigation Limited
Unit 7 · Millstream Trading Estate · Ringwood
Hampshire · BH24 3SD Telephone: 0425 · 476261



MEMBER OF
BRITISH TURF
& LANDSCAPE
IRRIGATION
ASSOCIATION