



**Chris Knowles, right, and Terry Buchen at The Double Eagle Club**

are supplemented with other specialist equipment including the Hydroject, Green and Fairway Aerifiers, Metermatic Green and Fairway Top dressers and an Olathe Core litimiser vacuum.

The course also has three excellent maintenance buildings with two full-time mechanics who operate a comprehensive range of repair and maintenance equipment. The main building also houses a first class staff room with a complete range of kitchen equipment and two drinks vending machines. Buchen and his two assistants also have their well organised offices in the main building. The other two buildings are used principally for vehicle

and material storage.

I would also refer to something that is of particular interest to me and that is the questions of "nature conservation". Over recent years, in Britain, there has been a continued growth in criticism directed at golf course development, from conservationists. The Double Eagle Club, in my view, epitomises how well a course development/conservation relationship can be achieved. Alongside the excellent, even manicured, presentation of tees, fairways and greens, the course has a high proportion of woodland, the 'Native' rough and several large water bodies. Flora and Fauna abound in the various

course environments and it was most exciting for me to see many new species of animal and birdlife, although the smell of skunk I could have done without!

I must also mention the accommodation that was made available to me during my stay. I shared a large bungalow with three other turf students. It was situated in a woodland glade, quite close to the course, and was fully furnished and provided with all mod cons. It also had its own fishing lake which also came in handy during the very hot summer of 1995 (regularly 95°F temperatures).

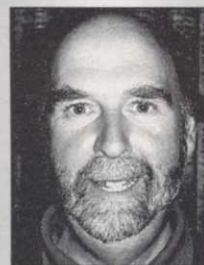
This was my first trip to America, it was a wonderful experience and I met many helpful people. The only real difficulty I found was the lack of transport, although I was able to organise lifts and, at times, course vehicles were available. I would therefore advise anyone considering a sojourn in America to plan for buying some appropriate transport.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity personally to thank

Terry Buchen and Mr John McConnell for allowing me to be part of the team running a wonderful golf course. It has left me with very fond memories, that will stay with me always and I made some new, genuine friends who I hope to see again one day.

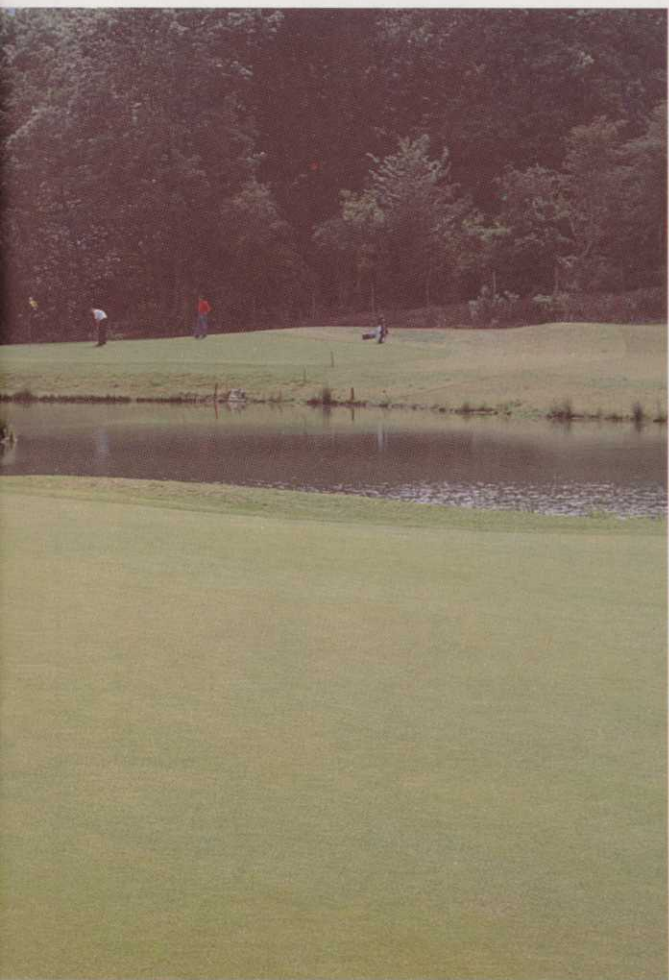
I wish Double Eagle a great future and I look forward to seeing a 'major' being played there very soon; it is certainly no more than it deserves.

**IF I WASN'T A GREENKEEPER I WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN:**



"A golf professional"  
- Bill Sparrow, East Herts GC

## SO QUIET, YOU CAN HEAR A PIN DROP.



Early morning mowing is no problem for this greenkeeper. He knows there'll be no complaints about noise because he's operating a Greensmaster 3200.

With an exceptionally quiet engine it maintains its power for a full day's work.

An operator's dream, this new model is the latest in Toro's top-selling Greensmaster 3000 series. Its unique new cutting system gives a superb quality of cut.



*The new cutting system*

If you want to hear a pin drop, give us a call and we'll walk your course with you and recommend the best machine for your needs.

You can trust Toro expertise and quality.

Simply telephone 01480 476971 and we'll arrange for a local dealer to contact you.



Floating cutting units follow ground contours like never before, while the ability of the cutting units to steer prevents sliding and scuffing when turning. Liquid cooled and diesel powered, it is exceptionally quiet, gives minimal vibration, comfortable seating and single joystick fingertip controls.

**TORO**

*Bringing perfection to play.*

# Advances in turf production

to as reinforced netting. This netting merely assists the turf grower to harvest turf prematurely providing absolutely no benefit to the end user. It can be a hazard in certain applications. Beware.

Custom grown turf – this is where turf is pre-grown for a customer's exacting or unusual requirements. The specialist turf grower will import the specified rootzone spreading it to a predetermined depth according to the type of harvesting dimensions and transplanted when the facility construction has been completed. This turf can be laid by either traditional methods, big roll turfing or if there is not time remaining, the deep section turf tile can be employed and subsequently used also for instant repair work on damaged areas.

While many of these new developments are highly specialised and handled only by a very few growers the trend is



Installing big rolls

however, one of improvement of turf types and turf systems and associated services. The summer of '95 did cause a blip in the development and improvement of the turfgrass industry generally, leaving many growers with huge areas of droughted land, but it is accustomed to major variations in

climatic conditions and being a strong industry with innovative products and an ever growing demand for quality turf and services the future is both secure and exciting.

■ Derek Edwards is Managing Director of the Inturf Group and Chairman of Turfgrass Producers

International UK.

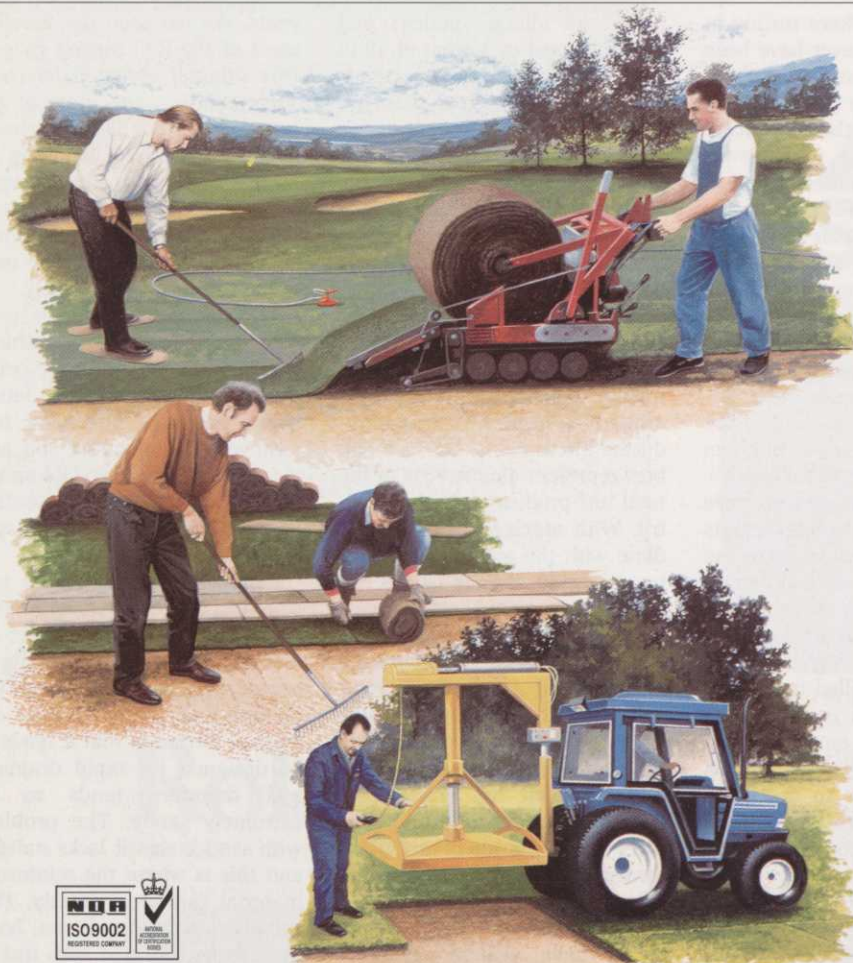
For more information about the Turfgrowers Association please contact Peter Adams, 12 Vixen Walk, Danewood, New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 5RU. Tel: 01425 638934 Fax: 01425 639195.

**IF I WASN'T A GREENKEEPER I WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN:**



"A professional footballer for either Glasgow Rangers or Manchester United."

- Lex Armitage, Richmond GC



**INSTINCTIVELY**  
**INTURF™**

**BIG ROLL TURF**  
*The original patented system*

**CUSTOM GROWN**  
*For special applications*

**CLASSIC**  
*A complete range of turf types*

**LAY 'N' PLAY**  
**Turf Tiles**  
*Unique instant turf repairs*

**The Inturf Group,**  
Regent Street, Pocklington, York YO4 2QN  
Telephone (01759) 304101 Fax (01759) 305229

For Scotland  
Tel: 0131 663 6617/8/9 Fax: 0131 663 0651

For France  
Tel: +++(33) 44 54 90 76 Fax: +++(33) 44 54 64 07



'We had a heck of a lot of heavy rain and it became a fairly pressurised situation. You've got to get your staff all over the course with squeegees and act quickly.'

English Open.

"When I arrived there was about 50% grass cover on the greens and tees and lot of scarring to repair on the fairways where the irrigation and drainage had gone in.

"So we had an awful lot to do in three and a half months to make it playable for the first tournament which we did. A 1000 rolls of turf went done on the fairways up until the end of July and it was hot as well so we had to keep it wet. There was a lot to achieve that first year and since

**Marriott Forest of Arden  
Golf and Country Club  
Machinery Inventory**

- 6 Lloyd's Paladins
- 5 Toro GM3s with Grooming, Verticut, Vibra spike units and 11 blade competition cylinders.
- 5 Toro 216s
- 2 Toro 5300Ds with Verti-cut units
- 1 Toro 4500D
- 1 Toro 455D Groundsmaster
- 1 Toro Workman with attachments including Hardi Sprayer, Top dresser
- 1 Lloyds Leda Gang mower
- 1 Massey Ferguson 240 Front Loader
- 1 Massey Ferguson 240 Tractor with Trailer
- 1 Kubota B7100 Compact with Trailer
- 1 Fiat Tractor with Trailer
- 4 E-Z-Go Trucks
- 2 Cushman Trucksters with Attachments including Slitters, Brushes, Top Dressers and Sprayers
- 1 Tractor Mounded SISIS Slitter
- 1 Verti-Drain
- 1 Howard Rotovator
- 1 Tractor Mounted Fertiliser Spreader
- 5 Scotts Fertiliser Spreaders
- 1 Wessex Leaf Sweeper
- 1 Wessex Grader, Rake
- 5 Flymos
- 5 Strimmers
- 4 Waterpumps
- 2 Leaf Blowers
- 1 Chain Saw
- 1 Ryan Overseeder
- 1 Ryan Turfcutter
- 1 Turf Iron
- 1 Mole Plough
- 1 Core Master



then we've built on it.

"Everybody enjoys the buzz leading up to the tournament the week itself and then the Sunday afterwards.

Michael O'Dyer, General Manager at Forest of Arden, is also in no doubt as to the quality of his Course Manager. "He is a perfectionist and it shows," is his ringing endorsement.

Raymond began is greenkeeping career at Bidston on the Wirral before joined Bill Lawson at Heswall GC.

"I spent six years with Bill, four years as his Deputy, and I learned everything from Bill. If you can't learn anything from that guy you can't learn anything at all. All my greenkeeping and man management skills can from him and he also directed me in the route I should be taking."

He then went to Royal Porthcawl adding good links and championship experience before joining Goodwood and the Country Club Hotel group as it was then.

Since '93 and his arrival at Forest of Arden he has helped improve the course to the extend that Colin Montgomerie, whose input into course design has been acquired as part a contract Europe's number one has signed

with the Marriott Group, was quoted as saying, "The aim is to make this the best course there is on the European Tour."

It's a challenge that will be met with relish by Raymond and his excellent team.



## Is your golf course a fish farm?

Your water hazards may already contain fish worth more than salmon.

◆ Harvesting coarse fish on a regular basis from your golf course could yield £1000s.

◆ If you have a series of water hazards, a stocking and fish management plan could result in an annual cash crop.

Framlington Fisheries are the country's largest suppliers of coarse fish. In turn this makes us the largest buyers. We are harvesting an increasing amount of fish from golf courses. Should you wish to know more details please contact us at:

**FRAMLINGTON FISHERIES**  
Station Farm, Bentley, Suffolk IP9 2DB  
Tel: 01473 327085 Fax: 01473 328256

**IF I WASN'T A GREENKEEPER  
I WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN:**



"A seaman"  
- Oliver English, Dundalk GC

# EAR DEFENDERS

read a sound level meter, but a qualified engineer with in depth acoustic experience.

The fact that the sound pressure levels generated by many grass maintenance machines are still very high, is directly related to a poor feedback by users to the manufacturers who therefore do not consider noise to be an important factor in product sales. If HSE had sufficient funding and resources adequately to enforce the legislation, the market driven manufacturers would soon get the message and invest in research to improve the acoustic performance of their machines. They would also speed up the development of battery powered electrical machinery which is much quieter and more environmentally friendly.

The average equivalent sound pressure level at the operators head for twenty recently tested brush cutters (strimmers) was 99 dB(A). It would only take operation for one hour for the second action level (90 dB(A)) to be breached with this average sound

level. For the highest measured value of 101.4 dB(A) the exposure time to breach the second action level reduces to thirty six minutes!

Many types of strimmers, flymos, hedge cutters, chain saws, pedestrian mowers, tractors, triple mowers, turf cutters, soil shredders, aerators, top dressers, quad bikes, edgers, blade grinders, hammer drills, disc grinders, etc. cause a breach of the second action level. The operators of these machines are vulnerable to permanent hearing damage. Their risk of NIHL would be considerably decreased by properly conducted noise assessments.

Equivalent sound pressure levels should be measured near the operator's head with each noisy machine at normal speed over grass. If fitted, blades should be rotating. For at least one of each type, octave band sound pressure levels should be recorded to ensure that the hearing defenders, if required, attenuate the sound to a level which eliminates

the risk of hearing damage. Unusual or inconsistent sound measurements should be investigated.

After the supervisors have had time to read and study the comprehensive report, the acoustician/engineer consultant should spend some time explaining the results and analysis to those concerned.

The noise consultant should also provide a telephone advice service for the managers and supervisors.

It is essential that the noise consultant convinces the user to rate acoustic performance as a crucial parameter in the decisions on which machines to phase out and on which machines to buy.

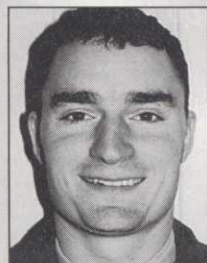
For normal golf courses the first noise assessment project would cost about one pound for each club member.

Two years later the cost of a recheck noise assessment would be much less. This is a relatively small price to pay to protect the hearing of those who maintain our parks and golf courses. It

would cost a great deal more if HSE prosecute those responsible for breaking the law or if one of the ground maintenance staff sues them for causing hearing damage.

Advanced planning and decision making on noise is not only a responsible social attitude, it is also good business practice and a substantial cost saving strategy in the long term.

**IF I WASN'T A GREENKEEPER  
I WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN:**



"A motor racing driver."  
- Darren Homer, Forest of Arden  
Golf and Country Club

ST. ANDREW'S SQUARE

LINKS  
AVENUE

WENTWORTH  
GREEN

FAIRWAY GARDENS

## Ask for directions!

You need to ask Johnsons the way to create a better golf course - we've 175 years experience and have created a range of mixtures which are unbeatable for tees, fairways and greens. Long lasting, good colour, drought and mowing tolerant. Some of the finest courses in the country rely on Johnsons - we'll point you in the right direction. Send now for details of our specialist golf course mixtures.



# Johnsons Seeds

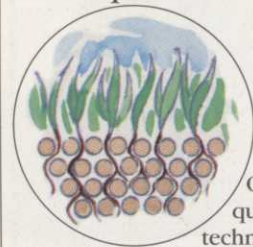
London Road, Boston, Lincs. PE21 8AD  
Tel: 01205 365051 Fax: 01205 359857



# PUTTING SOIL TECHNOLOGY ON THE RIGHT COURSE

Consistency of the growing medium is the key to superior greens and tees, which is why Rufford place such importance on the uniform particle size and the quality of all our sand/soil products

*Uniform size of particles is essential in resisting compaction.*



- from Rootzone mixes to Top-dressing mediums. With Rufford you know they must be the best, because
- Materials are constantly checked.
  - All dressings are heat treated.
  - Uniform particle size.
  - Soil analysis service.
  - Guaranteed quality.
  - Professional advice.

Of course, achieving such consistently high quality products is only possible when the technical aspects of each sand/soil mix is under the tightest control. Again an area in which Rufford is uniquely qualified, not only operating our own quarries, but with in-house laboratories constantly monitoring their output.

*Call us today and find out why greenkeepers throughout the country rely on Rufford for quality and service second to none.*

**Tel: 0161 877 8550**

Fairway House, South Stage,  
Broadway, Salford Quays,  
Manchester, M5 2UQ.  
Fax: 0161 877 8554

Top Dressings	Fine, medium and coarse
Sands	Wide range, for bunkers to greens
Rootzone Mix	Standard U.S.G.A. or made to order mixes
Screened Soil	Fully screened and shredded
Divot Mixes	Especially blended for golf tees & fairway divotins

# Rufford

**TOP-DRESS SUPPLIES**



## Dinner was a big success

The annual Gentleman's Dinner at Walton Heath was a resounding success although the hardy souls who competed, particularly at the back of the field, were given ample opportunity to test the waterproof qualities of their clothing.

Despite the damp – and it could have been worse because during the dinner itself snow fell and was two inches deep by the time it

came to depart – some excellent golf was played over the New Course, magnificently prepared by Clive Osgood, with 40 pts being required to secure the honours.

The victor was Huw Morgan, of Wildernesse GC in Sevenoaks, off a handicap of 8 and, as our picture shows, he was congratulated on his achievement by Walton Heath Captain John Jessop.

## First winner sees the sights at GCSAA show

Stuart Green, of Reaseheath College, the first winner of the Gleneagles Excellence in Golf Award used part of his £1,650 bursary prize to visit the GCSAA Conference and Exhibition in Orlando in February.

The Award scheme, which is now in its second year, enables students to study for a year at Gleneagles as part of their three year HND college course and Stuart was one of six students selected by Gleneagles to take part in the inaugural year of its Excellence in Golf Awards.

The students spent a year studying and carrying out all aspects of course design, management and maintenance under the direction of Jimmy Kidd and the Head Greenkeepers of Gleneagles' three championship courses. At the end of the year, the students faced practical, theoretical and project assessments and all six were judged to have reached the required standard and received Certificates of Excellence and



cash bursaries.

Stuart is pictured (second from left) with his certificate of excellence on the stand of award sponsor, Ransomes. Also pictured are, from left, Peter Wilson, Chief Executive Ransomes plc; Jimmy Kidd, Director of Turf Grass Management, Gleneagles Golf Developments and David McInroy, Managing Director of award co-sponsors Scottish Grass Machinery.

