

Back in time

to this month in... 1982

Do you have any old artifacts from days gone-by?

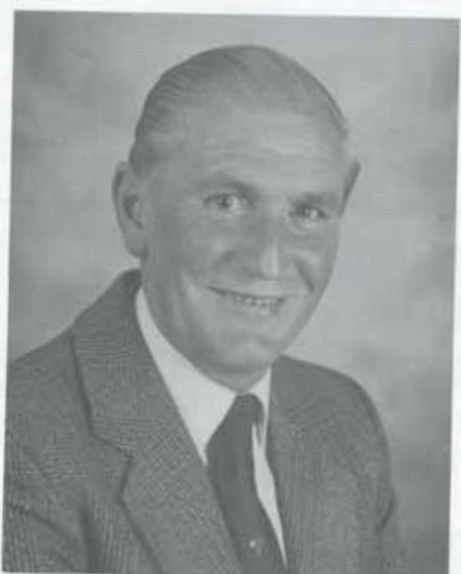
Perhaps your grandad was a greenkeeper and has something stored away in the loft? Maybe a greenkeeper's Association tie, or a journal? If so we would love to hear from you. We are particularly interested in the early part of the last century, but anything you have would be worth considering for future editions of this article.

Please contact us on 01347 833800 or email Elliott Small, BIGGA Past Chairman, elliott.edna@hotmail.co.uk

Back in time looks back at cuttings of greenkeeping news from days gone-by. 2012 will be a landmark year, as it will be the centenary of Greenkeeping Associations, as well as 25 years since BIGGA was formed. Each month we will look back at the current month, but in a different year, from over the last hundred. This month we travel back to October 1982

GOLF Greenkeeping and Course Maintenance

OCTOBER 1982



HARRY HERRINGTON, Chairman, B.G.G.A. 1982/83

BGGA Chairman, Harry Herrington, of Lindrick Golf Club, was featured on the front cover, while the Association's newly appointed President, Peter Alliss, wrote an article expressing his appreciation of the work of the country's greenkeepers.

Peter, who was elected for a three year period, also wrote of some of his personal dislikes on golf courses – daisies on the fairways and the need for good housekeeping around the course. He also called for some fresh thinking by both golf clubs and the Association to move the game forward.

The Letters page included contributions from Sid Arrowsmith, urging people to contribute articles to the magazine; Honorary BGGA Secretary and Treasurer, Walter Heeles, welcoming the magazine's new Editor, John Lelean, and Bill Pile describing a problem with a hydraulic pipe on a greens machine.

GOLF Greenkeeping and Course Maintenance

The Official Magazine of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association

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THE WAY AHEAD.....

Peter Alliss talks to the Greenkeepers

May I first thank the members of the Association for electing me as their President for a second term of office. It is a position I regard as extremely important in the international world of golf and an office I am proud to hold. And I would like to thank all those sections within the BGGA who sent me congratulations to their articles throughout the year, but as I said when I took on the job originally, my life is so crowded that to act as a "Working President" is something I am not able to do. My main role, as I see it is to try to stimulate interest and enthusiasm of interest and writing. No-one more than I realises that most working conditions for greenkeepers are far from satisfactory. Although appalling might be too strong a word for some of the conditions, primitive certainly is not. The majority of clubs cannot afford to lay out hundreds, may thousands of pounds for their greenkeeping staff, but it has always been my experience that most golf clubs do not budget enough for the actual maintenance of the golf course. This I believe, is very narrow thinking. The majority of income accruing to a golf club is because of the golf

attract future visitors and those members. Once you have the reputation for keeping the course neat and tidy people will say "I like to play at such and such a course, it's no great feat, it's a bit tidy or it's a bit flat, but it is always in such good condition". In my dealings with golf clubs throughout the world I have found that in many cases the actual standards of greenkeeping leave a lot to be desired. I have visited many golf courses this year, some of them the most famous in the land, and I have seen dandelions and daisies on the greens which, to me, is just sacrilegious. They should not be there. I don't care what anybody says, they should not be there!

I do not particularly think there is any great joy in seeing daisies all over the fairways, some of the prettiest links courses we have are just a carpet of daisies at certain times of the year and nobody really seems to be doing anything about it. I love to see wild flowers growing in the rough and they were very prevalent at Royal Troon this year during the Open Championship, which added to the attraction of the course. I appreciate

and link mowing cost money but at the end of the day it is money well spent. If the seasons can begin with every short hole looking fresh, the tee markers painted and mowed away every day and the old dunes picked up and thrown away, we will be going some way to making the golf course a place to be proud of. I am not a believer in replacing photos on short holes, because one could be playing a month, not notice that your ball is on a loose divot and it could cause you to drop a stroke.

Golf Clubs and the committees that run them need to take a serious look at the state of their courses, the working conditions and remuneration of their employees and methods of improving both to the golf into action now, particularly with regard to pensions, insurance and improved working conditions.

Greenkeepers joining a club at the start of their career may not wish to remain there all their working life, many opportunities for advancement are open to them and a wealth of information and experience.



The Official Magazine of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association

NEWS ROUND-UP

Dear Sir,

Over the past year all Greenkeepers were requested by the N.E.C. to support the Journal by sending in letters, questions and greenkeeping experiences, so that the Journal would become more interesting and beneficial to all concerned.

This request was poorly supported and not only contributed to poor Journal content, but possibly provoked the previous Editor to quit it a day.

Since this happened we have been without a Journal for two months, and how lucky we are to have in consultation so quickly.

So for heaven's sake support the Journal and assist the Editor by feeding him with news, and information, respecting our

Dear Sir,

I would like to wish our new Editor/Publisher every success in his effort to produce a magazine for our association. I know it has not been easy as the magazine was left completely without revenue and he had to start from scratch in obtaining advertising matter.

I would like to apologise to anyone who expected to find their advert placed with the previous management as this was a matter entirely beyond our control.

Members made it clear at the A.G.M. that they wished to continue with a GUGA magazine and I hope that every effort will be made to keep the Editor supplied with news and views.

I was disturbed to learn after the Executive Committee had agreed to support the magazine that certain members appear to be doing their best to

Dear Sir,

An incident occurred on Saturday 28th August which has prompted me to put pen to paper.

My son and I were on the verge of leaving early that morning for a long anticipated fishing trip, when the telephone rang. It was my first assistant to inform me the greens machine had burst a pipe and emptied its hydraulic tank onto our 74th green.

I went straight to the course and we did all we could to minimise the damage, cut a temporary pipe to avoid any leaking at the site and spreading it, sprayed the area with detergent and water and then washed it. The last three greens were cut with the cortex and then we resealed the detergent and water on the damaged green.

We may have saved it if it may require quite a large re-laying job, causing inconvenience to the PLAY of the hole.

During the evening while going over the incident in my mind, I thought it was just one of those things. But was it?

The machine in question had been meticulously looked after and through three years old and regularly used in first class condition. So where does the blame lie for our last day's fishing and extra work to come on the green, an improving weather if it isn't with the manufacturer. Without stripping any extra work to come on the green, an improving weather if it isn't with the manufacturer. Without stripping any extra work to come on the green, an improving weather if it isn't with the manufacturer.

I believe I am right in saying all makes of green tractors use hydraulic systems in one form or another. Could not the manufacturers of these expensive machines find another type of fluid to put in the hydraulic system? A vegetable oil perhaps or even a detergent so long as it is not damaging to the turf when leaks or bursts occur. Perhaps the pipes, joints and connections need a revamp to make them more reliable.

If you have had this sort of trouble or know of any other incidents please write. They do not have to be masterpieces of the written word but just the details, not only of green machines, but lawnmower, law mowers, or any hydraulic machine that has given you a headache. We can then judge whether the number of accidents is anything compared with the number of machines in use, although the personal opinion is one disaster is just one too many compared to the high cost of these machines.

BILL FOLEY

Head Greenkeeper, Crowthorn Golf Club.

OCTOBER 1982
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Greenkeeping

Journal of Greenkeepers' Association

Britain's leading magazine on golf course management.

CONTENTS

LETTERS

..... To The Editor

MAY & BAKER NEW DISPENSER

Following on from the enormous successful Easy Measure Dispenser containing May & Baker's weedkiller 'Toscor' and its revolutionary fungicide 'Fungusator', M & B's Environment Product Department announced the launch of 'Tip 'n' Pour'.

Designed by May & Baker and developed in association with British Liners this exclusive container brings to you a new advance in safe, accurate and trouble free measuring of chemicals.

A 1.5 litre 'Tip 'n' Pour' chemical dispenser will be available shortly for a large range of the May & Baker range of chemicals.



The revolutionary 'Tip 'n' Pour' dispenser.



The new Triplex Syster II machine launched by Morrison, the New Zealand company, by the UK concessionaire, Fletcher Challenge Ltd.

1982 SUPATURF COLOUR PHOTO PRIZEWINNERS

Reg Vickers and his colleagues at Warrington Golf Club, Appleton, Cheshire were delighted to hear that he had won the first prize of hand made decorations and glasses in the 1982 Supaturf Colour Photo Competition.

Reg, who has been Head Greenkeeper with the club for five years, entered a view of No. 9 putting green, through the fall of an oak tree.

Second place is awarded to J. Booth, Assistant Groundsman of Sheffield Wednesday Football Club, and third place goes to D. Clark, of Moorstown Golf Club.

The runners-up included:

G. E. Lloyd, Head Greenkeeper of Holside Golf Club.

J. Dykes, Assistant Greenkeeper of Holside Golf Club, Co. Durham.

D. S. Gould, Golf Course Manager of Langley Park Golf Club.

S. Conant, Head Greenkeeper of Houghton-le Spring Golf Club, Durham.

FREE GOLF TO THE UNEMPLOYED

Sheffield, a city well-known for its policies of providing a full free municipal service, is now offering free golf to the unemployed. But some municipal courses are said to have become a battleground according to a newspaper report. Wild shots hit indiscriminately all over the course have made the upkeep of the golf courses a very hazardous occupation.

These tractor cab windshields have been smashed with the drivers of the wheel and greenkeepers constantly run the risk of being hit by balls hooked and aimed from the fairway.

Some attempt to put the newcomers straight about the rules and etiquette of the game has been made by the employer golfers such as an introduction to the 'club' at 'one' whenever a shot is heading off line, but a curious member of the Hunsley Golf Club has said that in his view it was not safe to let on to the course when some of the free golfers are about.

Sheffield's Recreation Committee are concerned that course maintenance cannot be carried out without serious risk to the greenkeeper if they are becoming the 'out of work' golfers. They are allowed to play between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm to allow time for greens to be cut and regular golfers are asked to leave their round in peace.

A CO-OPERATIVE

With the British Prime Minister calling for a greater environmental movement by the UK, Walsley WVO and Honda are announcing a Honda style Water brand of cylinder roller.

Unfortunately this announcement coincided with the U.C.'s with the result that there is a gap in the market for a roller to replace a major event.

Walsley WVO will make roller models at their factory following joint design of the Honda engine. The two expect substantial additional UK and sea looking opportunities to expand in overseas.

Water cylinder rollers will be marketed by Walsley's traditional colours of gold and white Honda's house colour silver will provide a distinct identity for the 'H2O'.

The new Honda WVO rollers were introduced at the Groundsmanship Exhibition, The '16' and '18' wide powered by a Honda G100 engine. The '21' wide model is a Honda G125 for 4 stroke. Prices are still to be announced.



One of the new Honda WVO cylinder rollers.

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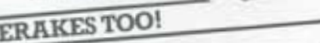
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