

Back in time

to this month in... 1972

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 an 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 September 1972.

The British Golf Greenkeeper

The September 1972 issue of *The British Golf Greenkeeper*, the official magazine of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association, edited by Fred Hawtree, contained an article (below) from the Chipman Chemical Company on The Treatment of Fungal Diseases.

Included in the advice was "By knowing the conditions which fungi find most desirable it is possible to produce a non-conducive environment by good cultural turf management practices."

The tractor shown on the cover is a Howard Bolene 1477, which is being seen towing a barge on the Grand Union Canal.



SEPTEMBER 1972

5p

The treatment of Fungal Diseases

The CHIPMAN CHEMICAL COMPANY condenses much useful advice on avoiding and treating fungal disease.

Late Summer and Autumn marks the opening of the season for unvisited and unwanted guests of British golf greens. These are the fungal diseases and the reluctant hosts are our very hardworking turf grasses. Fungi are parasitic and being unable to synthesize organic food, attack the plant material of their host, penetrating the cell wall or entering wounds or natural openings and leaving the characteristic symptoms of disease in the grass plant when the infected cells die.

Some common turf fungi depend solely upon living grasses for support, whereas others are able to continue to survive after the host has died, living on the dead plant material. Both can produce thousands of spores capable of infecting a fresh host. In addition some fungi can form a 'resting body' which is able to persist for many years, even in unsuitable conditions and carry over disease from one year to the next. There are therefore many sources of infection, and if allowed to develop and spread these fungi can cause severe damage.

By knowing the conditions which fungi find most desirable it is possible to produce a non-conducive environment by good cultural turf management practices. It is significant that the conditions which discourage fungi and also those which most favour the healthy growth of fine grasses. Worthwhile measures can be summarised as follows:-

Aim to reduce surface moisture

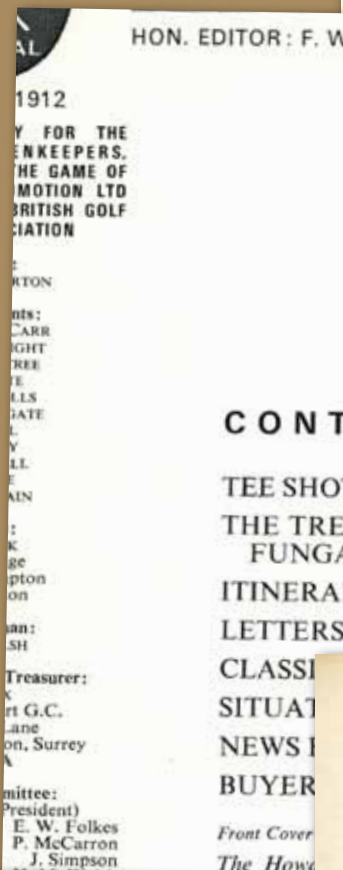
- Improve drainage where necessary.
- Carry out spiking, slitting, raking, mowing regularly and at the optimum time.
- Switch dew from grass.
- Remove any barriers to the flow of air across the turf.
- Reduce shade.
- Avoid leaving grass long in winter.
- Avoid smothering turf with top dressings.

Maintain fertility and acidity

- Use balanced fertilisers at the correct time.
- Avoid the late use of fertilisers high in nitrogen as compared with other elements.

Avoid mechanical damage

- Remember that spores enter through the wounds.



News



from the Sections

Special occasions

Sept. 6 Southern Section Autumn

Third Annual Dinner/Dance Will be held at The Empire Hotel, Fosse Road, Leicester on Saturday 14th October 1972 at 7.0 pm for 7.30 pm

New members I would like to welcome to this section the following new members: D. McTurk Esq. 94 Melrose Road, Thringstone, Leics. (Lingdale Golf Club). J. C. Stonebridge Esq. 80 Winslow Drive, Wigston, Leicester. (Glen Gorse Golf Club).

NORTH-WEST

By H. M. Walsh Hon. Secretary, Hornobury Cottage, Old Links Golf Club, Monkserrat, Bolton, Lancs.

Autumn tournament DUE TO THE KINDNESS OF THE Captain and the Directors of Old Links Golf Club Chorley Old Road, Monkserrat, Bolton, our Autumn Tournament will be played over three courses Thursday will be...

LEFT: Around the Green circa 1972

BELOW: An advert for the IOG's Exhibition at Motspur Park, New Malden, prior to its move to Windsor Racecourse. Catching the attention of many a greenkeeper, sits a close-up of a pretty young female. It's unknown whether this was part of the promotion for Supaturf Fertilisers or a cheeky addition by the magazine Art department!

RIGHT: A series of adverts from the issue, with Ransomes appearing separately from Jacobsen, in the days before they merged

Easy Guider

Advertisement for Ransomes 24 Ride-on mower. Includes text: 'Check these features', 'RANSOMES 24 Ride-on', and an image of a man mowing a lawn.

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Advertisement for 'The Institute of Groundsmanship International Exhibition 1972' to be held at the University of London Athletic Ground, Motspur Park, New Malden Surrey on the 12th, 13th & 14th of September.



Advertisement for Supaturf Fertilisers. Text: 'Pretty good value! Supaturf FERTILISERS TOP DRESSINGS & GRASS SEEDS ETC ORDER NOW for AUTUMN/WINTER'.

Advertisement for Warren's A-34 Kentucky Bluegrass. Text: 'Warren's A-34 Kentucky Bluegrass... Let them tear it up... Warren's A-34 Kentucky Bluegrass Comes Back Faster!'.

Letters to the Editor

Flat 20 Eastmoor close Foley Road East, Streety, Sutton Coldfield 7th July 1972

Dear Mr. Hawtree, I am very interested to read in 'Tee Shots' in the current issue of The British Golf Greenkeeper, your reference to Golf Clubs on Common Land, and in particular, Bulwell Forest (not 'Bitwell') near Nottingham and Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham. You may be interested to know that I started my golf at the former, and now play at Streety, Sutton Coldfield, the Sutton Coldfield Club. What is more interesting, however, is the fact that my Grandfather, Edmund Williamson who was the station master at the Bulwell Forest Railway station, offered the use of his 'parlour' in 1887 to the few gentlemen of Nottingham who decided that Bulwell Common was an ideal place for their game of golf, and his son Tom aged 7 acted as the first caddy, carrying a few clubs (loose) under his arm with which to make the tees. Son Tom (my own father) eventually became the first Club, at the age of 16, after having learnt the art of Berwick, Scotland. This was in 1896, he later moved to Hollinwell. He remained pro. until his death in 1950, Club, although he had many tempting offers to move else where. My father was actually appointed on a 3 months' trial any further reference to this, he used to joke that he was 'It is further interesting to note that his first Midland Club was at the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club in 1897, when he was As leading Midland Professional, on the occasion of Midland Amateurs', he was always drawn to play Carl B...

P.S. I believe there was a time in the early 1900's when had designed and made, or altered, nearly every course in Nottingham.

Dear Sir, May I refer to Mr. C. A. Moore's letter in the April issue. I would endorse the opinion of Mr. Adrian Robertshaw (January issue). The automatic pop-up sprinkler system of watering greens only accentuates the development of soft greens, thatch, black slime and fusarium when it and other treatments are abused or neglected. There can be no doubt that the pop-up system is the irrigation system for all modern golf courses. Its use should pose no special problems for progressive greenkeepers. Minor drawbacks may arise on some older courses. The combination of good greens and the pop-up system is not due to 'good fortune' but rather skilful methods of greenkeeping as outlined by Mr. Robertshaw in conjunction with automatic watering. Obviously it takes time to adapt to any new method. After the first year most problems should be ironed out. So one must be patient. As one gains experience with the automatic pop-up system one will be pleasantly surprised.

Yours faithfully, R. J. LANE

49 Arthur Street Blairgowrie

Dear Sir, I reply to Mr. Moore's letter in the April issue of the British Golf Greenkeeper about the pop-up system. I have read with interest about pop-ups in the magazine and in my opinion soft greens thatch, black slime and fusarium are caused by mis-use of the pop-up system. I've had this system for two years at Blairgowrie Golf Club and would recommend it to

Advertisement for Dorman sprayers. Text: 'Dorman - spraying made easy with sprayers made to last! THE JACOBSEN PROFESSIONALS'.

Advertisement for Toro lawn mowers. Text: 'YOUR HAND IS YOUR TOOL KIT. TORO'.

Advertisement for Lawn Mower Grinders. Text: 'LAWN MOWER GRINDERS ATTERTON & ELLIS LTD Dept. B.G.G. Iron Works, Haverhill, Suffolk. Tel: Haverhill 2312/3.'

Advertisement for Deep AT NO. Text: 'DEEP AT NO. We are u which pe keeps the Cambri Gira Specialis'