

IN THE PICTURE

ROLAWN AND BIGGA GET TOGETHER

AT the European Turf Management Exhibition in Harrogate, Rolawn Turf Growers announced their sponsorship of the first in-house construction course to be held by the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association.

The course: "The Use of Cultivated Turf in the Construction of Tees and Greens", will be held on March 28-29 at BIGGA's headquarters at Aldwark Manor near York.

"As older or heavily used greens and tees require major renovation, greenkeepers are finding an increased need to know all about aspects of construction" says David Golding, BIGGA's Education Officer.

BIGGA has organised this course as part of their training programme and delegates attending will receive three credits towards the newly launched Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

The course includes lectures and demonstrations by Brian D. Pierson, one of the country's leading golf course constructors and Robert Laycock, Rolawn's Technical Director and a turf scientist in his own right.

Also on the programme is a visit to Rolawn's turf production fields near York, to see the latest developments in the cultivated turf industry.

Rolawn's sponsorship of the course means delegates will only have to pay a nominal fee (£30 residential, £10 day) for this BIGGA course, although places are strictly limited and early application is advisable.

Rachel Semlyen, Rolawn's Marketing Director says of their sponsorship, "We are pleased to have been asked to sponsor this course as part of BIGGA's programme to improve standards and training of greenkeepers."

In the cultivated turf industry there have been many changes and developments that make construction and renovation more feasible for more greenkeepers, but only if they have the knowledge and training."

PRINCES G.C. BOOKED

NORMAN Exley, the South East regional Administrator has confirmed that Princes G.C. in Kent has been booked for the Greenkeeper 1992 National Tournament. Ganton this year, followed by Royal St Davids in 1991, certainly sets the standard for our future venues - first rate courses all!



Left to right: Simon Tullett, General Manager of Agria UK Limited, Mike Butler of Warwickshire County Council and Richard Forty, Sales Director of Murleys stand beside the 9300 Agria ride-on mower.

LESSONS ON THE LAWN

IN January Warwickshire County Council's Sports and Ground Services Department took delivery of £160,000 worth of ground care machinery from Murley Agricultural Supplies Limited of Warwick.

The nine Agria 9300 triple cylinder ride-on mowers and three Ford 3910 tractors will be used by sports and ground services throughout Warwickshire, where they maintain in excess of 5.5 million square metres of grass.

Grounds Maintenance Manager, Mike Butler, said: "Our decision to buy the Agria 9300s was reached after extensive research into the equipment available and more importantly after extensive working trials."

Of the working trials, Phil Garrett, Area Manager for Sports and Ground Services said: "The Agria came through with flying colours!"

Simon Tullett, General Manager of Agria UK Ltd, said that he was especially pleased that Murleys got the order, as Warwickshire County Council, where possible, like to procure equipment from suppliers within the County.

Murley Agricultural Supplies Limited of Warwick, who supplied the machines have been Agria dealers for two years and Richard Forty, Sales Director, said: "We have a reputation for quality and service and the Agria range completely supports our policy."

FINDLAY PICKEN IS NEW CHAIRMAN OF GOLF FOUNDATION COUNCIL

FINDLAY Picken is the new chairman of the Golf Foundation Council following the Foundation's annual general meeting in February. He succeeds Tony Wheeler who was chairman for the past seven years. Mr Wheeler remains a member of the Council.

A chartered accountant by profession, Findlay Picken is well known in the world of golf having worked for many years for the Dunlop Company, including 12 years as managing director of the International Sports Company. He has served on the Golf Foundation Council for the past ten years with special responsibilities for finance.

A single figure handicap golfer, he is a member and past Captain of Walton Heath Golf Club and a member of the R & A.

HAWTREE - NEW CONCEPT IN GOLF COURSE PROVISION

MANY farmers are deterred from converting their land into a golf course because of the high production costs involved. With 700 courses required by the year 2000 to meet demand, the irony is that these landowners have ideal sites but feel limited by finance.

Now Hawtree, the international golf course architects, have come up with a revolutionary idea for what in essence are do-it-yourself golf courses, in which they submit a simple design and then allow the farmer and his workforce to build it in their own time, while maintaining a supervisory role.

By this method the Oxford-based practice, responsible for more than 300 courses worldwide is making golf course ownership more attainable. The first example of this new concept is the Sandford Springs Golf Club near Kingsclere in Hampshire on the site of Sandford Farm owned by Raleigh Place.

The complex was opened by Nick Faldo U.S. Masters champion earlier this year.

THE VICTA RYAN CHANGEOVER

VICTA (UK) Ltd announce that with effect from July 1 they will be relin-

quishing the distribution of Ryan turfcare equipment. After that date Ransomes, new owners of Ryan, will arrange their own distribution.

Commenting on the situation, Victa's managing director, Bill Brooks said: "To ensure that our customers are not inconvenienced, we have negotiated with Ransomes for spare parts to be available from our dealers until June 1991. Every effort will be made to make the transition as smooth as possible."



Grounds maintenance manager Miles Milner (left) and parks and sportsgrounds supervisor Mark Hogan, with the Overseeder.

CRICKET SQUARE SAVED, THANKS TO "CHARTERHOUSE OVERSEEDER"

CRICKETERS in Reading have an extra cricket table, thanks to the versatile Charterhouse Overseeder, from turf management specialist Charterhouse Turf Machinery.

The pitch at the Sol Joel Playing Fields, owned by Reading Borough Council, had been overgrown for some years and was proving difficult to re-establish.

But then the Borough's grounds maintenance unit contract services decided to use the Charterhouse Overseeder, which had been bought in May this year. "Having flailed the long grass, we overseeded, and the new turf came up a treat, in the middle of the season," said Miles Milner, grounds maintenance manager. "The wicket will be in play next year."

Mr Milner said that, in the past, many groundsmen would have been wary of using so large a machine on a cricket wicket. "But we gave the Sol Joel pitch the intensive overseeding it needed - and it worked."