

What price municipal green fee golf?

MANY of us are fully aware of the Government's intentions regarding compulsory competitive tendering for golf courses, but a lot of the public course clubs do not realise they have to protect themselves and their members.

This they can do by insisting with their local authority that they have the right to see and to read the specification that has been drawn up by the local authority, who have to list "how things are to be done and when they are done" the club's must use their right to insist that their rights are protected by ensuring the local authority put into their spec's i.e. clubs booking arrangements, captains days, charity days and any tee times that have been allocated to them, failure to see that the points mentioned are in spec could mean that whoever has



Panshanger Golf Club - winning the fight to be competitive.

"We are trying to get a message over before we witness the downfall of municipal clubs as we know them."

the right to take over the course does not have to honour any of these arrangements as they will only work to the spec; laid down at the time of the tender, whereas if the club get these included they have some protection.

In this feature Greenkeeping Management is attempting to get this message over before we have to witness the downfall of municipal clubs as we know them.

Demands are already being made on the clubs that have failed to find out these facts and are now tied down with red tape. The National Association of Public Golf Courses is at the the forefront of the fight and it is with their help that Greenkeeping Management is presenting this feature.

Mike McClennan
Editor

WITH the explosion of interest in golf in this country in the past five years – due mainly to the media exposure and success by British players in international events such as the Ryder Cup and American Masters – one has to question what the future is for municipal golf courses.

I have to say the future of municipal golf looks fairly bleak, as the new capital and financial controls on local government spending will make it extremely difficult for authorities to finance new leisure projects, in particular municipal golf courses, in the future.

In addition recent legislation introduced by the government, such as compulsory competitive tendering, and even the effects of the poll tax, will have, I believe, a detrimental effect on courses in this country.

It is already widely recognised that we require up to 700 new courses in this country by the year 2000, to cope with the present demand from new players, and one only has to go to your local municipal course at any time of day to see what demand there is.

At Panshanger Golf Complex, which is run by Welwyn Hatfield Council, we get players leaving the public house, which is situated in the middle of the Golf Course, at 11.00 p.m. on a Saturday night and waiting in their cars until the shop opens at 6.00 a.m. the following day, to try and secure a round for that day.

This surely cannot be tolerated as in any other sport it would be unthinkable.

Some Municipals, especially in the South, are reporting over 70,000 rounds per year which by any Greenkeepers standard is 20,000 rounds too many, as the wear and tear on the course becomes very difficult to control.

In fact the STRI recommend that 45,000 rounds per year is the most economical level to maintain a Golf Course. However, in saying this there is a need to improve a lot of the existing Municipal Courses in this country, and to bring them up to the standards that the public expect as media exposure is showing courses at the highest quality, and the golfer expects this to be the standard on his own course.

Having travelled round the country and visited many

Municipal Courses there is a considerable variance in standard, and it is apparent to me that some Local Authorities do not see the benefit, whether it be financial or prestige, in providing a Course of the highest quality. We at Welwyn Hatfield believe in providing quality and the investment in Panshanger has paid off, with many members of the public unaware that it is a Local Government provision.

At Panshanger, which is situated in the green belt on 110 acres we provide a thriving 18 hole Golf Course, Public House, Function Suite, 3 Glass Backed Squash Courts, Pro Shop and other associated areas, and I would suggest to many people that our model is one that can easily be developed should the Local Authority be prepared to invest. The Course, and all the associated facilities, now cover its costs including all its debt charges, and still is able to make a contribution back into the Rates or what is now called the Poll Tax Fund.

I believe that Local Authorities should have the courage to invest more into

Continued on page 13

We've developed some strong attachments for the Cushman[®] Turf-Truckster.[™]

And so will you.

No wonder some golf course Greenkeepers have grown attached to their Cushman Turf-Trucksters. Nothing even comes close to fulfilling as many functions with such beautiful results. It's state-of-the-art turf maintenance machinery in a class by itself.

A superior system.

More than a dozen attachments and implements can be interchanged with a minimum amount of effort, turning a Turf-Truckster into an entire fleet of turf maintenance vehicles. You can spray, aerate, pick up cores, haul, dump, fertilise,



spread, seed and top dress. And you can do them all with greater precision because of our unique ground speed governor control.

Pound for pound, function for function, nothing is as versatile or economical over more years of heavy use.

Now with Diesel engine option.

Now available with either petrol or economical diesel engine options, the Cushman Turf-Truckster is simply your best turf maintenance vehicle investment. Ask a Greenkeeper who owns one. Better yet, call the Cushman dealer nearest you for a free demonstration, or call 0473 270000 for more information today.



A RANSOMES GROUP COMPANY

Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Ltd, Ransomes Way, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9QG. Telephone 0473 270000 Fax 0473 270032

Continued from page 11

their courses, for if they do not then the Private Sector will take these over in due course with the result of Compulsory Competitive Tendering.

At the moment under the new legislation it is compulsory for all Local Authorities to expose leisure management, bars and catering and grounds maintenance to tender, and the dangers here are the

Private Sector will possibly take control of the grounds maintenance of some courses. I hear some Authorities saying that they welcome this but, as we all know, the maintenance of a Golf Course is not only a job but a hobby as well to dedicated Greenkeepers, and when Golf Course maintenance becomes a commercial issue then there is the danger that the specification

could suffer and investments which have been made in the Course over the past years could go overnight.

Having said this, there are a lot of Municipal Courses which will benefit from CCT especially those where maintenance in the past has been sadly lacking and it is these courses, I believe, that the Private Sector will be trying to win.

Having given my broad

views on the future of Municipal Golf, and to the future, I would welcome any comments from readers as to their views as I have only touched on some of the nerve ends which need debating and would welcome greater debate through this magazine.

PETER KIRKHAM
Assistant Director of
Recreation, Welwyn
Hatfield Council

THERE are three areas of legislation which may affect Municipal Golf Clubs. Managing sports and leisure activities, grounds maintenance and catering.

The local authority has discretion over letting these functions as a separate contract or including them all in the sports and leisure contract.

Some authorities will consider letting the management of golf courses (including any combination of the three functions) as a separate contract or including it in a much larger contract covering other activities e.g. sports centres, swimming pools etc.

Different authorities will take different approaches.

The Contract Process

Local authorities may only carry out work contained within the Act if the following conditions have been met.

(a) The authority must publish a notice, before carrying out any of the work contained within the Act, in at least one local newspaper and one trade journal containing a brief description of the work, details for inspecting or purchasing the specification and a statement that the authority intends to make an invitation to carry out the work.

(b) The periods, place, time and charge specified in the notice are reasonable and the authority has made a detailed specification of work available before carrying the work and that the specification includes a statement of the contract period.

(c) There must be at least three bids invited from the private sector if sufficient interest is shown.

(d) If the local authority wishes to carry out the work itself, a written tender must also be submitted.

(e) The authority must not act in a manner which is anti-competitive.

(f) In carrying out the work, the authority must comply with the specification of work it has produced.

Legislation areas to be watched

The Specification

The specification is a very detailed document giving information and setting standards on every aspect of the service provided. If the specification is perfect and the contractor adheres to it, the customer using the service should not be able to detect any difference in the service, whoever is carrying out the work.

The specification for managing sports and leisure facilities might cover the following areas:

Description of area, description of service, changes in policy, improvements/expansion of the service, pricing, monitoring of performance, financial records, management information, sponsorship, purchasing, stationery, management, staffing levels, staffing qualifications/validity and experience, standards of dress/uniform, training, opening hours, programming, booking system, marketing, advertising, security, upkeep of facilities.

Action for Clubs

This note is not necessarily exhaustive, but is intended to act as a reminder, or checklist, of issues which clubs based on municipal golf courses should discuss with their local authority. Remember, if anything is not included in the specification, the person or company who wins the contract is under no obligation to provide it.

Because of the financial objectives which have to be met, anything outside of the specification will be the subject of a variation order which could be expensive

(a) Seek an early meeting with officers of your council's Leisure Services or Recreation Department to discuss the club's position in relation to competitive tendering and, in particular, the specification.

(b) Find out how the local authority intends to package the contracts and what the timescale for going out to tender will be.

(c) It is likely that the local authority will be taking the opportunity to review its policy and operation. Find out if this is the case, what is under review, how it will affect the club and how you can help in that process.

(d) Is the local authority view on charging likely to remain the same? What about season tickets? Any price concessions for club members? What about other charges - lockers, hire of equipment etc? Are juniors protected?

(e) Has the club any arrangement to book the first tee for competitions? If so, are the arrangements included in the specification? Is there a difference between regular arrangements (e.g. twice a month for competitions) and special occasions (e.g. Cap-

tain's Day)? Are they also protected?

(f) What are the booking arrangements? Will they remain the same? How much notice will be given for regular bookings and special occasions?

(g) Is there a formal route for consultation between the club and the local authority. If not, use this opportunity to establish one. Don't appear to be in the position of always asking for something. Your expertise may help the local authority in preparing a specification or monitoring the contractor's performance.

(h) Are there rules about priority on the first tee? More than one starting point? Competitions having priority etc? Often these rules are not written down, but in future they may need to be.

(i) What arrangements does the club have for visiting players or teams in competitions (concessions, priority bookings etc.)? Make sure that they are protected in the specification.

(j) Have NAPGC competitions been considered? If there are existing arrangements, are they included in the specification? What about future possibilities - hosting the NAPGC Open?

(k) Does the club have any arrangements for catering (for visiting teams, for example)? Are the arrangements protected?

(l) Does the club have any arrangement for use of any part of the clubhouse either permanently or for special occasions? Office space, storage space or use for social events are examples. Make sure that your use is protected in the specification.

In this article we examine the myriad of ways in which Government legislation could affect the running of municipal golf courses. Thanks for the information goes to the National Association of Public Golf Courses.

Continued on page 15

AN UNBEATABLE PEDIGREE

Here at Atterton & Ellis we have been making Grinders for over 100 years and although we say so ourselves, we are rather good at it and our Grinders prove it!

It is hardly surprising that during this time we have made Grinders for just about every type of cylinder on the market and for most of the prominent Grounds and Golf Clubs around the country.

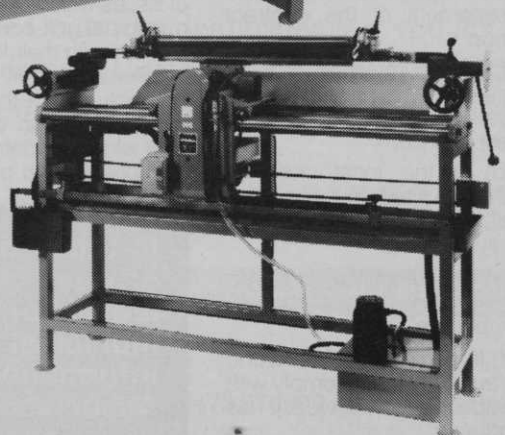
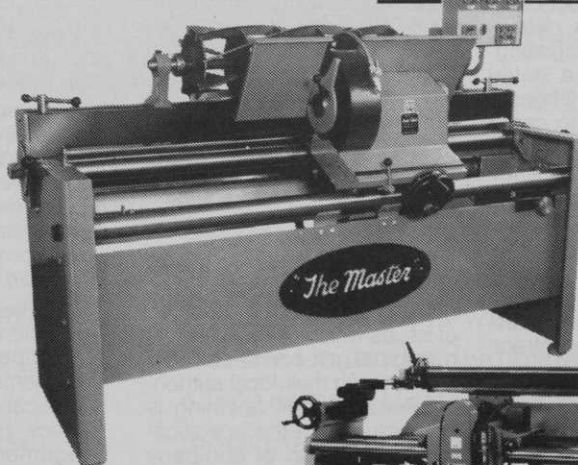
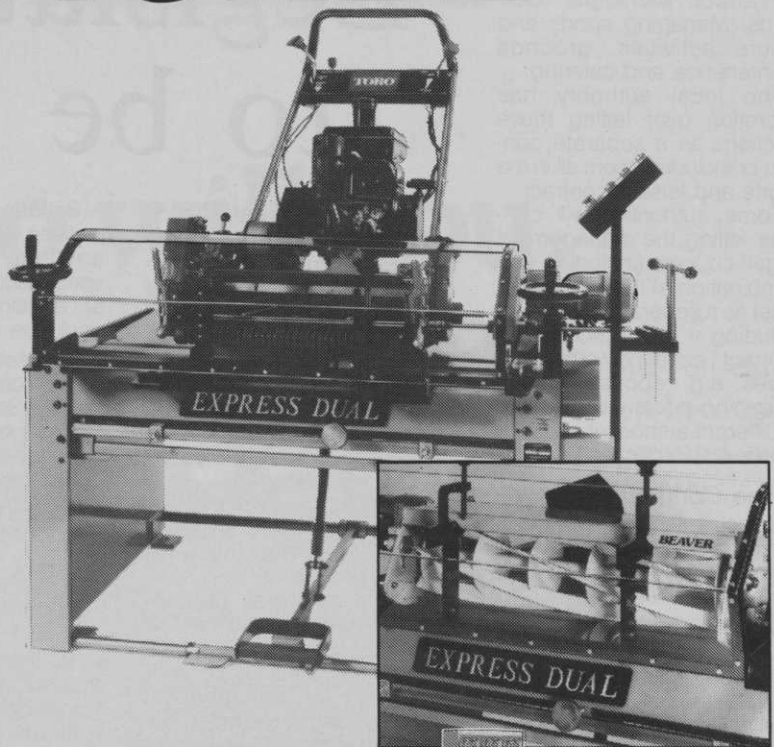
In fact, in our work shops at the moment we have Express Duals ready to go to America – the Atterton is well proven on the other side of the Atlantic too!

Our customers tell us the reasons we are still in demand 100 years on – our dedication to service, the quality of build, the value for money – they all add up to the finest Grinders available today.

We have constantly changed and adapted our manufacturing techniques to combine the best of yesterday's skills with the benefits of tomorrow's technology.

But more important than all that we are first and foremost Grinding enthusiasts and are happy to talk and give advice whatever your grinding requirements.

The Atterton Master leads the field – The Express Dual a technological revolution, in-situ and separate cylinder grinding – The Anglemaster, a bottom blade grinder to complement the best in cylinder grinding machines.



ATTERTON & ELLIS LTD

Manufacturers of Fine Grinders for over 100 years

Iron Works, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 8QH.

Tel: (0440) 702312 Fax: (0440) 712138

FOCUS ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Continued from page 13

(m) Does the club have any notice-boards, trophy cabinets, honours boards, displays of photographs etc? Is the right to continue them protected?

(n) Is there any relationship between the club and the Professional? Find out whether the Professional's terms are to be altered and how they will be considered under a contract. Will the Professional be contracted to the council outside the management contract or will it be left to the discretion of the Contractor?

(o) Are the proposed course opening hours any different? Who will decide whether the course is fit for play?

(p) Does the club have the right to have fund-raising events (prize draws etc)? Is that right protected?

(q) Do the council's staff at the Golf club carry out any administrative functions for the club? Can they be detailed and included in the specification?

(r) What are the insurance responsibilities of the club and the council? Will they be affected?

(s) What are the council's rules about sponsorship and will they be written into the specification? How does this affect sponsorship for club competitions?

(t) Finally, has the club considered submitting a tender? Discuss the possibility with the local authority.

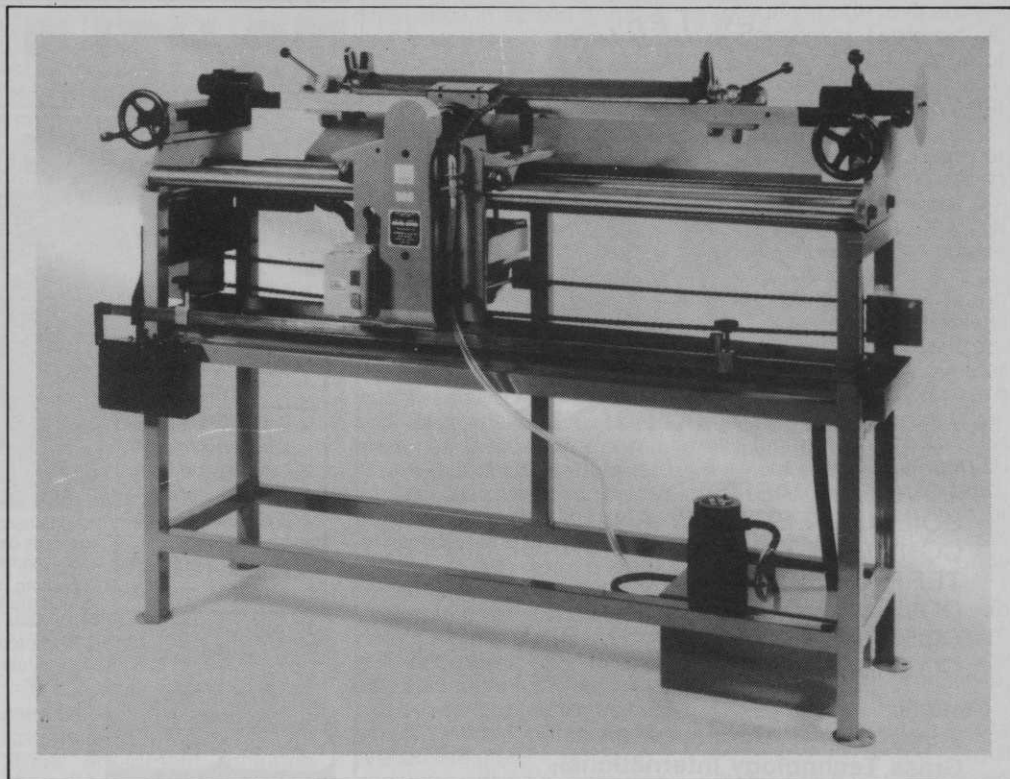
There are bound to be other issues to be considered because every arrangement is different at the moment. Perhaps you could use these notes as a basis for a brainstorming session at your own club Committee meeting and other ideas may crop up.

HAULER (EUROPE) LTD

THE U.K. manufactured Hauler AT500 is an economical load carrying all terrain vehicle that is easy to manoeuvre in tight spaces.

The high flotation tyres minimise compaction, enabling many tasks to be carried out without damage to the land. The AT500 can take a range of turf-care equipment and trailers, in addition to being capable of moving a wide range of boats or caravans around suitable sites.

Both 18 horsepower petrol and 15 horsepower diesel engined versions are available. The range of options include a cab, full lighting kit, and hydraulic tipping. Mesh cages suitable for transporting stock or leaf and litter collection can also be supplied.



The Atterton Anglemaster

ATTERTON & Ellis offers a range of machines to sharpen all sizes of cylinders and bottom blades.

The "Master" cylinder grinding machine is designed for sharpening large quantities of heavy duty cylinders and is suitable for machines having up to 106cm (42in) cutting width.

The company's "Express Dual" cylinder grinding machine is capable of both "in-situ" or plain cylinder grinding on a wide range of lawnmowers. When used "in-situ", the complete mower is located centrally on the machine and locked into place, the grinding cycle taking place without the usual 'strip-down' of the mower. Separate cylinder grinding may also be undertaken when the busy periods are over and the mower requires a 'full' service. Bottom blades have to be removed for separate grinding.

A "Public Authority" version of the Express Dual is available featuring a heavy duty mains electric motor.

A "Professional" kit to enable "in-situ" sharpening of a wider range of cutting units is also available at extra cost.

The "Pilot" plain cylinder grinding machine is produced to meet the needs of the smaller workshop - say 5 to 10 medium sized mowers and incorporates the essential features of the other machines, but without the high capital outlay.

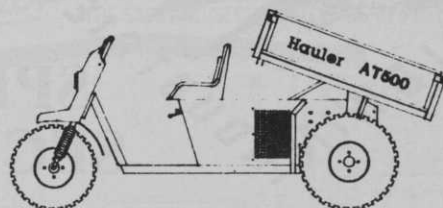
Arranged for bench fixing, the "Pilot" features the "Easitru" system of setting up

which combines accuracy with simple mounting.

Continued on page 17

Hauler  **(Europe) Ltd.**

THE HAULER A T 500



- **VERSATILE** with HIGH FLOTATION TYRES and GOOD MANOEUVRABILITY
- **TOUGH - STEEL** Box Section CHASSIS AND STEEL BED with REMOVABLE DROP SIDES
- **PETROL** and **DIESEL** ENGINE VERSIONS
- **RANGE** of **OPTIONS** including **CAB** and **HYDRAULIC TIPPING**
- **RANGE** of **TRAILERS**

For further information visit us at
The G.M.A. Stand 1212
or contact: **Hauler (Europe) Ltd**
4 Chapel Street, Stafford, ST16 2BX
Tel: 0785 213338. Fax: 0785 55002



GOLF COURSE AGRONOMISTS

Specialising in . . .
 ADVISORY VISITS
 SOIL AND FERTILITY ANALYSIS
 CONSTRUCTION AND DRAINAGE SPECS.
 TERRAIN MODELLING
 COURSE MEASUREMENT
 COURSE FEASIBILITY STUDIES
 COURSE DESIGN

Contact:
 J Souter or E. Connaughton at
 Grass Technology International,
 Cunningham Road, Stirling Tel. (0786) 72141
 Fax: (0786) 50322
 Goff Street, Roscommon, Eire Tel. (0903)
 25141 or 26928. Fax: (0903) 25453.

AS TRAILERS

TO HELP YOU OUT OF THE ROUGH



FEATURES

- Detachable hinged sides and cornerpost
- Top hinged tailgate
- Hydraulic tipping
- Weldmesh extension kit available
- Rear tip, side tip or 3 way tip

Maintaining golf courses, playing fields, parks and gardens can be a heavy undertaking. With the help of AS Trailers maintenance becomes easy.

Thinking trailers? Then think AS, the big range that gives the best performance. GMA Stand No. 1314.



TRAILERS

The Loadcarriers

Please forward me full details of your trailers.

Name

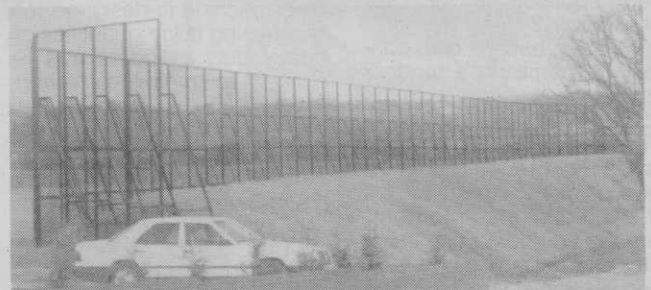
Address

Postcode Tel.

Marston Agricultural Services Ltd.
 Toll Bar Road, Marston, Lincs. NG32 2HT
 Tel. (0400) 50226 Telex 377608



SPECIALIST SPORTS and SECURITY CONTRACTORS



Baldwin Industries Ltd

The Courtyard
 Hall Lane
 Wincham
 Norwich
 Cheshire
 CW9 6DG

Tel (0606) 49221
 Telex 667402
 Fax (0606) 48811

Branches at
 Manchester, Birmingham
 and Liverpool

FOCUS ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Continued from page 15

GRASS TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL

GRASS TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL of Stirling, Scotland and Roscommon, Ireland is a new Consulting Company founded to meet the agronomic demands for new Golf Course development and offer expert

advice in management of established courses throughout Britain, Ireland and Europe.

The Principals of GTI are John Souter and Eddie Connaughton and the combining last year of the former's 20 year experience in construction and drainage and the latter's 10 years greenkeeping

BALDWIN INDUSTRIES

HIGH BALLS, low balls, hooked shots, sliced shots, the grass covered with oversize buttercups and mushrooms.

These innocent one piece golf balls represent on the one hand a potential safety hazard and on the other an investment of nine to twelve thousand pounds.

Baldwin Industries with their specialist fencing contracting companies based in Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool, have looked closely at the problem of golf ball containment on driving ranges and with the use of computer aided design, contracts at four purpose built sites have been completed in the last 18 months.

The ranges being Oxten Golf Club near Nottingham, Keele Golf Centre, Ashton under Lyne, Elstree Golf Centre, North London and Wavendon Golf Centre, Milton Keynes. Steel supports to 6 metres high clad with a combination of chainlink and high strength polyethylene mesh help to deflect the more powerful low shot and the weaker high shot.

The fencing must not only contain the golf balls but be able to stand in all weathers, which we have successfully proved, and be able to be easily repaired by the range staff should the netting become worn.

Baldwin Industries are examining and testing new cladding materials and support systems from the Continent which may be more economical and aesthetically pleasing to future range developers.

Security fencing and gates to machinery and chemical storage areas, timber screen fencing to gas tanks and bin areas, turnstiles for access, vehicle barriers, temporary fencing at tournaments are all part of the fencing requirements that can be provided by Baldwin Industries. A phone call to arrange a site survey and estimate is all it takes to experience a personal and knowledgeable service.

MARSTON AGRICULTURAL SERVICES LIMITED

MARSTON Agricultural Services (A.S. Trailers) have been producing trailers for the farming fraternity for over 40 years and, with the advent of the compact tractor, have designed a range of tipping trailers from 1.0 ton to 2.5 tonnes to meet this expanding market.

These trailers have an all steel body with rear opening tailgate and dropsides. Optional equipment includes mesh extension kits and wide/low pressure tyres, making them suitable for various applications in parks and gardens, golf courses or just general purpose use for transporting sand, gravel, soil or other materials.

They also produce a range of local authority trailers from 3½ ton GVW to 5 tonnes. These are high spec trailers specially designed to suit local authority applications with top/bottom opening tailgate, road lights, mudguards, sprung axle, hydraulic brakes, or on the 3½ GVW only, overrun braking system. For special local authority applications a three way tipping version of the 3½ GVW is available.

A specialist range of dump trailers from 5 tonnes to 12 tonnes is also manufactured, these have a heavy duty body suitable for handling gravel, stone and rubble. Their specification includes road lighting equipment and hydraulic cam brakes.

Various other specialist trailers have been designed to meet specific requirements from three way tipper to balanced trailers with turntable.

Thank you for reading this feature, watch out for further top quality features in next month's issue of Greenkeeping Management, Europe's top 'greenkeeping magazine'.

experience in Ireland and the USA coupled with a Bachelor of Science degree in Turf Management provided an excellent base to offer a complete service to the expanding and established golf market.

The services offered by GTI range from full site feasibility studies to determine if a site is suitable for a Golf Course development or simply a soil/sand analysis to determine quality and consistency. The company is very involved in offering advisory visits to established courses to update and refine management programmes to achieve desired course conditions. These on site services are backed up by a comprehensive laboratory for all soil/sand analysis.

The need for proper specifications in today's expanding market is never more apparent. With the demands on golf courses for year-round play and super-fast greens the need to built correctly the first time is essential. With our comprehensive drawing office and computer aided surveying and design it is possible to draw up exact specifications to architect's drawings which can then be quoted for on a fair basis.

The specifications, once used, are monitored during construction through to opening -

with materials approved all along the way. The client is, at all times, made aware of progress with regular site meetings taking place.

With the reputation of our company expanding in a short period of time we were approached by the architect in charge of the new golf course at Euro Disney in Paris.

The Ronald Fream Design Group realised the limitations of the clay site in Paris and approached GTI to carry out a full contour survey and prepare a drainage plan with specifications for the 150 acre site. This site will be monitored by GTI from start to finish and, thereafter the maintenance for the growing-in period with continual advisory visits once opened for play.

From this initial contact with Ronald Fream we now have designs on the boards in the London area, in Perthshire, Scotland and in Portugal.

The ability to carry out a site feasibility study, design the golf course, make-up construction and drainage specifications, supervise construction and advise on aftercare maintenance gives GTI the most comprehensive in-house service available to golf courses be they 'new or old'.

PORTASTOR®

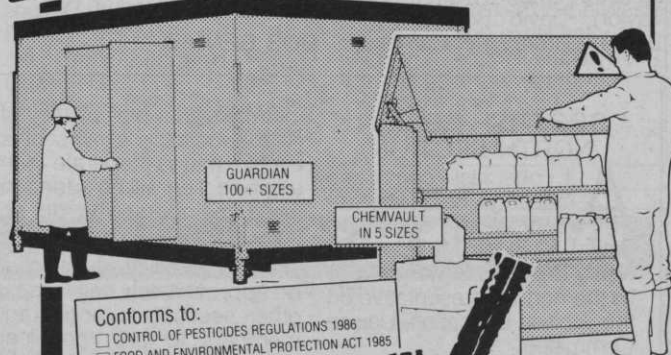
HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK

GUARDIAN® & CHEMVAULT®

PESTICIDE STORES

Proven

FULLY LABORATORY TESTED AND APPROVED FOR THE SAFE AND SECURE STORAGE OF PESTICIDES



Conforms to:

- CONTROL OF PESTICIDES REGULATIONS 1986
- FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1985
- HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK ACT 1974
- HFLPG REGULATIONS 1972
- PETROLEUM CONSOLIDATION ACTS 1928 and 1936

Large or small, indoors or outdoors our range also includes: Decontamination units, shower and wash areas and mess facilities.

For more details contact Steve Adams on 0904 624872 or write to PORTASTOR PRODUCTS (4/K017/P) PORTASILO LTD, YORK YO3 9PR. FAX 0904 611760

PORTA-, PORTASTOR, GUARDIAN and CHEMVAULT are registered trademarks



AROUND THE GREEN

SOUTH COAST SECTION

I am indebted to Joe Burdett, our tournament organiser, for the following report of our spring tournament.

"Hayling Golf Club, by kind permission of the captain and committee, were the hosts for the annual spring championship tournament. The prize table was amply filled by our sponsors, Roffey Brothers Limited and Huxleys Garden Machinery Limited, for which all greenkeepers in the area are most appreciative.

John Flavell (Parkstone) could not quite hold on to the Nita Stimson Award for the 'over 50', and had to accept second place to a wonderful morning round from Charles Burke (Queens Park).

The morning round gross scores showed quite clearly that there was a potential winner by a massive margin of 5 shots, this was from Bob Walker (Queens Park), who scored a 71 to Phil Nason's (Southampton) 76. In the nett section, Mark Diment (Knighton Heath) returned a 67, a very creditable performance from his 18 handicap.

The afternoon showed that stamina was the real "master", and Nason was not going to let that 5 shot lead deter him - so he returned a 79 against Walkers' 87. With net 69s all over the place in the afternoon, Diment was really worrying about his 72, but there was no need - he clinched the Roffey Cup with two shots to spare.

The prizes were presented by representatives from Huxleys Garden Machinery Limited and from Roffey Brothers Limited. There were additional donations to the table from Mark Wilton (Rigby Taylor), David Rogers (Stabrite) and from Peter Hampton

(Golf & Sports Club Sundries).

Detailed results: Nita Stimson Award (over 50s); Charles Burke, Queens Park 85-13-72, John Flavell, Parkstone, 87-12-75, Gordon Payne, Maidenhead, 83-7-76.

Tregunna Trophy (36 Holes Gross); Phil Nason, Southampton, 76-79-155.

Rowes Rose Bowl: Mark Webb, Alresford, 80-88-157, Brian Forder, Southampton, 81-77-158, Bob Walker, Queens Park, 71-87-158.

The Roffey Cup (36 Holes Nett); Mark Diment, Knighton Heath, 67-72-139.

The Denyer Cup; Bob Walker, Queens Park, 63-79-142, Adrian Panks, Axe Cliff, 78-68-146, Joe Newman, Downshire, 77-70-147.

Surviving Score Awards; Lowest Gross AM, Lindsay Anderson (Romsey) 79, Lowest Nett AM, Terry Patchin (Hockley) 72, Lowest Gross PM, Joe Newman (Downshire) 76, Lowest Nett PM, Adrian Panks (Axe Cliff) 68.

Qualifiers for the Iseki Regional Tournament were: Handicap 1-9: Joe Newman, Phil Nason, Robert Walker, Mark Webb, Ed McCabe. Handicap 10-18: Terry Patchin, Chris Sturgess, Tim Neighbour, Mark Diment, Adrian Panks. Handicap 19 and above: Ken Lodge, Adie Archer, Stephen White, Shane Hodgkins, Jeff Drake. Travelling Reserves: Paul Fitzjohn, Ian Noble.

Finally, my thanks to David Hinks, head greenkeeper at Hayling for all his efforts in preparing the course. A course aptly described by the club secretary, Mr R.C.W. Stokes, as the only links course in the South between Rye and Westward Ho! in North Devon.

BOB DENNIS

members shall play off their official handicaps at all section events and a separate handicap section will be added for those members who do not have official club handicaps.

The prizes in this section will be approximately half those in other sections to encourage members to gain handicap certificates. It does mean those attending outings should bring certificates along with them.

On a similar note, some members missed out on the invites to the spring outing this year as they were late in paying their subscriptions. In future members will have to quote their membership number on the return slips as a couple of

SCOTTISH REGION CENTRAL SECTION

THE section spring tournament was held on April 19, courtesy of Elie Golf Club, when over 50 members and guests enjoyed the summer weather and with the course in excellent condition a very successful day resulted.

The prizewinners were as follows: Best scratch, D. Leith, St Andrews. Best nett, C. McKay, Crail. 1st Class: 1st Handicap, I McDougall, Crieff, 2nd Handicap, A. Dunn, Gleneagles. 2nd Class, 1st Handicap, S. Sime, Scoonie, 2nd Handicap, S. Mackie, Canmore. Trade: J. Robertson, Aitkens. Guests: T. Frazer, West Lothian. Two Ball 4s: C. McKay/B. Cruikshank, Crail.

Our sincere thanks go to the Council and members of Elie Golf Club for granting us the courtesy of their facilities, to the clubhouse staff for the first class service and catering and especially to Brian Lawrie and his staff for presenting the course in such excellent condition.

Members on the move include past chairman, Ian Ritchie has moved from Ladybank to Ireland, Walter Garland from Falkland to Taymouth Castle and Duncan Peddie from West Lothian to Alloa, the best wishes of everyone in the section go to these members and their families for a very successful future.

A sour note to end on. Due to the lack of support the section Inter Club Tournament will not be run during the summer this year. It's up to you lads, either support events or they will simply not be organised for you.

JOHN CRAWFORD

people slipped through the net.

The sweepstake draw will be made on the evening of July 18 at Hazelhead Golf Club by Aberdeen Football Club co-manager Jocky Scott. Anyone interested in attending will be made welcome. It is hoped the same person will present the prizes at a later date.

We now have a full complement of excellent speakers for our conference in December, more details later. Finally congratulations to A. Dobbie who has moved from Deeside G.C. to Boat of Garten G.C. as first assistant.

GORDON MOIR

BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON SECTION

THE Berks, Bucks and Oxon spring tournament was held on May 22 at the West Berks Golf Club.

The event was a 36 hole competition with the top players qualifying for Iseki Tournament.

The weather was at its best and the well presented course made play very enjoyable with some very good scores returned.

The results are as follows: Winner best gross whole day: 1st Mr D. Murtaugh 164, 2nd Mr D. Goodchild 169. Winner best nett whole day: 1st Mr M. Long 139, 2nd Mr D. Head 146. 1st Round am gross, 1st L. O'Brien 87, pm gross, 1st N. Fenwick 81. 1st Round pm nett, 1st N. Breden 70. 1st S. Wood 68.

The members of the BB & O Section would like to thank the trade members for their kind support as usual and the staff of West Berks Golf Club who were: The Head Greenkeeper, Mr W. Patrick Wheelan. The steward Phil Murphy and Rosalie. Mrs Clayton and Les Witham the owners of the club.

HARVEY TRIBE

NORTHERN SECTION

I write this not knowing any details of Invitation or Presidents Day.

I hope everybody who played had a good day and details of the two events will follow next month.

There are still places for the Autumn tournament at Malton and Norton Golf Club.

A further golf date for your diaries has now been arranged this year it's our turn to go "over there" to beat them, the match is to be held at Bury Golf Club on Thursday August 23.

The team for this match is picked by our golf committee. If you wish to be considered please ring me.

I'm in the process of working out our winter lecture series. Details to follow later, latest staff moves are South Leeds, new head man is Brian Carr who returned after getting homesick at Filey Golf Club.

If any members have any snippets of news or anything to mention please write or ring me, it's difficult to find something to write about each month.

BOB LUPTON

Editor's note: Bob's plea for information is echoed by me, come on chaps put pen to paper or pick-up the 'phone.

SCOTTISH REGION NORTH SECTION

AT our last committee meeting, held at Arbroath prior to our spring outing, Alasdair MacLaren of Nethy Bridge G.C. was elected as the north representative on the Scottish Education, Liaison Committee.

Everyone is confident that Alasdair will do a good job in this important post. On a sadder note those present were disappointed to hear that Dundee College of Further Education did not gain the approval status they requested from the G.T.C.

A decision was taken at the meeting that in future,

AROUND THE GREEN

Continued from page 18

MID ANGLIA SECTION

THE spring meeting was held on Wednesday May 2 at Leighton Buzzard G.C., and although I was not present, Ken Bunting informs me it was a most enjoyable day.

We would like to thank Leighton Buzzard G.C. for making us so welcome and allowing us the courtesy of the course, our thanks also goes to the catering staff for the fare provided, and finally Dave Piggot and his staff for the presentation of the course.

Once again we were supported by our friends in the trade who provided some of the prizes, and we thank, Kingston House Mowers, Rogers Engineering, Pattersons and Rigby Taylor.

The prizes were presented by the captain of the club Mr Brian Avery, who we thank for doing so.

Results for the day. Nett scores over 27 holes, 1st I. Graham 101, Woburn G.C. 2nd I. Jones, 101, Leighton Buzzard G.C. 3rd N. Whittaker 102, Woburn G.C.

Finally, I am sure you would like me to thank Ken.

The next two section events will be: Summer tournament July 4 at Cold Ashby G.C. over 36 holes, the cost is £15. Closing date for entries June 13. Autumn tournament October 30 at Woburn G.C. over 27 holes, the cost is £15. All competition entries to Ken Bunting, No. 1 Cottage, Old Park Lodge, Little Gaddesden, Herts, HP4 1LU. Tel. 044 284 3359.

Any late entries for the summer tournament should be made to me, tel. 0727 35984, as Ken is on holiday. All the winter lectures, that is 90/91, will be held at Beadlow Manor Golf and Country Club, further details will follow very soon.

GEOFF SMITH

SOUTH WALES SECTION

ON Wednesday, May 11 we held our competition for the Jacobsen Cup and Brown's Shield at Cardiff Golf Club.

We would like to thank the committee of the golf club for giving us permission to hold our competition at their club. We would like to thank Graham Cox and his staff for preparing the course for us. Also the caterer for giving us our food in the evening.

There was a total of 29 at the meeting with 6 of these being members of the trade. We would like to thank our sponsor's for the day: Keith Morgan of Usk, local Jacobsen representative, and Brown's of Bristol.

The day's best score was a gross 79 score by P. Swain and H. Morgan. P. Swain won the Jacobsen Cup with a nett score of 66 and also a holdall and a bottle of Whisky donated by D. Padfield Avoncrop of Bristol.

H. Morgan won the Brown's Shield for a gross score of 79 also a pair of trousers and a bottle of Whisky that was donated by R. Borrows Brown's of Bristol. T. Thompson won the Waycott Cup with a score of 70 and also a set of novelty headcovers.

T. King was third nett with a score of 71 and also won a set of novelty headcovers. Golf balls were given for birdies: T. King 3, P. Swain 2, H. Morgan 2, A. Clissitt 1, G. Cox 1.

A raffle was held with prizes donated by Brown's, ICI and Maxwell Hart. The radio donated by ICI was won by T. Garland, pullover donated by Brown's was won by P. Swain, and the shirt donated by Maxwell Hart was won by M. Davies.

Our congratulations to Peter Lacey and his wife on the birth of a son.

If anybody has anything that can be used in the magazine

please send it to me to be inserted in the section news.

PHILLIP SWAIN

SURREY SECTION

THE main news this month is of the National Education Conference held at Egham.

The conference was very good with a wide range of speakers from all over the world who all gave very interesting presentations which for me illustrated the facts that no two golf courses are the same and that people world wide are moving back towards a more natural style of course management at last!

I felt that these were two features of the conference that were rather disappointing. The first and main one was the fact that the attendances were low if taken as a percentage of the national membership, with a lot of the faces that you see at every event, but very few of the younger greenkeepers.

And as far as I know only one greens chairman. Are you totally apathetic?

The second point was that there was no indication outside the college that there was a national conference in progress. A simple banner hung from the footbridge outside would have told a large number of the public that the greenkeepers of this country are interested and professional enough to organise and attend such a conference.

This could have been valuable PR for the association. Whilst I am on the subject of professionalism I recently attended, along with approximately 40 others, a Watermation Irrigation Systems maintenance day at Sandford Springs near Basingstoke. The day was excellent an invaluable for those of us who have to work on these systems occasionally. Unfortunately of

Continued on page 20

WEST SECTION

THE West Section (Scottish) held its spring outing over Lenzie golf course on April 26th which was very well attended.

I would like to thank the members for an excellent turnout and Lenzie Golf Club for granting the courtesy of their course for the event.

I must congratulate Cecil N. George for the condition of the course and the way it was presented. I would also like to thank the club officials, catering staff and bar staff for their help and co-operation on the day.

After some good scoring the following players were successful: Scratch, Sandy Bulloch, Mount Ellen G.C. First, 1st Class Stephen Hogg, Drumpellier G.C. First, 2nd Class Jack Stenard, Douglas Park G.C. First, 3rd Class

Stuart Cameron, Drumpellier G.C. Trade Prize. Robert T. Bruce, Stewart and Company.

The autumn meeting will be held at Douglas Park G.C. on September 20 and again I would like to welcome a large turnout of members and trade.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate three former West Section officials who have taken the road down South.

Chris Kennedy and Jim McKenzie who have both moved to Wentworth and ex-section secretary Robert Brewer on his move to Sunningdale.

I will always be interested to hear of their progress, and all three will be missed in the West Section for the excellent work each put into their duties during the past few years.

GORDON KERR

THE SS100 . . . FIRST ON THE GREEN

IT GRADES...IT SHREDS...IT BLENDS...

Now, from GRADEALL comes a new concept in greenkeeping. A unique combination of blending, shredding and grading in a single unit that gives you:

- MAXIMUM MOBILITY
- HIGH PERFORMANCE RELIABILITY
- MAXIMUM TONNAGE OF QUALITY TOP DRESSING
- MINIMUM EFFORT

The SS100 performs aggressively on even the poorest quality damp soil with stones, shrubs and sods producing high quality loose and manageable soil. In fact, the SS100 turns tough, lumpy organic humus into pure, workable compost.

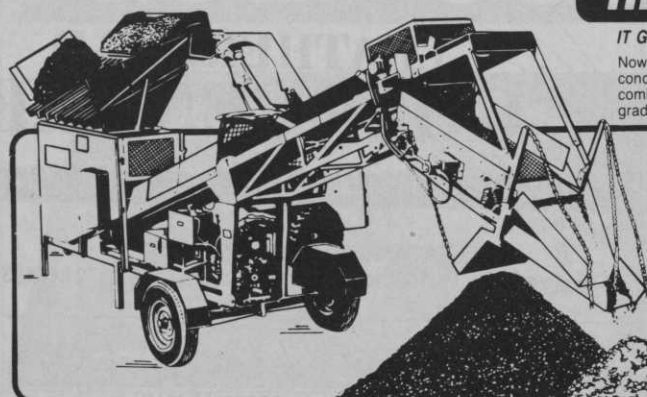
From cricket tables, to bowling greens, to golf greens and fairways...indeed any turf area... you'll benefit from the SS100's unique capabilities.

CALL US ...

if you want to make the GRADE!

GRADEALL
INTERNATIONAL

GradeAll International Ltd.
9 Farlough Road, Dungannon,
Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland.
Tel. (08687) 40484
Fax. (08687) 48823



AROUND THE GREEN

Continued on page 19

the 40 present only a handful were either in collar and tie or smart casual wear.

The rest were in what I would term workwear. The club had dress rules as do most clubs regarding denim and trainers, fortunately these were not enforced.

However I don't think it is too much to ask that if you are representing your club and/or BIGGA at whatever level, that you turn up looking semi-respectable.

This again would help to give people a less blinkered view of greenkeeping as a profession. If you wish to be treated as a professional you must first present yourself as one.

It's a shame to fill Surrey's notes with this sort of comment, but since I have no other news I thought I would get it off my chest.

Finally, I am sad to report that we are losing Mik Wells as our Section Secretary. He is moving on to pastures new, working for GPI in golf course construction.

He has done a lot of hard work for the section over the past year and has always been a great ambassador to greenkeeping. So thanks Mik, all the best for the future.

If anyone out there is interested in helping to run the Surrey Section please contact me as we are short handed at the moment.

It does not take an awful lot of time and you may even enjoy it. My number again is; for news, views, offers of help, etc. is 025 125 4287.

PHIL BALDOCK

EAST OF ENGLAND

ON a lovely hot sunny day in May we visited Stoke Rochford Golf Course for our spring tournament competing for the Purdy of Retford Trophy. Being our local ISEKI agent, this was our section qualifier.

The competition was hotly contested with good scores being made on a green manicured golf course which had a lot of us saddled with dried up fairways drooling.

The winner was Richard Owen of Sleaford Golf Club. Runner-up was that evergreen performer Graeme Patrick, also qualifying for the regional final were: C. MacDonald, J. Simpson, D. Hornsley, F. Cobb, G. Ogden, N. Marshall and J. Scotney.

We must thank Peter Bloodworth for arranging the courtesy of the course. Also Mr Tony Snaith of ISEKI for pro-

viding the machinery display. It let us know what we were there for. The sight of the day was the look on the Stoke Rochford treasurer's face as it all rolled in the car park!

Prizes were presented by Len Passmore of Purdys. Our thanks also go to the other companies who donated so generously.

Two of our clubs are in their centenary years - Belton Park Golf Club have just had a week of AMs and Invitation Events for all sections of membership, and Burghley Park, Stamford, are holding similar celebrations in July.

COLIN SWINGLER

SCOTTISH REGION

THE Scottish Region Finals of the Iseki tournament were held at Cawder Golf Course on May 30. Perfect weather complemented a course in great condition and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Our thanks go to Cawder Golf Club especially the captain and secretary for their kindness and hospitality and to the catering staff for excellent meals and Alistair Connell and Jim McCormick and greenkeeping staff for the condition of the course.

Our thanks also to Iseki in the shape of Peter Powell with his usual Welsh good-humour and supporting him with the Iseki caravan, Steve Broad.

I would also like to thank Scottish Region President Harry Diamond and team Cecil George, Wullie Steele and John Crawford for their support. Finally to the winners congratulations, the scoring was actually very good on a very tough course and I hope you can all make it to the finals.

There were two other prizewinners. Nearest the hole at the 18th went to Sandy Bulloch from Mount Ellen and longest Drive at the 14th was by Brian Finlayson of Troon, this was a massive drive which one competitor compared to being launched by a bazooka.

Results: 1st Class. 1. Steven MacDonald, Fortrose & Rosemarkie, 77-7-70; 2. George Brown, Turnberry Hotel G.C., 75-4-71; 3. James Ellis, Glenberrie G.C., 76-5-71; reserve James McCormack, Kirriemuir G.C., 80-7-73.

2nd Class. 1. John Flint, Hazelhead G.C., 87-17-70; 2. Paul Bowden, Newbattle G.C., 82-10-72; 3. William Whitfield, Stirling G.C., 86-12-74; reserve Brian Anderson, Hazelhead G.C., 91-16-75.

3rd Class. 1. Stewart Mackie, Canmore G.C., 91-19-72; 2. Hugh McLatchie,

Peterhead G.C., 96-21-75; 3. Stewart Harvey, Cawder G.C., 96-19-77; reserve Steven Dixon, Newbattle G.C., 98-19-79.

Davie Millar

June 15 marked the end of Davie Millar's career in greenkeeping when he officially retired from his position as Head Greenkeeper at Glenberrie Golf Club.

Davie started in greenkeeping in 1938 as a young lad at the Royal Burgess in Edinburgh, from there he moved to Kingsknowe also in Edinburgh and then to Canmore in Dunfermline.

His next move was to Paisley Golf Club or "The Bushes" as it is more commonly known in the West and in 1959 he moved to Glenberrie to begin 31 years service to that club as Head Greenkeeper.

In his time there Davie has seen a lot of young lads come and go most of them moving

on to be Head Greenkeepers in their own right. Under Davie's supervision, Glenberrie has always been known as a top class course and has been one of the Open Championship pre-qualifying courses for many years.

It has also hosted the British Boys Championship and Boys Internationals and the Scottish Professional Championship on more than one occasion. A low handicap golfer in his day, Davie was a long-time member of the Greenkeepers Association and attended many East of Scotland and Scottish National Tournaments.

Glenberrie Golf Club have arranged various events in Davie's honour culminating in a dinner and presentation on June 18.

We in the Scottish Region wish you Davie a very happy

Continued on page 21

RECRUITMENT

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are now invited for this 9-hole public golf course at Leatherhead, Surrey.

The course has just been constructed by McMillan Golf and is expected to open in summer 1991.

The successful applicant will be expected to take up the appointment in late summer 1990 and will initially be responsible for tending the course and carrying out any required work prior to opening and thereafter for the maintenance and management of the course.

Applicants should be fully qualified and have a thorough knowledge in the use and maintenance of modern greenkeeping machinery.

Accommodation is available if required.

Please apply with full details to Philip Taylor.



LEATHERHEAD GOLF CENTRE

LEATHERHEAD GOLF CENTRE
Oaklawn Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 0BT. Tel 0372 843453

★ More recruitment on pages 47 to 49