People, Places, Products

Alan Holmes.

Parkers has expanded and re-organised its sales and marketing team with the appointment of Alan Holmes as sales rep for London north east, Essex and part of Hertfordshire. He will be responsible for sales of all Parkers' products, including seeds, fertilisers and machinery.

The company has also appointed Mark Mills assistant to David Wall, sales rep for London south west and Surrey.

Parkers has established a permanent demonstration team under the management of Peter Brimmell, who was previously the rep for London south east. Paul Buxton has been appointed team demonstrator.

The team is available to golf clubs, sports clubs and local authorities and covers all aspects of the company's business – from sowing to mowing.

Hampshire County Council has invested in 16 Ford 1210 compact tractors with four-wheel drive option to team up with a new reelmower from Huxleys. The council had two Ford 1210s in use and the idea was to power match the tractor to a mid-mounted reelmower to produce the ideal grasscutting unit, replacing the dedicated self-propelled mowers already in operation. Due to demand for a mid-mounted reelmower, Huxleys developed the TR84M hydraulically-powered model with a 7ft cutting width.

The Iseki TX 2140, with trailer behind, going through its paces.

An Iseki TX 2140 hitched to a 1.25 ton capacity tipping trailer was introduced to the industry at the Royal Show. The versatility of the Iseki tractor is shown with the added mid-mounted mower attachment. To complement the smaller range, Iseki has been previewing its SX tractors recently.

The Daily Telegraph Golf Course Guide To The British Isles covers over 1,900 courses. Each entry details the type and length of course, how to get there, green fees, catering and hotel facilities, etc.

Donald Steel of the Sunday Telegraph and, indeed, the designer of a number of courses listed, describes some of the more notable courses with his tips and preferences.

Available from the Telegraph Bookshop, 130 Fleet Street, price £4.95, or by post from Telegraph Publications, 135 Fleet Street, London EC4P 4BL (post free).

This year, Kubota has attended Hirex, BGLA, SED, Muck '86, Pig Fair and National Drainage – all shows directed at specific markets.

The interest in Kubota products, mini excavators, compact tractors, power products and engines has proved to the company that attendance at this type of show is worthwhile.

SISIS has made Ian Camp sales manager. Based at head office in Macclesfield, he will also be involved in the company's export markets.

Gordon Argo moves to the new position of product liaison manager and will be responsible for the testing of new machines and their transition from development to production.

Malcolm Gilbert has left SISIS in London and the southeast and customers should now contact T. Parker and Sons at Worcester Park (Tel: 01-337 7791), Dennis Lumley (0483 233086) or head office (0622 26363).
Rolawn, the turf growers, has been harvesting orders for some prestigious locations recently. The company, which has over a thousand acres of purpose-grown turf throughout the country, has supplied turf to Wimbledon from its Yorkshire base, the Chelsea Flower Show from its unit in Bedfordshire, as well as the National Trust for Scotland and the new Cloister Gallery extension to the Tate Gallery in London.

Rolawn began in Elvington ten years ago and is now the largest turf grower in Europe, selling over two million square yards a year. The company undertakes a continuous programme of research into soil, seed mixtures and turf maintenance. Managing director Ken Dawson is a committee chairman of the American Sod Producers' Association.

At the Stoke Garden Festival, the British Association of Landscape Industries chose Rolawn for its feature garden. It can also be seen on TV for, as well as appearing anonymously in commercials for cat food and fertilisers, it was used on ABC 2's Gardeners' World recently, on Central's Gardening Time and for Granada's much-publicised croquet lawn.

Eric Staniforth, who has been managing director of SISIS since 1971 and 51 years with the company, retired recently. He has relinquished the managing directorship, but remains a director and will act as deputy chairman in support of D. B. Hargreaves, the chairman.

Eric began as an apprentice to the founder William Hargreaves in 1935, only three years after the formation of the company, known then as W. Hargreaves & Co.

His career progressed through the production side of the business which, at the time, involved the manufacture of tennis and netball posts before Mr Hargreaves began the development of turf management tools and machines following a visit to the Board of Greenkeeping Research at Bingley.

Roger and William Hargreaves are pictured with Eric Staniforth (right).

Eric moved to the drawing office, where he began his successful design career. Machines were mainly pedestrian at first, with even horse-drawn spikers, progressing through engine-powered and tractor-operated designs to the present-day Hydromain System, which utilises the machine and operator weight to maximise depth of aeration.

He was awarded an MBE in his 50th year of service.

Roger Hargreaves and J. William Hargreaves have been appointed joint managing directors.

RiteFeed recently unveiled a new range of products based on the proven RiteFeed liquid organic fertiliser. John Walker, director of RiteFeed, said: "Following discussions with many of those responsible for the development and maintenance of top-quality sports turf, it became apparent that there was a need for a fertiliser that combined the advantages of liquid organic feeds with the proven benefits of NPK fertilisers."

The RiteFeed range now comprises: RiteFeed liquid farmyard manure that conditions and improves soil structure while feeding the turf; RiteFeed with iron; RiteFeed with iron and magnesium for use on sandy soils; RiteFeed autumn and winter conditioner with iron (NPK 3/1/6); Aquarite with iron for use on heavy clay soils; Rite Moss Killer with three per cent nitrogen and 17 per cent FeSO4; RiteFeed Foliar (NPK 8/0/6); RiteFeed Fairway (NPK 6/0/3); RiteFeed Extra 'N' (NPK 15/0/0 plus iron) and RiteFeed spring and summer conditioner (NPK 10/2/4).

For further information, contact John Walker on 0524 791615.