

Nice One, Jack!



Just about the only cheery note to come out of the recent Walker Cup debacle at Sunningdale was the universal acclaim for Jack McMillan's golf course. There was further cause for celebration in the McMillan household, for youngest son Cameron, 21, had just landed the top job at Liphook Golf Club, Hampshire, making it a full set of head greenkeepers following in father's footsteps.

Sunningdale courses manager Jack lined-up with (from left to right): Ian, 26 (Hankley Common), Bobby, 29 (Upminster), Stewart, 30 (Leatherhead), Billy, 29 (Sunningdale) and Cameron. Proud Jack said: "The McMillan family - 97 years in greenkeeping, 62 as head greenkeepers and its early days yet!"



Among the many helping hands during the Walker Cup were, standing: Cyril Hollis, G. Wilson and A. Moreton (all Sunningdale), Bobby McMillan, A. Watson (Tyrrells Wood), Billy McMillan, B. Wiles (RAC), M. Howton, Jack McMillan, G. McNiven (all Sunningdale), K. McNiven (Effingham), Bob Moreton (The Berkshire), J. Houston (Addington Palace) and D. Green (Sunningdale). Front: S. Godding (Sunningdale), Stewart McMillan, Ian McMillan, N. McTavish (Sunningdale), Cameron McMillan and Ian McNiven (Sunningdale).

Bill Brown has retired from the post of head greenkeeper at North Hants after 21 years.

At a ceremony in the club-

house, the captain, major-general Pat Kay, paid tribute to the outstanding way Bill had carried out his duties, presenting

Changing Times At The Home Of Golf

The Links Management Committee at St Andrews recently opened five Playturf synthetic tees on its full-size practice ground.

The synthetic tees - the first artificial turf at St Andrews - were supplied and laid by Charles Lawrence Scotland. Each tee measures 5ft by 13ft and consists of an excavated porous base 6in deep, a $\frac{1}{2}$ in rubber shockpad and a woven carpet surface with a $\frac{3}{8}$ in pile of green polypropylene.

Playturf was chosen after a two-year comparative trial of synthetic tee materials carried out at Stirling University for the Scottish Sports Council.

The new practice ground at St Andrews is a temporary arrangement following the purchase of 120 acres of farmland south of the Old Course.

Major developments, involving remodelling the 18-hole Eden and 9-hole Balgrove courses, are planned for late 1988 and, at that time, the synthetic tees will be moved to a new permanent practice ground. The small old practice area is now restricted to seven-irons and upwards.

Permanently laid synthetic tees are being increasingly considered for other stressful locations, such as winter tees, under trees and par-three holes.

Synthetics are used as well for heavily trodden paths. A recent example is the porous rubber walkway laid between the pro's shop and 1st tee at the Tytherington club, near Macclesfield.

The Charles Lawrence group is also experimenting with synthetic golf greens. As a first initiative, Charles Lawrence have installed an 'alternative' synthetic green at a course near their Newark headquarters.

For further information, contact Mike Abbott or Dave Blamire, Charles Lawrence Scotland, 42 Silverknowes Road, Edinburgh EH4 5LF. Tel: 031-312 7976. The Newark, Nottinghamshire office can be contacted on 0636 76218.

the course in top-class condition.

Bill received a framed certificate granting him courtesy of North Hants for life.