London

The autumn meeting at Muswell Hill was an outstanding success, due mainly to Chris Greenwood’s efforts on and off the golf course. His staff were out early on a miserable day and prepared the course to a very high standard.

The one, two and three in an 18-hole Stableford (scratch to 12 handicap) was A. Taylor (Parker Shield) with 37 points, A. Phillips, 36 points and I. McMillan, 34 points. In the 13 to 24 handicap section, C. Greenwood (H. Pattisson Trophy) had 36 points, N. Exley, 33 points and T. Low, 32 points.

An 18-hole Texas scramble was won by R. Howlett, D. Player and P. Shepherd from N. Exley, D. Hansard and C. Barker.

The continued support of trade members is much appreciated and, on this occasion, they were represented by Joe Spinks (Club Mowers), Roger Bowles (Rigby Taylor), Alan Moffat (T. Parker & Sons), Denis Smith (Kings), David Craig (H. Pattisson), Allan Stowe (Syn Chemicals), David Murphy (Maxwell Hart) and Bob Watts (Supaturf).

Congratulations to John Edwards and Adrian Parks (Moor Park), who won the first summer league, organised so admirably by Michael Peters. In a thrilling final, they defeated Michael and his partner Chris Slater (Northwood) at the first sudden-death hole.

The visit by branch members to J. Mann’s factory at Saxmundham, where the Toro 350 D is made, and to the premises of Lely Import was an extremely interesting day, thanks to the co-operation of Colin Graham (Lely Import) and Chris Soper (A.T. Oliver) and the hospitality of the companies’ staff.

The annual dinner and dance brought 1986’s events to a close. The effort put into its organisation by Tom and Ann McDonald made sure that 80 members and guests ended the year with a ‘swing’. We were well-endowed with raffle prizes, so many thanks are due to all those who contributed.

To close, I congratulate branch members John Teixeira, who was in the greenkeepers’ team that won the Kubota Challenge, and Chris Barker, who received a Victoria student award for his results in the NTC examinations. Members should note that my new phone number is Luton (0582) 21586.

David Low

Surrey

The superb Berkshire Golf Club was the venue for Surrey’s autumn meeting, sponsored by Rigby Taylor (South), which provided prizes of silver and cut glass. Surrey members express their appreciation of the company’s help and support.

The meeting was a 27-hole Stableford and the winners were: 1st - C. McMillan, 2nd - R. Moreton, 3rd - P. King and 4th - A. Morton. The best scratch score was achieved by D. Lenham and the best gross score on short holes by J. Tate.

We thank the Berkshire for extending the courtesy of its course. Thanks also to Bob Moreton and his team for having it in such excellent condition.

Tyrrells Wood hosted the first of what is hoped to be an annual match between Surrey and the golf club secretaries. A very enjoyable match finished all-square.

The day concluded with dinner at which a handsome cup, donated by SISIS, was presented to Alex Bradshaw, the Surrey branch chairman, who will keep it for six months before passing it on to the secretaries until the next match.

Our thanks to the golf club for granting the courtesy of the course and to all the staff for their efforts. Finally, a special ‘thank you’ to Bert Watson, the course manager, for having Tyrrells Wood in such good condition, even if he couldn’t get the tees any further back!

Worplesdon Golf Club was the setting for the Surrey branch annual turkey trot competition and the members express their gratitude to the club for its kindness in extending the courtesy of the course.

As usual, Parkers donated the turkey and main prizes. Winners of the 18-hole Stableford were: 1st – B. Turner, 2nd – A. Brown and 3rd – R. Johnson.

Brian Turner, Worplesdon’s head greenkeeper, produced a round of 66 gross (SSS 69) for his winning score. Well done, Brian! A seminar at Wentworth, given by Dr Peter Hayes and colleagues

Continued overleaf...

Surrey greenkeepers and secretaries after dinner.
APPLICATION FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF E.I.G.G.A.

To be returned to the General Administrator, E.I.G.G.A., 2, Golf Cottage, Bucklesham Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.

I wish to enrol as a Full Member @ £20 p.a.
Apprenticed Member @ £12 p.a. Delete as applicable
Trade Member @ £25 p.a.

Name of Applicant
Home Address
Tel. No. Club or Company
Address
Preferred Mailing Address: Club Home
Title
Registered Greenkeeper or otherwise
Certificates Signature
Further number of Membership Forms required

from the STRI, proved a great success.
Diary dates for the early New Year include a lecture on first aid at Maldon GC on February 24, the branch AGM at the New Zealand Club on March 5, a machinery demonstration by SISIS at Walton Heath on March 17 and a dinner-dance at the Drift on April 19.

M. Hale

• M. Hale has resigned as administrator to the Surrey branch. He wishes all branch members well and reminds them that the AGM takes place at the New Zealand club on March 5, commencing 7.30pm, when several committee vacancies will be filled. Members wishing to stand for office should attend and have someone prepared to propose them.

Tyrells Wood secretary Brian Spencer and Surrey branch chairman Alec Bradshaw are joint custodians of the cup.

Central Secretary
Please note that John Crawford of 1 Katrine Drive, Crossford, Dunfermline KY12 8XR (Tel: Dunfermline 737753) is the Central section secretary and not Elliott Small as was detailed in the application form for SIGGA membership in Greenkeeper November/December 1985.

APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP OF SIGGA

Name of Applicant Age
Full Postal Address Postal Code
Golf Club or Company
Position at Club or Company Registered Greenkeeper or not Certificated
I enclose my annual subscription of £15
Signed

Section Secretaries
AYRSHIRE — J. Grainger, 3 Castlepark Gardens, Fairlie, Ayrshire.
CENTRAL — J. Crawford, 1 Katrine Drive, Crossford, Dunfermline.
EAST — W. Blair, 13 Redhall Avenue, Edinburgh.
NORTH — I. Hamilton, 58 Whitecraig Road, Newburgh, Fife.
WEST — A. McDougall, 17 Poplar Avenue, Newton Mearns, Glasgow.
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The 1986 Groundsman of the Year competition, the sixth annual event organised by The Institute of Groundsmanship, is open to everyone involved directly in the practical maintenance of sports and leisure turf culture facilities: groundsmen, greenkeepers, parks officers, gardeners, local authority maintenance staff, contractors, playing field officers, trainees—and students too.

There are no entry fees, and membership of The Institute of Groundsmanship is not essential.

**TWO FIRST PRIZES WORTH** £750.00

1. For the Groundsman of the Year (over 22 years, but no upper age limit): an all-expenses paid visit to Phoenix, Arizona, to attend the annual Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Convention.

2. For the Young Groundsman of the Year (anyone over 16 years of age, but under 22 on 31st December 1986): an all-expenses paid visit to The USGA Convention as above.

**TWO RUNNERS-UP PRIZES** £750.00

1. For those over 22 — an all-expenses paid weekend at the world-famous Gleneagles Hotel and Sports Club, and the opportunity for a round of golf on the celebrated course.

2. For those under 22 — an all-expenses paid weekend at Gleneagles as above.

**FOUR OTHER FINALISTS’ PRIZES**

- 5th Place: educational grants worth £100.00
- 6th Place: educational grants worth £75.00
- 7th Place: educational grants worth £50.00
- 8th Place: educational grants worth £25.00

+ £10.00 Gift Vouchers to the 10 next best entries received £100.00

**CRYSTAL MEMORIALS**

The two main prize winners will each receive an engraved Edinburgh Crystal whisky decanter £200.00

The two runners-up, and the four other finalists, will each receive an engraved Edinburgh Crystal whisky tumbler £150.00

**COLLEGES ALSO GET MAJOR PRIZES**

The college, university or study centre with the largest number of student entries will receive a one year’s supply of SAI “Longlife” turf fertilisers and grass seed of its choice worth £400.00

The educational establishment with the second highest number of student entries will receive a similar prize worth £100.00

The 1986 Groundsman of the Year competition comprises of four separate sections:

**Part I** — a Twenty Questions test of your general knowledge, Simply tick the correct answer from four alternatives supplied.

**Part II** — describe in not more than 100 words a typical day’s work. Entrants are entirely free to choose what they want to describe.

**Part III** — simply complete a slogan for SAI “Longlife” products in not more than 10 words.

**Part IV** — those successfully completing the first three phases will be invited to attend for a personal interview with a panel of judges.

The closing date for receipt of entries is 12 noon on Wednesday 30th April 1986.

Interviews will be held during June/July.

Finalists will be announced in the September issue of “The Groundsman”.

The names of the winners, and runners-up, will be announced, and their prizes presented, at a special ceremony to be held in London on Friday 31st October 1986.

National Officers of the Institute of Groundsmanship, Members of its National Executive Committee and employees of the institute, Scottish Agricultural Industries PLC and their agents, are not eligible to enter the competition.

Further details, and Entry Forms, are available from:

The Institute of Groundsmanship
19-23 Church Street, The Agora, Wolverton, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK12 5LG

Scottish Agricultural Industries PLC
Firth Road, Livingston, West Lothian EH54 5QW

or from any SAI “Longlife” distributor

Colleges, universities and other study centres may obtain bulk quantities of the Entry Form for the use of their students from the loG Head Office at Milton Keynes, or from their local loG Branch Secretary.

The 1986 loG Groundsman of the Year competition is sponsored by Scottish Agricultural Industries PLC, manufacturers of Longlife — the all year all turf treatment.
BASF Gets Into Britain

Several parties were treated by BASF recently to site visits of the company's vast and impressive base at Ludwigshafen on the Rhine and the nearby Limburgerhof Research Station. Later, they moved on to the American Golf Club at Heidelberg where BASF's Floranid has been applied. During the visits, Floranid and BASF's approach to the UK market was outlined.

Initially, the operation was divided into general turf and fine turf categories and BASF then started to evaluate its products—already proven on the continent—under UK weather conditions.

The STRI handled the work, which began in 1979 on both turf types and using sulphate of ammonia as the control.

In 1982, Roy Woolhouse of the STRI presented the ongoing general turf trial results at the International Turfgrass Conference in Canada and the findings were published in the 1983 STRI Journal.

On both types of sward, the slow-release effects of fertilisers containing Isodur (BASF's brand name for IBDU) was proved. An average release pattern of 12 to 14 weeks in summer was established with a carry-over effect from autumn into spring, building up the longer Isodur was used. The vegetative nature of Isodur treated plots remained constant, whereas the rapid reduction in pH on the control plots caused the trials to be abandoned.

In 1983, Dr E. Belger presented a paper at the 2nd National Turfgrass Council Conference on the properties of Isodur.

He stressed the different types of slow-release fertiliser available—coated products, products containing nitrogen inhibitors, organic based products and chemically broken down products. He went on to explain the development in the synthetic organic sector leading to Isodur.

Synthetic organic slow-release nitrogen always has the same molecular structure and, so, works consistently. Isodur is broken down by temperature and moisture, the two factors affecting...
Plant growth. Temperature produces microbial activity, but when this stops, as the temperature falls, hydrolysis continues to release small amounts of nitrogen, thus extending the value and range of uses of products containing Isodur when compared to other products.

In 1983, trials were conducted at the STRI looking at sand constructed pitches with their high nutrient requirements. This work confirmed to BASF that the benefits seen above ground for Isodur-based fertilisers were also apparent beneath the surface. User trials were also initiated to ensure that, in conventional situations, the product could be applied evenly and effectively without qualified supervision.

Other companies came into the market and slow-release products started to increase the potential size of the UK amenity fertiliser market, but the overall potential remained unknown. BASF confirmed this with an independently commissioned survey. Findings showed the total area of intensively managed amenity turf to be 192,375ha and a market worth in excess of £10 million.

BASF decided to become directly involved and market a UK Floranid range, consisting of:
- Floranid N 31% N - for use on fine turf areas or where high levels of nitrogen are necessary.
- Floranid Turf 20.5.8.2. - designed for fine turf areas requiring p and k or for sandy sports pitches where a highly effective product is required.
- Floranid NPK 15.9.15.2 - the workhorse of the range and ideal for broad spectrum use, such as grass, flowers and shrubs. The preferred product where a single product approach is required.
- Floranid NK 14.0.19.3 - new to the UK market. Surveys have shown that over 60 per cent of fine turf areas were oversupplied with p. Floranid NK can be used on its own or in conjunction with Floranid N, but it also has applications in horticulture from where it originated.

Because the products release their nitrogen slowly, the risk of leaching is virtually eliminated, even on sand soils.

For sometime, managers of fine turf areas have expressed concern over the ‘pick-up’ of fertiliser when turf is cut. The physical persistence of a slow-release product will obviously be more susceptible to pick-up - product colour making this more noticeable. In order to minimise this problem, the Floranid range has been screened to a specific size. The company says this is preferable to alterations of the physical make up of the granule, which would affect the product’s efficiency.

National distribution of Floranid in the UK is handled by George A. Palmer, Horticultural and Amenity Division, Oxney Road, Peterborough, Northants PE1 5YZ. Tel: 0733 61222.
THE GLOUCESTER HOTEL AND COUNTRY CLUB

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Salary negotiable, no accommodation.

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Please apply in writing giving full details of age and experience to:

Hon. Secretary, Bridlington Golf Club, Belvedere Road, Bridlington, N. Humberside. YO15 5NA

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invites applications for the post of

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Accommodation provided. Salary negotiable.

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The Secretary, Melton Mowbray Golf Club, Thorpe Arnold, Melton Mowbray, Leics.

WOODLANDS MANOR GOLF CLUB

invites applications for the post of

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Commencing early spring 1986. Must have sound knowledge of all aspects of greenkeeping, staff supervision and machinery maintenance. Good salary negotiable. Accommodation available if required.

Please apply in writing giving age, course experience and/or qualifications to:

The Proprietor, Woodlands Manor Golf Club, Tinkerpot Lane, Otford, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. TN15 6AB

ROYAL DORNOCH GOLF CLUB

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Applications are invited for the above post.

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Applications to and further details from:

The Secretary (H/G), Royal Dornoch Golf Club, Dornoch, Sutherland, Scotland. IV25 3LW.
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details of current and previous experience, together with all relevant information should be sent to:

J. Souter, Esq., Turfgrass Consultant,
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marked 'Private and Confidential'.
Applications to be received no later than 28th February, 1986.

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require a

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Salary negotiable, but will be attractive and commensurate with this important position. No accommodation available.

Write in the first instance giving full details of training experience and present salary to:

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