Who and what are moving on and moving in, in the greenkeeping industry

David Hannam, Regional Administrator for The Northern Region and for so long a stalwart member and active supporter of BIGGA, is on the move. Soon to take up his new position as Head Greenkeeper, Golf Club Du Domaine Imperial, Switzerland, his settling on the other side of the Channel will leave a gap in the Association, which may prove a tough act to follow. We wish David well and hope he’ll look in on us from time to time when visiting his beloved Yorkshire.

George Hampton, one of the keenest of North Scotland's members, is leaving Fortrose and Rosemarkie Golf Club to take up the post of Professional to the Pitlochry Golf Club. As a keen 2 handicap amateur, George joined Burntisland Golf Club as pro/greenkeeper in '64 and remained there for 4 years before moving to a similar job at Stornoway. He remained there for 7 years before moving to Fortrose and Rosemarkie, where he has served for 16 years. Although he is leaving greenkeeping, George will remain active in BIGGA as an Associate member. A regular prizewinner, George was at one time forced to play off plus 3 but could still win! His greatest pride and career highlight came in '85 when he managed the Scottish Team, bringing them to a fighting second (from 17 teams) behind Ireland in the Ransomes International at St Andrews. He will be no stranger at Pitlochry, for he has assisted retiring pro Jimmy Wilson over many occasions during their popular golf week. Proof of his coaching skill can be found in his three sons, all of whom play scratch or single figure golf.

As George moves from Fortrose and Rosemarkie Golf Club, his place is being taken by first assistant George Paterson, a former top student at Elmwood College and a regular member of the Scottish North District Golf Team. We join with all Scottish members in wishing them both good fortune.

Huxleys Grass Machinery have appointed David MacKay as their Senior Development Engineer, specifically to lead a team engaged in the design and development of both new and existing models within Huxleys machinery range. David, a Chartered Engineer, has been involved in development and project engineering throughout his career.

Denis Durnian, a likely prospect for 1991 Ryder Cup honours, has signed a sponsorship deal to represent Portal, the Donald Steel designed golf complex at Tarporley, Cheshire. Portal is the course where Mark Proctor, former Young Greenkeeper of the Year, is Course Manager. Proctor is no mean golfer himself, recently coaxing a wedge over water and into the cup at the 120 yard 13th.
There are two schools of thought on how best to weather an economic downturn or depression, with one battle plan suggesting digging-in and holding fire - a sort of wait and see approach. At 'Greenkeeper International' we hear both gloom and doom and confident optimism and show greater inclination toward listening to the latter. We applaud the bottle is still half full' mentality and our day perked-up when we learned that Jacobsen's UK sales showed a dramatic increase again in 1990. Such is their confidence that a move to a new 24,500 square feet complex at Kettering, Northants, is seen as confirmation of the Company's long term commitment and optimism in the UK market.

Speaking of the move, MD Rene Orban said, 'Our increasing sales volume and ever growing machine population in the UK meant that we had simply outgrown our Kings Lynn base'. Jacobsen's new address is Telford Way, Kettering, NN16 8UN.

Friendly Guy Longbottom, well known to greenkeepers and those who frequent trade exhibitions as the man with the cheerful disposition, has been rewarded for the major role he has played at Rolawn Ltd, especially in developing their depot network, with a seat on The Board. He now becomes Operations Director.

SISIS have announced the appointment of John Burnham as their Area Representative for the Midlands. As an ex-golf professional who comes from a farming background, John brings to the task an added edge of expertise, together with some 16 years experience in selling horticultural machinery. We're sure both old and new SISIS customers will welcome him and, who knows, he might even have a remedy for that irritating shank!

Robert Brewer, the talented young greenkeeper who left Stirling a year or so back to join Sunningdale, talked to 'Greenkeeper International' recently about his own career progression since his move and of how much he is enjoying the additional opportunities afforded him at this top-notch location. He also tells us that Bob Bennett, who has been commuting by air from Glasgow to manage Sunningdale, is to relinquish his post and will shortly hand over to Lawson Bingham from Old Prestwick. From one prestige location to another, Lawson will be sure to find Sunningdale to his liking, bringing with him as he does yet more of that solid, dependable Scottish know-how. And as Lawson moves south, Murray Stuart, First Assistant Old Prestwick, takes on deserved promotion as Head Greenkeeper.

Murcar Golf Club, that splendid links course a mere mashie shot from Royal Aberdeen and boasting equally delicious turf, has a new Head Greenkeeper in Chris Pearson. Originally from Aberdeen, Chris has been Head at Arbroath for the past three years. Also on the move in Scotland is Craig Hildersley of Turnhouse Golf Club, who will travel a scrap further south to Longniddry Golf Club as their new Head Greenkeeper. Kenny Anderson, also from Longniddry, joins in the merry-go-round by taking up a commercial appointment with Stewarts of Edinburgh.