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

- Graeme MacNiven called from Germany with news of those ‘Rover Boys’ – the intrepid warriors who left Surrey to set up camp in Munich in 1988. Graeme and brother Ian completed construction of the Munich course in 1989 and within three months the BMW Open was held – declared to be the youngest course with the youngest course manager (23) and the youngest head greenkeeper (20). Now they and the crew are on to other things: Adrian Locke now with Kevin Munt, Nick Aylwin and Paul Doughty to Golf Club Schloss under Graeme’s father Kenneth and Ian onto a project near Zurich. Robert Coombe is working in construction with Southern Golf.

- Andy Church, formerly Head Grounds Manager at Tottenham Hotspur FC, has been appointed Sports Turf Consultant by Lawn Technology Ltd, specifically to lead a drive into a sports and leisure market sector which has already become a key area of specialisation for Lawn Technology Ltd. Church is well qualified. As well as his 10 years at White Hart Lane, he also turned out for the Club in Combination League games and is a nine handicap golfer.

- As part of their expansion programme, Supaturf Products Ltd of Naborough, Leicester, have appointed two new Technical Support Representatives: Ian Burton and Matthew Harman. Ian, pictured right, well experienced within the industry, is appointed to the East, with Matthew, already having worked in Supaturf’s sales office during his college career.

FACES & PLACES

An appreciation of what is not always appreciated

Promoted by the receipt of an oh-so-corny joke from B.B&. O. correspondent, Ray Clark, the jaded humour of your jaundiced old editor was nudged out of hibernation into actioning yet another competition, this time to discover the best greenkeeping jokes. As long as they are not libellous or positively ‘feelthy’, the stories could end up in these pages – perhaps even illustrated by ace cartoonist, John Moran. Prize for the best joke printed between now and January ‘92 is a bottle of fine malt whisky – to be shared by all.

Entries (open to all) are due to the Editor, 13 Firle Close, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 2HL. Prompted by the receipt of an oh-so-corny joke from B.B&. O. correspondent, Ray Clark, the jaded humour of your jaundiced old editor was nudged out of hibernation into actioning yet another competition, this time to discover the best greenkeeping jokes. As long as they are not libellous or positively ‘feelthy’, the stories could end up in these pages – perhaps even illustrated by ace cartoonist, John Moran. Prize for the best joke printed between now and January ‘92 is a bottle of fine malt whisky – to be shared by all.

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Turning to another idea, this time for an on-going limerick contest and an opportunity for readers to gain international fame and recognition in print. Inspired by a contest currently taking place in The Independent, I’m offering a monthly prize to the entrant whose golfing limerick is published in Greenkeeper International on a given word theme. For October, mindful of the battle for Ryder Cup honours at Kiawah Island in late September, let me have your “Ryder” limericks. As a limerick example, here’s mine, The Open, based on “Finch” – Ian Baker-Finch:

An Aussie one. I. Baker-Finch
Went at Birkdale with nary a flinch
With cries for much altering
Our champ made those greens seem a cinch!

Entries (open to all readers) as above before September 14th please, thereafter as the inspiration takes you. Remember, this will be an on-going contest.

“Would you like to fly” in my beautiful balloon?” is a tune that will have particular significance to Surrey greenkeeper Billy Martin of Wildwood GC, Alford, for it is he that won the prize donated to BIGGA’s Surrey section by those progressive people at RFE Turf Machinery Ltd., to take to the air in RFE’s own hot air balloon.

Three cheers to them for spirited enterprise in arranging to fly Billy over Wildwood in the middle of September, essentially to take an airborne look at his course, one still under construction. Though no secret, your editor is keeping quiet about the nuts and bolts of the exercise - having been invited to participate with Billy in the flight – but you may bet that come October we’ll have a picture story that will literally lift the lid off space travel greenkeeper style!

Couldn’t help smiling at USPGA Winner John Daly’s quote of the month: “I just take out my driver, tee up, then Squeaky (his caddie) says KILL” ... and that of Jack Nicklaus on seeing the result...“Goodness gracious. What a coil, what an unbelievable unleashing of power.”

Flying Divots

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