NEW HEAD GREENKEEPER FOR OLD COURSE

It is a case of out with the new and in with the old for Gordon McKie, who has been appointed Head Greenkeeper at the world famous Old Course.

Gordon, who has been Head Greenkeeper at the New Course for two years, will take up one of the most prestigious roles in golf next month. His immediate task will be to continue the preparations on the venerable links for the staging of the Women's British Open in August and further ahead the Curtis Cup next year and The Open Championship in 2010.

Gordon takes over from Euan Grant who is moving on to a similar role at a new development in the Mull of Kintyre after three years at the Old Course. Having worked for St Andrews Links Trust for 12 years, Gordon said he was very proud to be taking over at the Old Course.

“It is a privilege to work on the most famous course in the world. The history and tradition surrounding the Old Course makes it unique and it is continually under the glare of the international media spotlight. I am very much looking forward to maintaining the exceptionally high standard of the course and ensuring it continues to set the benchmark for links courses around the world.”

NEW CONSULTANT

Kelly Watson, Ecological & Environmental Consultant, is the most recent addition to STRI’s expanding Ecology & Environment Team working from head office in Bingley.

Kelly has an Honours Degree in Environmental Science from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland and has completed a period of doctoral study at the University of Nottingham. Her PhD studies had a practical focus and aimed to quantify the effects of aquatic vegetation on river flooding, water velocity and sediment storage. On the golf course, this work has particular significance to sustainable urban drainage systems, reed bed filtration systems and the recycling of waste water.

NEW TERRITORY

Golf & Turf Equipment Ltd, the Wokingham-based Charterhouse Turf Machinery dealership for Berkshire, has now added the county of Surrey to its territory. The business is part of the Burdens Group of agricultural and groundcare companies serving professional and domestic markets. “The timing is ideal for us as we recently expanded our team with the appointment of new Sales Representative Steve Coone,” says Golf & Turf Managing Director Tom Scanlon.