

## ICI to Sponsor Groundsman Awards

The Master Groundsman and Young Groundsman of the Year Awards for 1988 are once again being organised by the Institute of Groundsmanship and this year ICI Professional Products have agreed to sponsor the event.

The annual Awards, now in their eighth year — have undoubtedly become the sports and leisure industry's most rewarding competition — with dozens of prizes now totalling £10,000.

The Master Groundsman and Young Groundsman of the Year will each win a trip to the GCSAA Convention which is to be held in Anaheim, California in February 1989. They will also receive an engraved silver salver.

The runner-up in each category will be invited to an extended weekend in Germany where they will visit research facilities and trials centres.

The two third prize winners

will be invited to visit the ICI salt mines in Cheshire — a mile underground! — and Europe's biggest. (*Why not Siberia*).

All 18 finalists will receive an engraved crystal decanter.

The employer of both the Master Groundsman and the Young Groundsman of the Year will receive £500 worth of "Longlife" turf fertiliser from ICI Professional Products. Similarly, the college, university or study centre with the largest number of student entries will receive £500 worth of "Longlife" fertilisers.

The competitions are open to everyone involved directly in the management or maintenance of sports and leisure turf-culture

facilities: groundsman, greenkeepers, parks officers, estate managers, trainees and apprentices, and students.

There is no entry fee, and membership of the Institute of Groundsmanship is not necessary.

The final date for receipt of entries will be 12 noon on Tuesday 31st May 1988, and initial adjudications will take place during June 1988.

The nine regions of the competition are: Scotland; Northern Ireland; North-West England and North Wales; North-East England; The Midlands and Central Wales; East Anglia; London and South-East Eng-

land; South-West England and South Wales; and Eire.

Entry Forms are now obtainable from:

**The Institute of Groundsmanship**

19-23 Church Street,

The Agora,

Wolverton, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK12 5LG.

OR

**ICI Professional Products**

Woolmead House East,

Woolmead Walk,

Farnham, Surrey GU9 7UB.

## BINGLEY RETIREMENTS

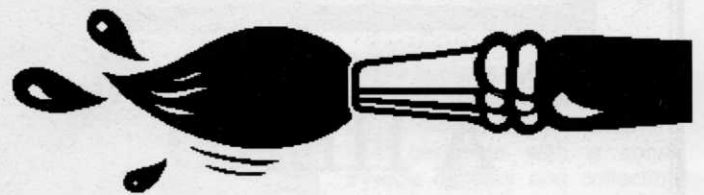
Two long-serving, senior members of staff retire together on 13th May 1988. They are Mr. J.P. Shildrick, BA, CBiol, MIBiol, FIHort, who has been the Assistant Director for 20 years and Mr. B.M. Wood, FCIS, who has been the Secretary for 33 years.

John Shildrick's principal involvement has been with the Institute's research programme. He has initiated many new projects over the years, including pioneering the testing of grass cultivars for amenity use. This latter resulted each year in the production of the "Turfgrass Seed" leaflets outlining the attributes of good cultivars of turfgrasses which are marketed for sports turf use.

Brian Wood, as Institute Secretary, has been essentially a "back-room boy" whose many responsibilities have included the administration and accounting functions of the Institute, as well as personnel.

The Secretary designate is Mr. T.R. Wheeldon, FCA, who has had wide industrial experience as a financial director and company secretary in textiles.

The Editor would appreciate any articles or comments for the next edition



## Letters ... Letters ...

### WILDLIFE ON GOLF COURSES

In these times of natural habitat reduction, golf courses are becoming increasingly important as wildlife reserves. I am presently undertaking research into the flora and fauna that is found on golf courses in the United Kingdom and have particular interest in the urban courses, which provide such vital habitat for so many species. May I through your correspondence columns, ask for information from greenkeepers regarding:

1. The wildlife on their course.
2. A brief description of the area surrounding their golf course (e.g. housing, farmland).

3. Any 'peculiar' behaviour of wildlife in these areas.

4. Any rare species to be found on their course, and any measures which they may take to protect or encourage them.

I would be keen to film interesting subjects and would therefore be especially interested in those species which are frequent enough to be found on specific days. However, I welcome any information on the subject and thank you and your readers for any help they may be able to give.

**Clarissa Titcomb.**

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