

Nice One, Jack!



Just about the only cheery note to come out of the recent Walker Cup debacle at Sunningdale was the universal acclaim for Jack McMillan's golf course. There was further cause for celebration in the McMillan household, for youngest son Cameron, 21, had just landed the top job at Liphook Golf Club, Hampshire, making it a full set of head greenkeepers following in father's footsteps.

Sunningdale courses manager Jack lined-up with (from left to right): Ian, 26 (Hankley Common), Bobby, 29 (Upminster), Stewart, 30 (Leatherhead), Billy, 29 (Sunningdale) and Cameron. Proud Jack said: "The McMillan family - 97 years in greenkeeping, 62 as head greenkeepers and its early days yet!"



Among the many helping hands during the Walker Cup were, standing: Cyril Hollis, G. Wilson and A. Moreton (all Sunningdale), Bobby McMillan, A. Watson (Tyrrells Wood), Billy McMillan, B. Wiles (RAC), M. Howton, Jack McMillan, G. McNiven (all Sunningdale), K. McNiven (Effingham), Bob Moreton (The Berkshire), J. Houston (Addington Palace) and D. Green (Sunningdale). Front: S. Godding (Sunningdale), Stewart McMillan, Ian McMillan, N. McTavish (Sunningdale), Cameron McMillan and Ian McNiven (Sunningdale).

Bill Brown has retired from the post of head greenkeeper at North Hants after 21 years.

At a ceremony in the club-

house, the captain, major-general Pat Kay, paid tribute to the outstanding way Bill had carried out his duties, presenting

Changing Times At The Home Of Golf

The Links Management Committee at St Andrews recently opened five Playturf synthetic tees on its full-size practice ground.

The synthetic tees - the first artificial turf at St Andrews - were supplied and laid by Charles Lawrence Scotland. Each tee measures 5ft by 13ft and consists of an excavated porous base 6in deep, a ½in rubber shockpad and a woven carpet surface with a ¾in pile of green polypropylene.

Playturf was chosen after a two-year comparative trial of synthetic tee materials carried out at Stirling University for the Scottish Sports Council.

The new practice ground at St Andrews is a temporary arrangement following the purchase of 120 acres of farmland south of the Old Course.

Major developments, involving remodelling the 18-hole Eden and 9-hole Balgrove courses, are planned for late 1988 and, at that time, the synthetic tees will be moved to a new permanent practice ground. The small old practice area is now restricted to seven-irons and upwards.

Permanently laid synthetic tees are being increasingly considered for other stressful locations, such as winter tees, under trees and par-three holes.

Synthetics are used as well for heavily trodden paths. A recent example is the porous rubber walkway laid between the pro's shop and 1st tee at the Tytherington club, near Macclesfield.

The Charles Lawrence group is also experimenting with synthetic golf greens. As a first initiative, Charles Lawrence have installed an 'alternative' synthetic green at a course near their Newark headquarters.

For further information, contact Mike Abbott or Dave Blamire, Charles Lawrence Scotland, 42 Silverknowes Road, Edinburgh EH4 5LF. Tel: 031-312 7976. The Newark, Nottinghamshire office can be contacted on 0636 76218.

the course in top-class condition.

Bill received a framed certificate granting him courtesy of North Hants for life.

People, Places, Products

Scottish Agricultural Industries and Norit-Klasmann (Scotland) have announced that SAI has purchased the business of Norit-Klasmann (Scotland), enabling SAI to continue expanding production of its peat and compost products. Further details from A. Gordon of SAI Horticultural Products. Tel: 0506 39281.

When Groves Marketing, manufacturers of Soilife, were taken over, Soilife, used by many greenkeepers to help overcome drainage and compaction problems, looked lost to the marketplace.

Now, Interbac are producing a range of enzyme products in Cork and Soilife is, once again, available. Farrant Chemicals have been appointed the sole UK marketing agents and all enquiries should be sent to their new office at 37/39 Southgate Street, Winchester SO23 9EH. Tel: 0962 51226.



Walton Heath secretary Wing Commander Bill McCrea (left) and head greenkeeper Clive Osgood (second right) took delivery of the Case International 485 tractor with loader and McConnell ditcher/digger.

Sportsturf consultants John Hacker and Mike Harbridge have joined Vitax to advise on product usage for sportsgrounds, golf courses, landscaping and general amenity areas and new product development.

The company's new fine turf fertiliser Weed 'n' Feed Extra is now available in 50sq yd (3kg) and 100sq yd (6kg) packs. At pre-

sent, the development is only available in 10kg bags (to treat 142m²) and 25kg bags (to treat 357m²).

Further information on Weed 'n' Feed Extra can be obtained from the Technical Advisory Service, Vitax, Palais Buildings, Liverpool Road North, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancashire L40 0SB. Tel: Burscough (0704) 893311.



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People, Places, Products - Continued...

ICI, whose wholly owned subsidiary, SAI, supplies fertiliser and peat-based products to Scotland, much of England and Wales, is to integrate its marketing arrangements.

Production by SAI of fertilisers and peat-based products will continue at their various sites, but ICI's plant protection division will be responsible for sales and marketing of the current SAI and ICI product ranges. Garden and amenity products will be marketed by ICI's garden and professional products departments and those for commercial growers by ICI Midox, which currently handles ICI's range in that sector.

In Scotland, the latter products will continue to be sold by SAI as ICI's sole distributor.

SAI production staff will not be



The Hodges & Moss low ground pressures sprayer at work.

affected by the changes and almost all technical and sales staff will be integrated into the new structure, which will become effective from next January.

For further information, contact Richard Walker at ICI's plant protection division on Farnham (0252) 724525 or Alec Gordon, SAI Horticultural Products. Tel: Livingston (0506) 39281.

The Belfry recently called in Shropshire amenity experts Hodges & Moss to conduct a comprehensive weed control programme on the Brabazon and Derby courses.

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Wheel Of Fortune

L.D. Bourgein Oxford's latest attachment for the Task Force 700 trencher is the Oxford Wheel. It features tungsten carbide cutting tips to deal with the worst of ground conditions, including stone, concrete and brick found on made-up sportsgrounds.

The Oxford Wheel attachment ensures a fast neat trench with minimum disturbance, the spoil being removed by alloy conveyor at trailer height. Standard trenches are 2in wide by 10in, variable to 16in deep.

Other attachments include the VariDrainer for trenches 2½in to 8in wide by 0 to 25in deep, with 100 per cent soil pick-up and the standard boom for trenches 4in to 18in wide by up to 4ft deep.

Another Bourgein development is the fully automatic laser depth control, which means that, whatever the surface conditions, a level trench base with 0 to 11 per cent grades is guaranteed.

These attachments, together

with the dozer and backhoe options, make the TF700 a versatile machine.

L. D. Bourgein Oxford has offered a trencher sales and hire service for over 20 years, supplying the full range of Case/Davis trenching equipment. These are available with tracks or rubber tyres and units range from 10 to 70hp. The company will advise on the correct specification for each job.

Full details from L.D. Bourgein Oxford, South Hinksey, Oxford OX1 5AZ. Tel: 0865 735420.

John Shaw Machinery recently held a field day at their headquarters near Hailsham, East Sussex. Among the many machines demonstrated were several models from the TORO range, including the new Reelmaster 216, Reelmaster 450D and Greensmaster 300.

For further details, contact **Graham Dale at Lely (UK) TORO, Station Road, St Neots, Huntingdon, Cambs PE19 1QH. Tel: 0480 76971.**

West Malling To Defend Course Management Title

The Course Management Trophy will again be held at Hankley Common Golf Club, on Tuesday August 4. The competition, for teams of three consisting of head greenkeeper/course manager, secretary and green committee chairman from each competing club, has a Bowmaker format (the best two Stableford scores from three) over 36 holes.

Winners of the inaugural meeting in 1986 were West Malling GC, who will be defending the trophy this year.

Hankley Common, used for Open Championship pre-qualifying, is a heathland course originally designed by James Braid and was described by the late Charles Lawrie as one of the best inland layouts in Britain.

Entry forms are available from the secretary, Hankley Common GC, Tilford Road, Tilford, near Farnham, Surrey GU10 2DD. Tel: Frensham (025125) 2493.

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