

for organising such a well-supported day.

The third event was a two-day seminar held by the South Wales branch at the Abbey Hotel, Great Malvern, Worcestershire. I was fortunate enough to attend the seminar, which proved a great success. All credit to branch administrator Raymond Hunt who did a superb job of organising the seminar. The first of many I hope.

Ray has been the South Wales branch administrator for only nine months and, in that time, he has worked hard to put the branch 'on the map'. He's done a first-class job.

I wonder how often we stop to think what EIGGA's branch administrators do for the association and its members? They are unpaid volunteers, holding down responsible full-time jobs, and they all give us a great deal of time to work for EIGGA on behalf of their branches.

Some have loyal committees to assist their efforts and share the workload. Others are left to cope with the full responsibilities of the position and it's often a tedious and demanding job. Please support your branch administrator and make sure your committee does so.

There is a great deal of hard work ahead if the new association is to succeed and it must not be left to just a few dedicated people to ensure that the members' best interests are looked after. The association is not an entity created by committee decisions. It is there to serve you, the membership and if you are willing to give a little in the way of effort, you will gain a great deal in the long term.

In all probability, I will not be actively involved in the new association, but I will continue to care about the future of the association and I very much hope it achieves its aims.

I consider myself fortunate to have worked for the last four years in a job I have enjoyed. It has been exasperating at times, but I wouldn't have missed any of it. I've made a lot of friends through EIGGA and I shall miss seeing familiar faces at the annual conference, the Windsor show, etc.

I trust that the trade will continue to support greenkeepers and I hope that the advent of a new association will herald a greater understanding between

all greenkeepers and others involved in the golf industry.

Finally, a big 'thank you' to the board of management, members past and present and to the chairmen, presidents and trustees, whose support has been invaluable. December 31 1986 will, it seems, see the end of EIGGA and the beginning of a new era in greenkeeping. The future will be very bright if the spirit that motivated EIGGA is carried into the new association. Let's make sure it is.

My best wishes to you all for a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Danielle Jones, General Administrator, EIGGA National Headquarters Caldicot, Gwent.

London

The annual dinner-dance will be held in March. Details of the venue will follow and it is hoped that all members will make this event the most successful we have had.

A seminar aimed at apprentice greenkeepers has been arranged for February 4 at Aldenham Golf Club. All the lecturers will be greenkeepers and details will be circulated to clubs in the area soon. If it goes well, the next one will be for more experienced staff.

The summer league was won by Michael Peters and Chris Slater. Runners-up were Neil Bennet and David Stenton. Thanks go to all those that made it so enjoyable.

The autumn competition at Muswell Hill Golf Club was a great success and our thanks go to Derek Mason for arranging it and to all the club staff.

Branch administrator David Low marries at the end of November and the best wishes of all members go to him and Dawn for health and happiness in the future.

Congratulations to Alan Lewis on his appointment as head greenkeeper at Hampstead Golf Club. May his greens always be fusarium free!

The committee takes this opportunity to wish all members a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Michael Peters, 10 Hills Lane, Northwood, Middlesex HA6 2QL.

Sussex

The autumn meeting at Worthing Golf Club enjoyed a sunny clear day. Hugh and his staff had the 36-hole downland course in good fettle. Thank you, lads. Thanks also to the secretary, catering staff and everyone at Worthing for making the day so memorable.

The results were: Medal (net scores). 1st A. Butrymowicz 70. 2nd D. Driver 74. 3rd S. Adby 77. 4th D. Coonbear 78. Stableford. 1st A. Hale 37pts. 2nd M. Butrymowicz 35pts. 3rd B. Owen 32pts. 4th G. Whitby 29pts.

Golfer of The Year was A. Butrymowicz who gained 24pts throughout the season. Best three medal rounds for the Sussex Plate were achieved by R. Jones with 96, 86, 102.

See you at the winter lectures (details from Ron on Horsham 60525) at the Ugly Duckling, Haywards Heath.

A. Butrymowicz.

South Wales

The branch held its autumn seminar at The Abbey Hotel, Great Malvern over the first weekend in November. Twelve speakers, six of whom were greenkeepers, presented papers.

Two notable contributions came from Paul Pearse, first assistant at Effingham GC in Surrey, and Nigel Beckford, winner of the 1986 EIGGA apprentice essay award. As expected, the two youngsters did themselves, and the profession, proud.

Thanks go to all speakers for preparing such excellent papers. In particular, I would like to thank Jim Arthur and Nick Park, who have contributed so much to greenkeeper education.

As EIGGA nears the end of its short, but highly productive, life, the branch would like to thank all those who have served as officers on its branch committees and board of management over the last four years.

The association owes a great deal of its success to Danielle Jones, whose skill and enthusiasm has been invaluable as an administrator.

Raymond Hunt, Branch Administrator.

Kent

The branch held its seminar at Broome Park Golf and Country Club. It turned out to be an outstanding success with all seats sold and even a waiting list!

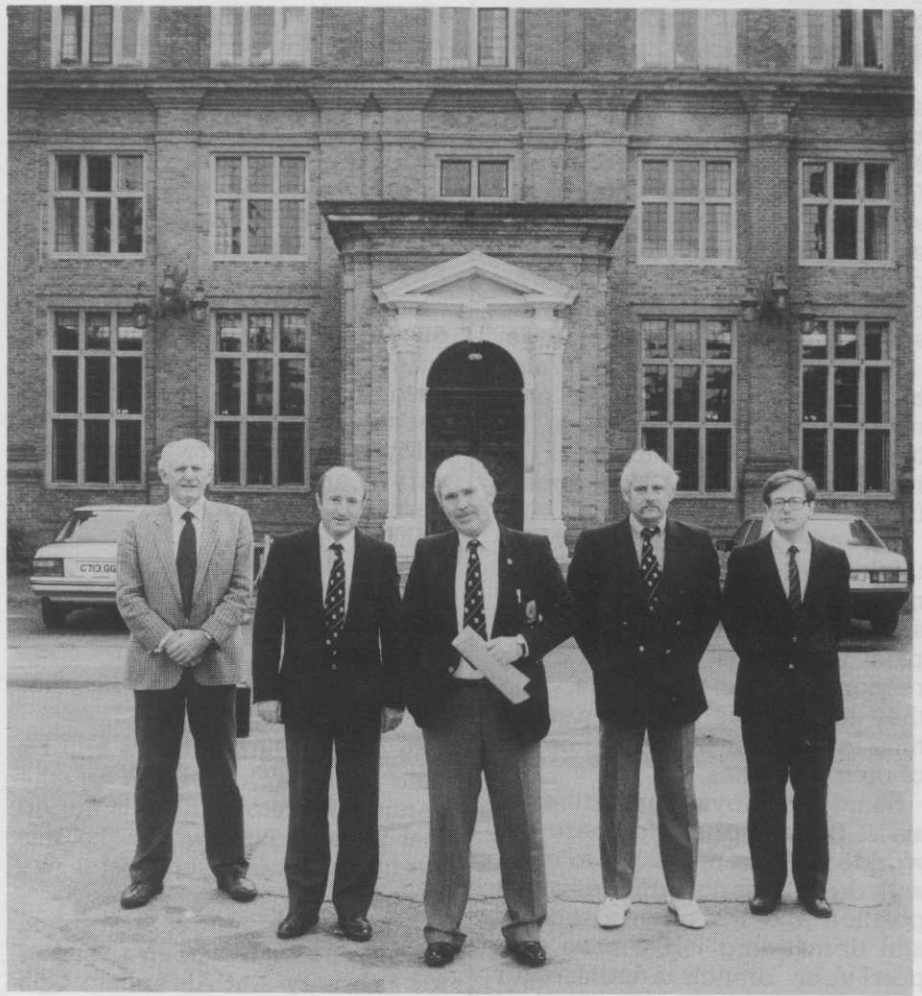
The speakers were Jack McMillan, whose main theme was aeration; Chris Mardon, who put a case for going back to handmowing; Martin Hawtree, who gave an illustrated talk on course architecture; Wing Cmdr W. McCrea on what he expects from his head greenkeeper and Nick Park, who gave a new view of greenkeeping and a look at some rather nasty molars, too!

Thanks go to all speakers for their time and giving us a day to remember. Thanks also, to Broome Park for the use of the marvellous facilities and laying on a first-class lunch.

We hope to make these one-day seminars a regular event. So, as they say, watch this space.

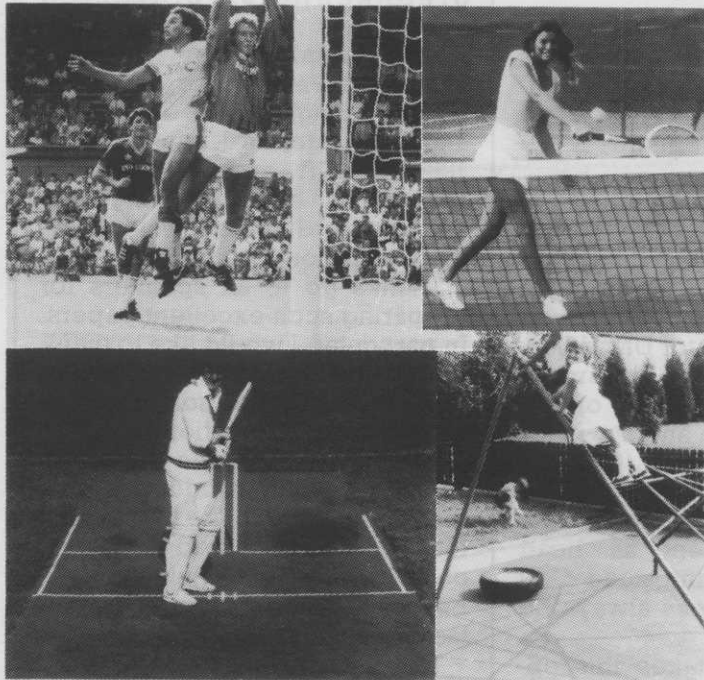
J. Atkins.

Wing Commander Bill McCrea, Nick Park, Jack McMillan, Chris Mardon and Martin Hawtree.



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Executive Notes

At a special executive held in October, SIGGA's achievements in recent years were appraised and plans made to consolidate in the future.

With the union of the three associations all set to go ahead next year, it was decided that now is the time to make changes in administration. Joe McKean will now act as a public relations man for the region and office administration will be carried out by Joan Kennedy, allowing Joe time to carry on his front man duties without having to worry about the office work.

Other points raised and discussed were greenkeeper registration, communications to all members, improvements in job contracts and definition of work, improvements in the association as an employment agency, regular contributions to the SGU quarterly magazine, reports from each section, a report from the Greenkeeper Training Committee, the PGA's £1,500 contribution towards the GTC and that Elmwood, Oatridge and Woodburn Colleges have been selected as the three colleges in Scotland approved and recommended by the GTC.

Elliott Small.

Ayrshire

After a busy time at work during the summer, members enjoyed an afternoon's golf over the superb links at Barassie. The weather was sunny and breezy, which led to some high scoring in the third class, but scoring in the other two classes was magnificent.

I had the privilege of playing with the old men, one of whom was the best scratch score and the other was the best veteran. George Brown on his first visit to Barassie shot a superb 73, the highlight of which was a two at the par four 4th. Chairman Harry Diamond wasn't far behind with a 75. He won the veteran's prize.

The full prize list was: Scratch: George Brown (Turnberry) 73 - 6 67. 1st Class: Bobby Bennett (Glasgow Gailes) 74-3 71; Ian Semple (Gatehouse) 75-3 72 (best inward half). 2nd Class: Malcolm Power (Troon Municipal) 77-14 63. Gordon Sloan (St Cuthberts) 83-17 66. 3rd Class: Gordon Heron (Turnberry) 91-18 73. Jim Paton (West Kilbride). Trade: E. Connaughton (Souter of Stirling). New Member: P. Tulloch (West Kilbride). Veteran: H. Diamond.

The section lottery was again a great success. The winners were: S. Howie (Helensburgh), G. Wheelan (Ballantrae), J. Wilson (Irvine), Dr S. Wood (Prestwick), M. Gardiner (Beith), Mrs Brander (West Kilbride), Mrs Power (Troon).

The south west corner of Scotland will be benefiting now

in education with the inclusion of Ayr Technical College to the Scottish system. The college opened its doors to greenkeeping students at the beginning of October.

The Ayrshire section committee has been actively involved in the provision of this facility along with Radix and M.S.C.

Elmwood and Woodburn House have grown to the facilities they are today only with the backing they have had from the clubs and the SIGGA executive. We hope the same support comes to Ayr Technical College.

J. Paton.

Section Descends On Boat

The North and Midlands had a great day at the Boat of Garten Golf and Tennis Club recently. I'm sure the 80 in attendance would like to thank all connected with the Boat for a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Main prize winners were: Scratch G. Hampton (71) McLean Handicap Trophy - J. Warrender (61). Meldrum Memorial Trophy (Spring and Autumn) S. McIntosh (144). 1st Class A. McLaren (68) 2nd Class - G. Farrington (67). 3rd Class G. Matheson (71) Toro Veteran Trophy - J. Low (71).

Boat of Garten secretary J. Ingram won the Visitors Trophy (68) and Eddie Connaughton (Soutars) was so confident of retaining the Trade Shield, he left it home in his trophy room! His 79 scratch was good enough on the day.

Ed Stuart seemed delighted to win first prize in the sweep and headed home to Balmoral to inform HRH. Welcome guest, former Walker Cup player Sandy Pirie, showed that there is life after thirty, storming home with a 70 after knocking his opening drive into the car park.

I hope to see a good turn out for the AGM in January, details of which will be given at a later date.

As most of you will know, I am going as course manager to the Deer Park Golf and Country Club in Livingstone. My new address is 36 Fells Rigg, Carmondean, Livingstone.

Iain Hamilton, Honorary Secretary.



One of the best - Elmwood College.

JOBS AND YUPPIES

By J. H. Arthur Bsc (Agric.)

This article, which I am well aware will not be universally popular, is written from the heart because of the urgent need, as I and many others see it, for those who **care** to stand up and be counted in defence of the old standards appertaining to the Royal & Ancient version of the game. This is now under serious and continuous attack from many sources, including certain 'trade' interests and especially from less able golfers.

Had those with the necessary authority in professional football used it a score of years ago to stamp out hooliganism, perhaps we would have seen less of the mindless violence that tarnishes the image of football today. Yet, are the scenes that we are beginning to see and hear increasingly on television, (namely, excessive partisan barracking of the 'opposition'; cheating by players and even more so by their supporters kicking unplayable balls back into contention), any different, except in degree, from the endless bad manners experienced by all those who spend their working lives on golf courses?

One of the most significant remarks in recent months was that made by a member of one of our more famous links who said "I am pleased to say that I am a member of a club where the aim of the members is still to try to **reduce** their handicaps".

In no other sport does one find the contradiction that the worse the players' ability at the game the more they regard themselves as experts on how to prepare the playing conditions. Nowhere else do we find inexpert players demanding that the rules of the game be bent and the conditions of playing surfaces amended to suit their inability to understand

the physics of the game, let alone put those principles into practice.

LATEST SPRING

The first half of 1986 gave such critics a field day. In forty years of advisory work I can, I think, claim that this was the latest spring on record — and this contention is supported by preliminary meteorological records. How many greenkeepers — or beleaguered Chairmen or Conveners of Green Committees — were attacked this year with strident criticisms that the greens had been in better order in March than they were in early June. **Of course** they were! In March they had benefited from an earlier enforced rest with frost, if not snow, cover limiting play. There was little or no growth — and certainly not enough to encourage recovery from the effects of wear — until well into June. Thus all courses had to withstand at least another two, sometimes nearly three, months of extra play with absolutely no chance of any recovery and yet suffered from incessant play, since while the temperatures may have been low the weather was often dry! Without sustained growth there can be no recovery from the wear and tear of play and just how much that wear is, can be easily seen by roping off a vulnerable area and watching the grass grow inside it.

Greenkeeping today — and with it the very game itself — is at the crossroads. Those of us — and hopefully including the majority of good greenkeepers — who uphold the standards of 'traditional' course conditions, viz. firm, fast greens and tight lies on fine, wiry fairways — only from which can control on the ball be imparted by the player — find themselves constantly on the

defensive.

Those greenkeepers, and members, who are so lucky as to enjoy our old unspoilt courses — often tucked away in fairly inaccessible areas or, alternatively, jealously guarded by their custodians who regard themselves as holding their courses, and their Clubs, in trust for future generations — may well wonder what I am talking about — lucky them! Others will know only too well — being subjected to continuous attacks from ill-mannered, discontented members those grasp of ethics stop short of the rule that complaints should go through the correct channels and should not be directed at loyal servants of their Club, who cannot reply in like form.

JOBS

In my view, and I have considered the implications very carefully — the real enemies of golf and greenkeeping are the two extremes of jobs and yuppies. Constant bad manners are all too characteristic of the former. No one else has any right on the course. They take it out on the green with their putter if they miss an easy putt and complain that the greenkeeper does not know how to cut a hole. They never mend a pitch mark — well neither do many non-jobs, but the jobs then say it is the greenkeepers' job! They climb up the face of bunkers; they never replace a divot; they scream and shout (and golf, as Henry Longhurst used to say, is a silent game — a point which a few more commentators of lesser ability could take to heart) and they never let anyone through, whilst taking hours to play a round.

Then they have the gall to complain about the state of the

course — after having missed a putt on which there is a side bet equal to the greenkeeper's weekly wage — and accuse those in charge of incompetence and laziness. Let me say at this point that I have met far, far fewer yobs at artisan clubs than at some of our more famous Home Counties clubs and snobbery has nothing to do with my contentions.

YUPPIES

Yuppies are much more polite, but much more dangerous. They have one saving grace — by definition they are not mindless morons and, like farmers, are capable of being educated, but until then they are a menace, as (equally by definition) they are ambitious climbers. They take up golf — too late to be indoctrinated the hard way — as a social cachet and are determined to succeed. Since they often have little inherent ability and less time or humility to learn it, they either demand that the course be altered to suit their play, or go flat out for Captaincy via the Green Committee as the best way to achieve their ends.

How many times have I heard them declaiming that as the members have paid for the pop-ups they, and not the greenkeeper or that adjectival agronomist, should decide when and how much water to apply. "Hasn't rained for weeks and that idiot still will not put the water on". "Greens like rock — no-one can stay on!" "Get the water on and make them more holding" — and all this in mid-April with perishingly cold east winds or severe night frosts!

Head greenkeepers and course managers have had my heartfelt sympathy this year — since I suffered as they did. I have been informed that "The Captain has decided that no visit is required this year as progress this spring was disappointing" — and then the Club is displeased when I inform them that their file has been sent to Bingley as the alternative to the dust bin! Experienced head men have been given written warnings about poor course condition in May — yet

six weeks later their Captain comes running over to them with public congratulations — "the greens have never been better in the history of the Club"!

I could go on with chapter and verse examples for pages, but it would not make humorous reading. Where do we go from here? It is no good complaining without making constructive suggestions.

The answer is, of course, education — and Britain's record in training in industry let alone in greenkeeping is at the bottom of the league. If the yuppies see no value in educating production managers in industry, no wonder they take the same view when they get hold of the reins in their golf clubs:-

"No point in sending the chaps away — they will only want more money".

"The best training these lads can get is under old Joe — been here nearly 40 years and knows his course backwards".

"they will only come back with their heads stuffed full of scientific nonsense".

"Unwise to give them the opportunity to compare notes — they may get ideas above their station".

These are all genuine remarks overheard or directed at me in recent months — in the face of total apathy by the English Golf Union and especially in getting their County Secretaries to tentatively put one toe in the water of the last half of the twentieth century and then wondering why the members of a third of all inland courses spend their winters on temporaries.

Education must also extend to club members. So few attend seminars — we are always preaching to the same converted — and yet there must be a scope for club evenings when members can come and air their view and criticisms. In no way do we want to belittle them — but to explain why. But when such meetings are arranged the loudest critics never turn up, thereby presenting the defence with the excuse to rule them out of order in any future witch hunts if they so wished,

but sadly few do so wish!

EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

With the exception of this magazine and Golf Monthly, there is no attempt to talk about course condition. Reading most golf writers' comments, there is never a word about course condition — except as at Turnberry (where we had no rough six weeks before the Open) when the pampered professionals moaned about the course when they should have complained about our weather, or accepted it with better grace.

When disasters do occur, no-one ventures opinions (right or wrong) as to why. When greens flood, do you ever see comments to the effect that lack of mid-seasonal aeration (with all its built-in potential for complaints — "can't you leave the greens alone for five minutes?") is responsible.

Luckily, the greenkeeping advisory world is getting its act together and there has never been so great a unanimity in the basic advice given on course management — perhaps less so on course construction where one notes with more than concern that some golf architects are still using perennial ryegrass in fairways mixtures, thus ensuring that they get football pitches. Some of the madder ideas by unqualified advisers have predictably failed to produce results — unless you call disaster a result — and are being abandoned. But not before such heresies served to confuse younger greenkeepers. In passing, why should the basics of management alter? The same grasses (bent and féscues) are still the most desirable and their basic needs have not altered in half a million years. What has altered, of course, is the amount of traffic, resulting in considerable changes in technique and intensities of treatment to counteract the effects of such wear, in detail, that is, but never in principle.

Progress is being made — with

some temporary lapses and recoveries — in the general education of younger greenkeepers. One would like to see this extended in a **different** form perhaps to those in charge of administration of courses — Green Committee or Management Committee members, and an extension of existing "post graduate" schemes for senior greenkeepers, as well as much more feed back from the field to both advisers and commercial organisations.

One would hope to see less irresponsible forays in search of non-existent markets by some fertiliser companies and acceptance by them that we do not need phosphate and potash in fertiliser form in general greenkeeping. If published data will not convince them, then perhaps the results, when published, of current research at Bingley may do so eventually.

But in all this we are attracting perhaps 10% of all who should be interested and less than 1% of those who live by or off the game, or those who enjoy it.

Apathy is the true enemy. The old defenders of the faith lose patience with the vociferous incomers who advocate opposite standards and instead of fighting back go off to enjoy their golf untrammelled by distractions about ways of solving greenkeeping problems — and then if the yuppies take over they move to another club where there is better understanding of what golf is all about. Emphatically, that is **not** playing for money — and indeed I fear that we may see a divide between those who value the old traditions of the Royal & Ancient version of this centuries' old game and those who want to play an entirely different version, variously described as cart-ball, target golf or the green is great school.

Then we shall see perhaps the emergence of two different types of club, playing on two different types of courses, with plastic turf replacing grass when the heavy feeding and watering technique to produce their type of target green in summer produces thatched bogs for winter —

and winter in Britain, I need not remind those who have to work outside in all weathers, lasts from November to May, and often extends at both ends to cover eight months of the year.

There is hope — there is untapped enthusiasm and a wider understanding of basics, but only by the minority — and unhappily we (advisers and greenkeepers) have to try to convert the majority (players) since we must resolutely refuse to give them what they want, because this is ultimately in their best interests.

BIGGA

Above all, many many more greenkeepers — and their Clubs — must support the new combined Greenkeeper Association and not just the present minority. That Association must be regarded as having primarily an educational aim and must not revert to a mere golfing society.

Equally, all Clubs and greenkeepers must give full support to

the new centralised specialist educational system, so that all who can and want to learn are given full opportunity to do so in the Club's time and not their own. Until we can find a side which is technically competent to at once detect and dismiss spurious claims and heretical advice, and practised in the arts of communication, then greenkeeping will always be at the mercy of those selling wonder cures, or exploiting the greenkeeping market, aiming at false standards or propagating stupid advice which a little experience could prevent being implemented, to avoid the old costly method of learning from one's own as opposed to the experience of others.

I would hate to see the day when true golf became as rare as real (or Royal) tennis, just because we defendants chucked in the towel in the face of a very well organised and broad opposition.

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"Our business was started by my late father in 1961," managing director Tim Banks said. "The prime objective was the extraction of sedge peat in bulk for the Nature Conservancy Council to create a mere. Our source of peat then was just outside Peterborough at Holme Fen and this is where the original extraction took place. Some 25 acres of this has now been filled with water and is now a nature reserve.

"In the early 1960s we went to golf clubs, landscape contractors and local authorities to find a market for the sedge peat. We also had the overburden of the peat available and were looking around for the best use to be made of it. This is how we formed the idea of incorporating it in an organic-based topdressing in the late 1970s. We have been using the peat soil ever since for this operation.

"The sedge peat side has gone from strength to strength and we now market other peats and products as well. Turfculture sales form a large part of our business, so we have added to this a new range of Fendress that uses peat

soil from another part of the country. The registered trade mark for our fen turf dressing is 'Fendress,' which is a protected name."

I asked Tim Banks which was the most popular topdressing they supplied to golf courses. "Fendress without doubt," he replied. "We have a standard mix of 70/30, but this can be adjusted to suit individual clubs needs as desired. The difference between Fendress and many other topdressings is that we use a soil extremely low in clay and silt fractions, which makes it ideal for application to golf greens."

Banks can supply a loam-based dressing, the formula of which (loam, sand, peat) can be tailored to suit any particular requirement at no additional cost to the customer. All their mixtures are also available in 25 kilo sacks. "Most of our deliveries are made in bulk, which is the most economical way, so this allows us to deliver to the most distant parts of the country at very competitive prices," Tim added.

The sedge or fen peat is a rich

black peat from the company's exclusive deposits in East Anglia and it is ideal for golf and bowling greens, especially when it has been finely screened and blended with the company's selected grade of sand and soil to make a superior topdressing mixture that is easily absorbed by fine turf.

When used on a regular basis in conjunction with other sound turf-culture practices, these dressings will produce a smooth resilient surface.

"I am grateful to the many customers who have supported us over the past 25 years," Tim said. "We are a small family firm and know most of our customers personally. My wife Anne helps in the office and keeps the accounts.

"The list and number of clubs we supply with peat and/or topdressing is impressive and widespread, from St Andrews in Fife to Yelverton in Devon, Clondeboy in Northern Ireland to Royal St George's in Kent. We are also able to supply lime free sands in a choice of colours, yellow or white." **John Campbell**

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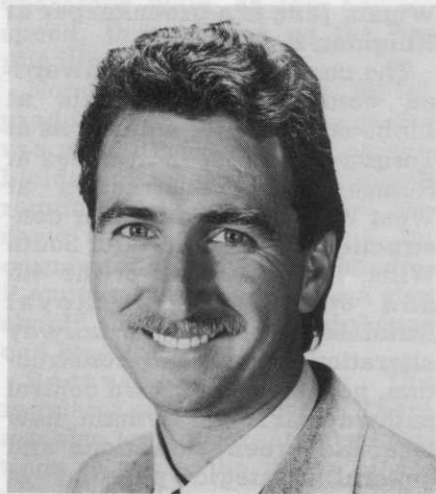
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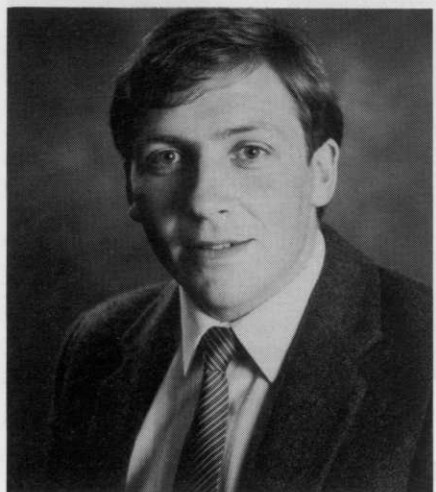
Contact: Fen Turf Dressings Ltd., 36 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 7NL.
Tel: Market Harborough (0858) 64346.

People, Places, Products



John Mullins.

Two new recruits to the Supaturf Products sales team were appointed recently - John Mullins in the Midlands and Patrick Taylor in the north of England. Bill Heath, sales representative, and Fred Fox, technical adviser, have both retired from the company.



Patrick Taylor.

Paul E. deRham has been appointed marketing representative for Weather-matic Division, Telsco Industries, covering all of Europe except Spain and Portugal.

Paul is an agricultural engineer and has irrigation experience in European, African and Middle Eastern markets. He can be contacted at Weather-matic, Britannic House, 28 St Peters Road, Bournemouth BH1 2LP. Tel: 0202 296357.

The Weather-matic Division of

Telsco Industries is based in Dallas, Texas and manufactures irrigation controllers, valves and sprinklers for commercial and residential irrigation systems.



Paul E. deRham.

TORO UK dealer salesman of the year is John Linton of A.M. Russell. He wins a holiday for two in the USA. John's patch covers the Scottish border to the north coast. He lives on the outskirts of Edinburgh and is married with two sons. General sales manager, Graham Dale presented the prize.

British Airways clubs groundsmen Kenneth Graham won a bottle of champagne in a charity competition staged on the Fisons stand at Windsor. For every entry, Fisons gave 5p to the Windsor Lions. A donation of £30 was

Golf Landscapes is updating the 18-hole Sherringham (Norfolk) links by installing 72 Toro 656 single-head control sprinklers.

Single-head control represents the latest form of irrigation technology. It enables the greenkeeper or staff to operate one, two, three or four sprinklers per green depending on requirements.



Graham Dale presented a cheque to John Linton (see story left).

made over the three days of the exhibition.

Two other IOG visitors also won magnums - Nigel Potter of Saddleworth Golf Club, Oldham and Nigel Picketts of Buckinghamshire County Council.



Richard Clements (left) of the Windsor Lions and Gill Blunden of Fisons are seen with Kenneth Graham.

People, Places, Products Continued...

The 1986 IOG groundsman of the year is John Warner, grounds supervisor with the London Borough of Merton. Young groundsman of the year is Wayne Nash, a groundsman for the British Steel Corporation in Ebbw Vale. Runners-up are Laurence Pithie, golf course manager at Minchinhampton GC and Colin Bell, a student at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh.

This is the sixth time the IOG has organised the annual competition. Sponsored by Scottish Agricultural Industries, the competition attracted almost 1,000 entries.

The two winners receive an all-expenses paid trip to Phoenix, Arizona for the 1987 GCSAA annual convention. The runners-up enjoy a weekend at Gleneagles and the next three finalists, in both categories, receive study vouchers. Between them, winners, runners-up and finalists share £3,000 of prizes, including Stewart Crystal trophies and education and training awards.

Special prizes are also being made to the colleges that submitted the highest number of student entries. The Cheshire College of Agriculture and Horticulture

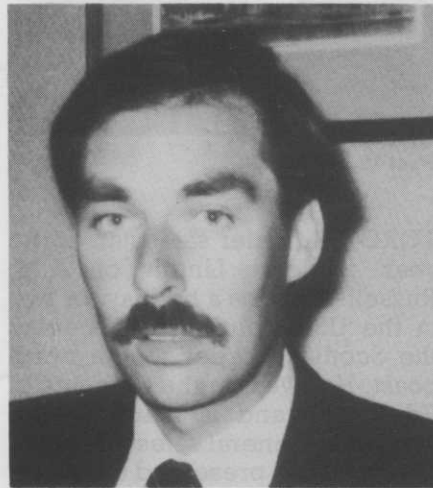


John Warner.

receives £400 worth of Longlife products, while the runner-up, the Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture, gets £100 worth.

● *Laurence Pithie lives at Tetbury, Gloucestershire. He has two courses in his care at Minchinhampton. The old course was established on commonland in 1889 and the new course was built in 1975.*

A member of the EIGGA and BGGGA, Laurence is a former winner of a similar competition during which he visited the west coast of America. Married, he has two sons and plays badminton.



Laurence Pithie.

R+R Workbenches are currently best known in the motorcycle world, where they are market leaders in the hydraulic workbench field, but the company is now turning its attention to groundsmen. The price for the fully equipped 880lb payload machine is £382 (plus VAT).

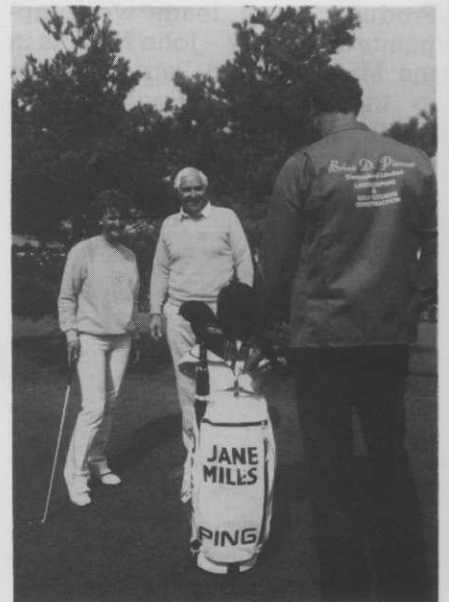
Paul English, director of R+R (UK), said: "Workbenches are becoming more necessary with the success of ride-on mowers and mini-tractors. Dealers, authorities and golf courses need to get the best value when equipping workshops and our no-nonsense approach means everyone gets a good deal."

The standard model is recommended for most applications, but R+R are creating an additional model with a one metre wide table to accept even the widest of mowers.

More information from R+R (UK), Unit 14, Tower Square, St Peters Industrial Park, Huntingdon, Cambs. Tel: 0480 411146.

Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) sponsored Jane Miles in the Greater Manchester WPGA tournament at Haigh Hall, Wigan. Jane is a greenkeeper at Knighton Heath GC.

The company has been awarded construction contracts at Liphook, for major alterations at Torquay, new green and tees at Romsey, tee construction at West Wilts, tee and bunker construction at Salisbury and South Wilts, reconstruction of the 4th and 6th greens at Royal Birkdale, together with fairway alteration and mound construction, new tees and crowd control pathways at Royal Lytham, new tees and green alterations and general strategic planting at Roehampton, and tee construction and drainage at Royal Wimbledon.



Jane Miles with Brian D. Pierson.

Parkers took orders for more than 450 tonnes of XYLorganic, a new concept in organic dressings for fine turf applications, soon after its introduction.

XYLorganic contains no peat and is therefore of great value where thatch reduction is of paramount importance. It contains soil conditioners and is rich in trace elements and, because it has ion exchange properties, is also of value on light sandy soils where leaching may be a problem. In addition, XYLorganic will not cap or seal the surface.

XYLorganic is available from Parkers or Roffey Brothers of Bournemouth. Contact: T. Parkers & Sons (Turf Management), Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 7NF. Tel: 01-337 7791.