

TRADE TOPICS

■ Westurf '91 – or to give it its full and more correct title WESTURF Turfcare Trade Exhibition – looks set to create new records on May 1st with larger numbers of local traders and internationally known manufacturers booking increased space at this 'county fair' favourite, organised so enthusiastically and so well by the South West and Wales Region of BIGGA, under the inspired direction of Gordon Child.



Gordon Child

Gordon seems to have got the equation absolutely right, for whilst costs are well within acceptable bounds for the trade to exhibit professionally and painlessly, the visiting greenkeeper will find the freedom of inspection enhanced by the delightful surroundings of Long Ashton Golf Club, a spot just a few minutes away from the motorway and easy to find. Parking is free and very easy and the whole thing promises to be a great day out.

Some space IS still available and a call NOW to Gordon will confirm. His number is 0803 844056.



Fast turf laying: Big Roll

■ Yorkshire's Inturf Limited are co-operating with Surrey based Lawn Tech Limited in the development of a revolutionary BIG ROLL turf laying system.

The key to the system's success lies in a semi-automatic turf laying machine – the first of its kind in the world – which has been designed and patented by Lawn Tech specifically to handle giant turf rolls measuring up to 30 square yards per roll. The machine is capable of laying large areas of turf very fast – one man can lay up to 500 sq. yards in an hour.

■ The ever increasing capability of the SISIS Varicore to provide alternative means of aerating all types of sportsturf surfaces has been broadened further by the recent addition to the range of tines available for this model. SISIS have introduced a 5" slitting tine for maintenance aeration to supplement the 5" hollow and solid tines already widely used.

This means that the operator can select a required depth down to 5%" rather than the maximum of 4" previously possible.

■ The AQUACELL irrigation system, literally a polypropylene blanket of individual calls which allows water to penetrate on dry areas by over 30 times that possible using conventional methods, is proving to be a great boon in promoting seed germination and protecting a treated worn area from unwelcome traffic. Conceived, designed and developed by a greenkeeper for greenkeepers, the system – which from a distance looks rather like a kingsize airbed – makes claim to use less water and increase the efficiency and economy of wetting agents, together with minimum evaporation loss and water run-off. Highly recommended before aeration, this simple though ingenious idea is producing results that are most impressive indeed.

**Fred Hawtree, in
reminiscent mood when
recalling a lecture
delivered by him some
years ago, insists that
those same lessons
stand good today and
offers wise counsel to
those involved in golf
course design and
construction in 1991**



Straight from the Hawtree's mouth

Those of you who were fortunate enough to attend the Northern Section's one-day conference on conservation in 1978 will doubtless recall one paper in particular. No need to remind you who gave it but it may be sensible to repeat some of its forecasts.

"There are certainly a number of projects which are initiated by a group of enthusiasts who want the best of what they can afford and, provided they engage a competent designer, they will get it. Most of the economics the designer makes will be due to conservation factors because the less he disturbs, the less he is spending. Then there are farmers and landowners who see a golf club as alternative income. Here also, I think we are relatively safe because there will not be a lot of money to splash about and a competent golf course architect will produce a plan which will ensure that the golf course provides all the tradi-