



■ The American lawncare specialists, O. M. Scott and Sons Ltd., US market leaders in lawncare products with over £500 million annual turnover and a market share of 43%, have entered the UK market. They have appointed Dave King as Sales Director of their new UK headquarters in Cannock, Staffs. Dave will co-ordinate

marketing strategy and be highlighting sales opportunities across the UK.

■ News from Gordon Moir tells of Willie Milton's retirement as Head Greenkeeper, Downfield GC., having been at the Club since the course was constructed in the fifties. Willie was a stalwart member of the North Scotland section, being chairman, secretary and treasurer at various times. In joining with the section in sending good wishes to Willie in his retirement, we also offer his successor, Ian Menzies, our hearty congratulations.

■ Congratulations to Mark Osborne from Longcliffe GC on his marriage to Mary Smith. Walter Cole ('Old Wrinkly') was Best Man.

■ Tony McLure of Whickham GC has won the Northern Amateur Masters title again, having captured this prestigious annual 36 hole competition by qualifying through 24 rounds of play since May. The event is open to category one players only.

■ A 31 year association comes to an end with the departure of Jim Parker from the company that bears his name. T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Ltd was sold to the Moysey Stevens Group in May 1990, with Jim retained by the new owners as M.D. on a 12 month contract. Although this contract expired earlier in the year, Jim stayed on until the IOG Show, after which his association ended. With various ideas under consideration, Jim has no definite plans as to whether he will remain in the turf care industry, but hopes to maintain contact with his many friends in the business.

■ Whilst still at Harlech competing in The BIGGA/ICI Nationals, John Borja received news from Clive Smith that Hawthorn Hill Golf Centre had been sold to a Japanese company – Bluebird Hills UK – and although John could have stayed on, Clive wanted him to move with the Clive Smith Leisure Group. John is now in charge of construction at



## Lindum Turf back Education Conference

■ The news that Geoff Hodson (right) of Lindum Turf is to once again sponsor the BIGGA National Education Conference in March has been greeted in all quarters with great enthusiasm. The highly successful 1991 Conference in York was also sponsored by Lindum Turf and with their additional support for 1992 now confirmed, we are sure the '92 conference will be an even greater success.



Pine Ridge Golf Centre, Camberley, with the title of Golf Course Development Manager. Greenkeeper International wish him well – it couldn't happen to a finer man.



■ Supaturf Products Ltd have appointed Steve Philpott as Area Sales Manager for the South-West region – essentially covering South Wales and the South West – and responsible for sales of Supaturf's range of Top Line marking systems.

■ 'God must have destined this site as a golf course'. How many times have we heard that sentiment echoed, I wonder? But in the case of the new Sedburgh course, opened last month in the very heart of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, the claim has an absolute ring of truth.

The first (and probably the last) course to be approved in a National Park, the construction was not without detractors, notably the 'Rochdale Cowboy', Mike Harding, who lobbied parliament. All the more credit then to the farming Wilson's and Handley's for perseverance in ensuring that this stirring piece of God's acreage is now a golf course of true magnificence.

What has made this such a success can be summed up ecologically as total empathy with nature. Few trees were removed, only minimal land movement was considered necessary and – a huge blessing – the land is bone dry minutes after any downpour.

So good fortune to them and the good members of the old Sedburgh GC, who shortly transfer to the new course.



■ Think Vertidrain hire and you'll likely think Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) Ltd, with their fleet of 'Captains' and 'Majors'. Now Brian has appointed Lisa Pierson (pictured) to take charge of the maintenance division. With ground conditions having been so difficult recently, the service is more popular than ever and she should be a very busy lady.

## The BIGGA recommended minimum salary/wages scale

The Association has updated its recommended minimum salary/wages scale, although actual figures remain the subject of negotiation between the Golf Club and Greenkeeping staff. The quoted rates apply from 1st January 1992.

	18 Holes	27 Holes	36 Holes
Course Manager/ Head Greenkeeper	£17,440 pa	£19,020 pa	£21,290 pa
Deputy Course Manager/ Deputy Head Greenkeeper	£12,590 pa	£13,715 pa	£15,345 pa
First Assistant	£209.30 pw	£209.30 pw	£209.30 pw
Assistant Greenkeeper	£196.70 pw	£196.70 pw	£196.70 pw
Apprentice Greenkeeper (All Courses)	Age 16/17 – £98.35 pw; Age 18 – £122.95 pw; Age 19 – £147.55 pw; Age 20 – £172.15 pw; Age 21+ – £196.70 pw.		

**NB: Where appropriate these rates should be increased to reflect Regional variations up to a maximum of 24% in the South East region.**

The First Assistant is a post designed to recognise a third-in-charge where appropriate to the size of the Club. In cases where the First Assistant is the recognised Deputy,

the appropriate Deputy Course Manager/Deputy Head Greenkeeper salary scale should apply.

**NB:** Staff in possession of recognised qualifications should have this reflected in an addition to basic salary.

■ **Basic conditions of employment should include:**

1. Where accommodation is provided by the Club, it should be rent free with heating/lighting costs borne by the Club. The Club should compensate for Poll Tax liability.
2. Where accommodation is not provided by the Club, a suitable remuneration in addition to the above salary should be paid.
3. 40 hour week.
4. Retirement Pension Scheme.
5. Telephone costs on Club business.
6. Mileage allowance.
7. Time off to attend lectures, demonstrations, BIGGA functions and tournaments.
8. If not salaried, basic overtime to be paid at time and a half, with double time on Sundays and Statutory Holidays.

