



■ Roger West, Agriland's technical director for the past five years, was appointed MD of the company in June. A bio-chemical engineer, he initiated the development of Agrimaster and Agricrop growth stimulants and later went on to formulate Ferrogreen liquid iron and a multi-purpose wetter. More recently he has developed the "Classic" range of liquid fertilizers. A spokesman for the Clearfield Group, Agriland's parent company, told Greenkeeper International that the appointment reflected the company's emphasis on research and development and product-led marketing.



■ Rufford Top Dress have appointed two regional sales managers. They are Michael Vandembosh, (left) who will cover Southern England to the boundaries of Birmingham, and John Taylor, (below left) who will cover Birmingham, Northern England and Scotland. Both Michael and John have extensive backgrounds in turf culture and have received comprehensive soils training to add to their already considerable knowledge.



Rufford's managing director, Peter Jefford explained, 'these appointments are for the sole purpose of supporting, advising and monitoring our existing distributors throughout the country'.

■ Claimants for longevity in greenkeeping may have to look to their laurels following the news that Tom Adams, Ludlow Golf Club, has retired after no less than 55 years of tending the same golf course, a record that may take some beating. I'm sure all BIGGA members will join with Greenkeeper International in sending Tom fraternal greetings and good wishes for a long and happy retirement.

■ The UK Engine Repair Championships will be staged for a third time at IoG, a national competition sponsored by Tecumseh, Briggs & Stratton and Kohler Engines, together with GMS Amenity Power magazine. Co-sponsors are Castrol, R+R Workbenches, Kamasa Tools and Champion Sparkplugs.

Open to service engineers, the championships highlight the importance of workshop personnel and their skill when working on small engines, plus all the kudos that goes with winning.

At the show on September 9th, semi-finalists will diagnose engine faults with the finalists working on engines. Cash prizes totalling £950 are on offer.



■ SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) Ltd were delighted with the response to their Diamond Jubilee cartoon caption competition, with entries received from the UK and as far afield as France, Belgium, Ireland, Dubai and the USA.

After much deliberation the winner was declared to be Mr C Parry, head greenkeeper of Woolton Golf Club, near Liverpool. He will receive a piece of diamond jewellery, with three runners-up each receiving engraved glass tankards. The winning caption reads: 'Morning Mr Secretary, I see you've caught another lady member out on men's competition day again'.

■ Two champions, each masters of their craft, clashed recently in a friendly battle with a world class flavour. Nigel Mansell, Britain's flying Manxman and likely Grand Prix World Champion, along with friend of the Kerry's, Simon Williams (related to Canon-Williams team impresario Frank Williams I wonder?), joined up with Hilton Gold Medal winner and head greenkeeper Roger Kerry, along with Roger's twin brother John, on the links of Royal St David's at Harlech for a four-ball no holds barred match.



Standing, Royal St David's captain, Barry Steward. Sitting, from left: John Kerry, Simon Williams, Nigel Mansell, Roger Kerry

Welshman Roger, who many will remember as the wizard who masterminded the immaculate preparation of Royal St David's for our National Tournament in 1991, told of the thrill of playing against Nigel, and how he and John negotiated stakes of £2 a side and £2 for the game (this with a multi-millionaire!) in an epic Wales v England match. Recovering from an understandably nervous start and a four down position, the Kerry's pulled back to all square at nine and were just one down at sixteen. "Then", explained Roger, "Nigel threw a cracking birdie at us and the match was over - the best £4 we've ever lost! Nigel is the most competitive person I've ever played against and he positively thrives on hard battles". We'll bet Ayrton Senna knows a little about that killer attitude!



Where?!

...Harrogate,

the north of England,

January 18 - 22!