

■ Peter Solski, just days after returning from a detailed first aid course staged at Aldwark Manor, was able to put his new skills to the acid test. Peter's ten year old son was found choking, face turning blue and seconds away from unconsciousness. 'You never know when such an emergency might arise', said Peter, 'but I do know that before acquiring first aid skills I would have panicked – as it was, I fell easily into action and was able to save my son from what might have been a disaster'.



■ Chigwell man, Richard Heaslip, has been appointed head greenkeeper at Epping Forest G&CC, his task to grow in and maintain the recently added 18 hole Championship course. Richard joins Epping Forest after 30 years at the very popular Hainault Forest municipal course. There he gained considerable experience maintaining the 36 holes which are estimated to take 140,000 rounds a year. In his spare time Richard's main passion is restoring old motorcycles and the pride of his collection is a 1947 Scott Flying Squirrel.

■ Rolawn has re-organised its management structure, with sales and marketing roles combined under Terry Ryan, who has joined Rolawn from a career in building materials distribution. He takes up the new post of general manager (sales), replacing directors, Rachel Semlyen and Guy Longbottom. In a statement issued by Ken Dawson, founder and MD, he said, 'Both Rachel and Guy have a record of achievement and innovation with the company and have played key roles in the development of Rolawn into a nationwide and European business. I am pleased to say that in an independent capacity they very much intend to continue to be associated with the company'.

■ Mike Lincoln-Smith has been appointed as sales territory manager for Hayter Beaver in East Anglia and the London area, responsible for promoting the company's range of professional grass cutting equipment. Already a familiar face in the industry, Mike is a member of BIGGA and worked for ten years with Turner International and for the last six years with Ransomes.

■ My spies tell me that Jon Allbutt has taken up golf. The southpaw consultant lecturer was seen recently taking lessons from the pro at Aldwark Manor and is quoted as having a 'picture swing' – which picture I wonder, 'Nightmare Alley'?

■ A world first has been achieved in the construction of the newly opened Slinfold Park G&CC in West Sussex. Incorporating a members-only 18 hole course together with a pay-and-play nine hole course and driving range, Slinfold Park's nine hole course is the first to install the Netlon Advanced Turf System on all tees and greens. In addition, the superior grass establishment afforded by Netlon Advanced Turf has enabled the nine-hole public course to be opened less than a year after construction work began. The members only course, which also has Netlon Advanced Turf tees, will be completed soon.

■ One of the six winners of Barenbrug's competition to identify a number of common grass species, recently staged at the IoG show, was Mike Mercer, head greenkeeper at Southport & Ainsdale GC. Richard Aitken of Aitken's Sportsturf in North Yorkshire and Richard Aitken (Seedsmen) in Glasgow presented the prize of a magnum of champagne to Mike at the regional IoG exhibition at Haydock. Southport



Hello!... that the sheds?... to whom am I speaking?... head what? greenkeeper?... ah yes... do the gard'ning here don'cha? Listen!, this is wing-commander Blagshaw speaking from the bar... can't find anyone from the clubhouse... must be a bit of a flap on... Anyway, there's a little chap turned up... wants to pay you chaps a visit,.... who is he?... dunno... outlandish type though... ruddy great beard, jolly face, wears big fancy wellies, and arrived driving a real flashy job!.... Says he wants to come down to the sheds and "make your wishes come true"..... Can you guess who the blighter is?... what? no, no, no, look here,.... don't upset yourself old boy, I give you my word!, it definitely is **not** another agronomist!... no, of course not!... Look here, I sit him down with a large G+T, a you come up and have a decko hm?... look here old fella, do calm down... take some long deep breaths.... get a hold of yourself man!.....hello?!

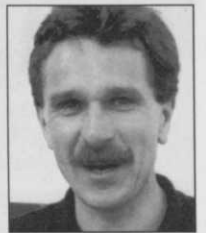
GC is a long standing customer of Aitken Sportsturf, which distributes Barenbrug's quality grass seeds throughout the North of England and Scotland.

■ The 1992 winner of the Kubota (UK) Cup for best machinery student at Lancashire College of Agriculture is 23 year old Peter John Bradburn. He is pictured receiving his prize at the colleges' annual award ceremony from Russell Mellor, Kubota's Northern Region sales manager. A student on the National Diploma in Turf Science and Sportsground Management, Peter received a distinction following a three year full time course at the college.

■ In a year of recession, Lloyds of Letchworth Ltd has not only introduced a new and expanded product range, they have also strengthened their sales force. The latest representative to join the company is Gwilym Thomas, whose new territory includes the south of England and Wales. His appointment finalises Lloyds' plan to have total coverage of the UK.

■ Kubota (UK) Ltd. has appointed Stephen Gooch as the new Northern Region demonstrator.

Operating from the Kubota unit at the Lancashire College of Agriculture, Stephen will work across the Northern counties demonstrating Kubota's tractor and power product ranges. Prior to joining Kubota, Stephen was a head groundsman and greenkeeper, involved in the care of cricket, rugby and football pitches, together with a bowling green, tennis courts and a golf course.



■ David Stansfield, B.Sc., senior agronomist with the STRI for some 15 years, is leaving the Institute on 31 January and will join Professional Sportsturf Design Associates to set up and run a golf-only advisory service. David is best known for his work as the consultant agronomist to the R&A Championship Committee, a task he has tackled with great professionalism over the past five Open Championships.