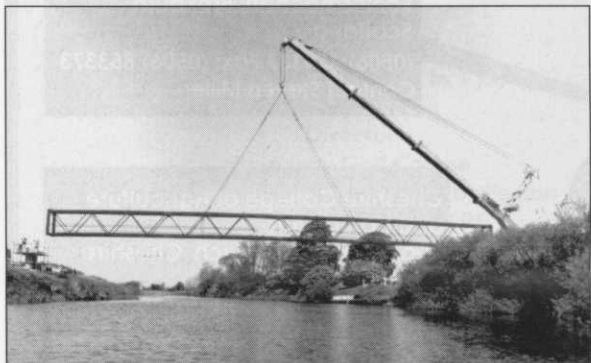


■ The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has announced that it will open a fully-staffed office in Singapore to manage membership activities and services in the Pacific Rim countries. Services will include education and training, certification, publications, conferences, trade shows and research – the same as in the United States. Their new operations will cover Japan, Guam, Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, Korea, The Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand and India.

GCSAA President William R. Roberts said emerging governmental interest and concern over environmental and development issues are driving the need for long term education and quality control throughout this region. GCSAA currently has a growing number of members in this area. Nearly 4,000 golf courses are in operation and hundreds more are planned or under construction.



■ Golfers at Aldwark Manor, built in 1876 and headquarters of BIGGA, had to give way to a giant crane recently as a 30 tonne 60 metre span bridge was eased into place between the fairways. Engineers used a 500 tonne mobile crane to lift the steel frame timber decked bridge, which now stands as a splendid course feature and access for golfers and maintenance machinery over the River Ure, running through the picturesque 6,171 yard Par 71 parkland course. This operation brings to an end a two-year project to extend the original nine holes (opened in 1978) to eighteen, and is the first new bridge to span the Ure since 1887, when Aldwark Toll Bridge was re-constructed.

The full 18 holes are now in play, making Aldwark Manor one of the few new courses in the region to be actively encouraging new members. Continued improvements to the golf and hotel complex has seen membership rise steadily and this now stands at 300 for the original nine-hole course.

Aldwark's new owners, Chessingham plc, awarded the bridge design and build contract to Beazer Construction NW Ltd, who in turn appointed Ove Arup and Partners to act as construction engineers and designers.

and Graham Paul. Graham is well known through several years with Rhone-Poulenc and takes over most of North London, Essex and Suffolk. John spent several years with Supaturf and takes over the South Midlands area. All four are BASIS certified, as indeed are all members of the Sta-Brite sales team.

■ Willie Arnold, long time 'Toro Man' in the north of Scotland, has moved to larger premises. His new address is Poynerneuk, Pitgair, by Turriff, AB5 37RZ. Tel: 08885 624.

■ Visiting the Shetlands recently, Scottish turfgrass consultant John Souter happened upon a ferry which connects the Shetlands to one of the northern isles called Yell. Imagine his surprise on discovering the ferry was named BIGGA. The explanation is that there are two islands around Yell, one called Bigga – the big isle; and the other called Langa, the long isle. The question must be posed – will members be able to negotiate advantageous terms?



■ Otterbine Barebo Inc., the acknowledged world leaders in water quality management and based in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, USA, are currently advertising their products in our magazine and of course you can contact them direct.

Nearer to home, however, Golf Course Services of Market Harborough look after their business in the UK and you can contact Mike Walker on 0858 463153. Not only will this take the strain off your telephone bill, but you won't have to take account of the time difference across the Atlantic...



■ Congratulations and good luck to Bob Lupton, long time secretary of BIGGA North Section, on his appointment as BIGGA Northern Region Administrator, taking over from Howard McAddey.

Bob, aged 38, is the course manager at Cleckheaton & District. He joined the BIGGA some 23 years ago and has always been a stalwart supporter of 'the cause', having been a long standing North Section committee member and serving specifically in 'The Chair', and as secretary/treasurer.



Sharp Fabb Mullins Paul

■ Sta-Brite Supplies Ltd announce new appointments to the board and two new territory sales managers. Sales manager Chris Sharp is now sales director, and Mike Fabb is confirmed as general manager and a board director. In addition, Sta-Brite's sales force has risen to seven with the appointment as territory sales managers of John Mullins

When?!
... January 18 – 22!