

■ Sam Hagen, course manager at the Vale G&CC in Worcestershire, tells me that the Midlands Pro/Am will be staged there on July 27th-30th, over what is probably Europe's longest new course at 7,940 yards.

Open just one year and seeded with Penncross, it is Sam's idea to invite young greenkeepers, especially those with experience gained working with Penncross (perhaps on the continent?) to join the Club as working/paid guests for a period of 4-5 months leading up to the tournament. Interested? Call him on 0386 82545 (home) or 0386 82427 (office).



■ The new chairman of the British Lawnmower Manufacturers Federation is Barry Abson of Atco-Qualcast Ltd. Barry has worked for Atco and Qualcast for nearly 20 years and became a director in 1977, having qualified in production engineering before moving into management in the late '60s. Full members of BLMF include

Atco, Black & Decker, Flymo, Hayters, and Ransomes Consumer. Together they claim to manufacture at least 90% of lawnmowers sold in the UK market.

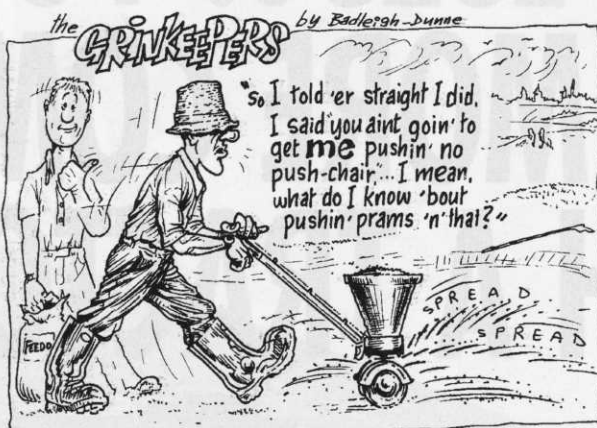
■ Congratulations to Arne van Amerongen, Holland's greenkeeping ambassador and 1991 ICI Greenkeeper of the Year finalist, on his appointment as course manager to the Syke Golf Club, an 18 hole parkland course in Germany. He tells me that staging the German Open is a distinct possibility at Syke in three years time. Arne will maintain a high profile in Britain, for he is continuing to attend the Cheshire College of Agriculture under the expert tutelage of Dennis Mortram.

■ Avoncrop Amenity Products continue their penetration in the market with two new staff appointments. John Palfrey becomes Technical Sales Manager responsible for technical back-up and the marketing of new and existing products in the south, with Brian Stephens appointed as Technical Sales Regional Manager for Bucks, Berks and Oxon, Wilts, west Surrey and Hampshire.



■ Bringing 'new blood' and enthusiasm to an area of business regarded by the Company as vitally important, Bruce Morton has been appointed sales executive, Heron Power Products, to cover the south, south east and East Anglia and to work through a specialist dealer network for Echo and Suzuki power products.

■ Steve Marnoch, one of the new 'young tigers' of golf course architecture and most recently Project Manager, Golf Course Construction Developments whilst being retained by



■ The stork has been working busily in greenkeeping circles, with the delivery of a new daughter (and sleepless nights!) for Jim and Debbie Russell of Lingfield Park. Moving slightly further up the M1 to mid-Anglia, Andrew and Ann Kennett of Knebworth welcomed Elizabeth Helen into the world. Congratulations to both sets of parents.

the Casey Group as manager of their golf course construction division, is to take up the mantle of full time architecture under his own banner - Steve Marnoch Golf Course Architecture. He expects to gain entry as an Associate of the British Institute of Golf Course Architects in April.



■ Michael Portsmouth has been appointed the new Parts Division Manager, Kubota UK Ltd, and will be responsible for the complete parts operation, which includes purchasing, inventory control, despatch and credit control, together with trading terms and conditions. Prior to joining Kubota, Mike held senior posts in the parts

and service departments at GD Mountfield and Technamotor UK Ltd.

Here's your Open invitation

The 121st Open Championship will be held at Muirfield Golf Club, home of the Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, from July 16th-19th 1992, with course manager Chris Wittle in control of course preparation.

As is usual, members of BIGGA will form a Greenkeeping Support Team and those wishing to be considered for this should forward their names and addresses to HQ as soon as possible.

Preference will be given to those who will be free for a period which begins on Wednesday evening of July 15th and finishing on Sunday evening of July 19th, with priority being given to those who have formed part of the Support Team in previous years.

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