

# Faces and places



■ Chris Gray, latterly working on contract management with several local authorities in Nottinghamshire and previously a greenkeeper for five years working on the Isle of Wight, has been appointed Lecturer in Greenkeeping, Warwickshire College, Leamington Spa.



■ Andrew Smith, one of the likeliest of likely lads from oop t' North, has landed a grand new job as first assistant at Old Fold Manor GC, Hertfordshire. A regular 'face' at golfing events and educational seminars and latterly a member of the BIGGA North committee, Andrew will no doubt be fine tuning his 'likely lad' handicap – so watch out London section!



■ West Country Groundcare have appointed David Nock (left) as contracts manager for their West Avon interests.

■ Restoration is well advanced (see picture, below) at British Coal's Telford, Shropshire site, where the Howard Swan Practice are designing a public golf course for Green Eagle Golf, to complete the reclamation exercise. The new facility, due to open in 1996, will be operated by Wrekin District Council.



■ John Walker, managing director of Ritefeed Ltd, the company that operates a 'try before you buy' scheme for its range of organic liquid fertilisers, has had a busy time over the past two years. Not content with making purposeful inroads into the marketplace, John has found time also to compete in a full programme of Kart racing, culminating in winning the Manx Grand Prix, a street race at Peel in the Isle of Man. Need info on Ritefeed, or how to drive very rapidly? Tel: 0772 253521.



■ Liquid Sod has appointed Tim le Mesurier (formerly with Agriland) to develop the new Roots Division, which will market a complete range of liquid organic products. Tim le Mesurier has considerable experience in liquid organics, especially their use on golf courses. He will also be responsible for the development of Liquid Sod products into the UK and Europe, through Liquid Sod's

own direct marketing methods or through appointed distributors.

■ Irrigation Industries Ltd, a new specialist company, are setting new standards in irrigation service by aiming to take the hardship out of irrigation design and materials acquisition. They are offering a varied package of services, from design through marketing and supervision to full supply packages. Golf architects, developers and installers can select those items which will reduce their time input or increase their expertise. Many of these services are provided free.

The company is headed by Malcolm Thomson and Gordon Bennington, who have a lifetime of experience in the industry and have designed the irrigation for such prestigious courses as Lost City in Australia and the Sri-raja CC in Thailand. They are currently involved in projects in Europe, Africa and the Middle East as well as here in the UK. Need info? Call Malcolm on 0227 772102

■ West Country Golf has appointed Mark Walsh, 23, as greenkeeper for the newly completed course at Tickenham, Avon. Mark comes straight from St Andrews, where he has been for over five years, much of that time working on the Old Course to prepare it for The 1990 Open Championship and five Dunhill Cup events. Greenkeeping is in the Walsh family with Edwin, Mark's father, the head greenkeeper at Whitefield GC, near Manchester.

■ Brian D Pierson (Contractors) Ltd have been awarded their first contract for a Japanese client – Mizno-Gumi Co Ltd. Work has commenced on an 18-hole course at Halliloo Valley, Croydon, designed by American architect, Bradford Benz. The international flavour of the contract is exciting, as not only is this the first course that Pierson's have built for Japanese clients, but also the first of Bradford Benz' designs to be built in the UK. Pierson's have seven golf courses under construction, with projects in France and Spain.

■ It seems the north-west staged their own form of The Masters recently, with the Ritefeed North West Masters, played over Fleetwood links and won by greenkeeper Bill Merritt of Allerton Park GC. The major award winners are pictured below, with Bill Merritt (third left) next to John Walker, the well known international Kart racer.



## Westurf and now Southturf line up for '94

Get your diaries out for a new turf care trade show in 1994. BIGGA's South East region are organising Southturf at Motspur Park on Wednesday June 29.

"We're very excited about this new development," said South East regional administrator David Wood.

The event's organisation is still in its early stages but speak to David for more information on 0342 850875.

Moving from south to west and in Bristol, plans are already in hand for the sixth Westurf exhibition. Some 58 stands occupied Westurf's first show in 1989 and last year, that number was doubled.

Venue for Westurf '94 is again Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol and the date is April 27.

The practice ground site at Long Ashton boasts two greens and a large area for demonstrations. Trade enquiries should be made to Marion Child on 0803 844056.

## Golf without clubs

A Japanese film crew has been busy at St Andrews producing a highly accurate visual record of the Old Course, which will be developed into computer graphics to create a game for playing the Old, hole by hole, using the Super Nintendo computer system. The game will be sold only in Japan and the company expect to sell at least 200,000 copies. The complex game allows players to select the club to use and the type of shot they wish to play, whilst variables such as wind speed and direction, ground conditions, and quality of lie all come into play.

The game will be launched in 1995.

## Stamps of approval

It's taken 154 years (the first British postage stamp was issued in 1840), but it is nevertheless pleasing to learn that the Royal Mail at last is set to issue a series of theme stamps which commemorate golf. Sometime in 1994 a tribute to the Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, reputedly the world's oldest golf club, will be published, together with first day covers, presentation packs and 'mint' stamps – look out for them!

## When it rains...

An amateur weather recorder's figures have revealed that over a 40 year period, Thursday is the wettest day of the week. The Middlesex based forecaster expressed no surprise, because Thursday is the God of Thunar (thunder). From a low of 125.17 inches recorded on Sunday the figures are: Monday 132.78 inches, Tuesday 136.43 inches, Wednesday 134.85 inches, Thursday 143.16 inches, Friday 133.94 inches, Saturday 132.57 inches. TOTAL 938.90 inches. The difference between Sundays (low) and Thursdays (high) is quite something, since one inch equals 101 tons to the acre!