

New top man for Turfgrass Council



Peter Helm has been appointed chief executive of the National Turfgrass Council. Peter was formerly horticultural sales manager with ICI/Zeneca. As chief executive, he will be responsible for coordinating and representing the views of the 22 member organisations of the NTC encompassing the major associations and representative bodies of those involved in natural and synthetic sports and amenity turf areas. A keen gardener, Peter had hoped to spend time improving his golf – but he now says with his new job that ambition will have to wait a while.

Crondon Park opens with a 19th hole

A new 18-hole 6,974-yard par 72 course, 9-hole par 3 course and a 300-yard two ended driving range complex has opened in Essex. The Martin Gillett-designed Crondon Park GC at Stock also boast a true 19th hole which will be used when the greenstaff are maintaining one of the other holes and to give flexibility to change the length layout and configuration of the course. The signature hole is the 4th – the green is located at the top of a moated Norman fortress.

Tanks leaflet

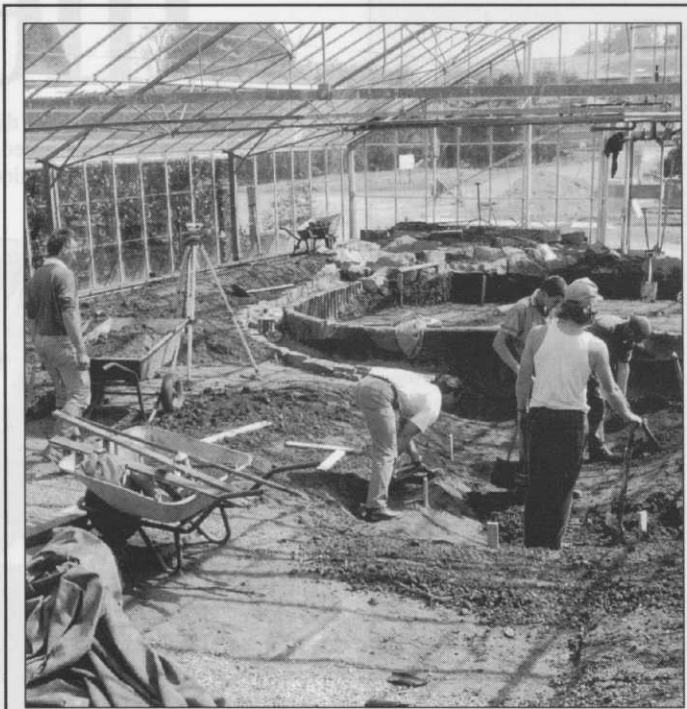
Butyl Products Ltd has published a new A4 four-colour leaflet describing its range of lined storage and treatment tanks. For a copy call 0277 653281 or fax 0277 657921.

BIGGA in focus

Walrus and justifiably acclaimed as the most attractive wetsuit at the Open.

Lest you think it is all work and no play, there is a social side to the week. That having been said I should perhaps draw a veil over proceedings. Let us just say that greenkeepers have a good time and the caravan park was enlivened each night. If you managed to survive the cabaret which catered for varied tastes you were doing well! Whenever possible we seek college accommodation for the team but this

NEWS



Heat is on for college's tropical greens project

Myerscough College has developed what it claims is the world's first golf hole *under glass!* The Lancashire college's Warm Season Turfgrass Education Facility – pictured during construction – is designed to recreate the tropical conditions found in many Floridian and Mediterranean courses. It has bunkers, water hazards and supplementary lighting (to keep the temperature hot), and will help sportsturf students learn skills and maintenance techniques which will be relevant if they want to work in the United States or southern Europe.

The green and fairway will become operational late autumn, giving the turf and sub-tropical plants time to establish themselves. To keep bills down, only sponge balls will be used in the glasshouse.

year it had to be the caravan park. The prime problem is that of sleep or the shortage of it! The late nighters and the early risers are known to meet usually around 4.30am! The spirit remains good, however, with much forbearance shown on occasions. Next year at St Andrews we will have the benefit of Elmwood College for accommodation and this should ease this administrator's problems!

So another Open Championship passes by. As we look ahead I am mindful of the need

for newcomers to join the support team – it really is a tremendous experience. We need to balance new blood with some old hands for it pays to know the ropes. Certainly the demand for places on the team is increasing and this year we had to disappoint a number of applicants. In the forthcoming months we will need to consider a selection criteria for 1995 and beyond. We warmly thank the Scottish Region for their input to the success of the week. They won't mind me saying that they have

FLYING DIVOTS

■ Ivor Scoones would like to thank the many members who sent cards and messages of condolence following the passing of his beloved wife Sheila (Ann). These were a great source of comfort to the family during a very sad time.

■ BIGGA's vice-chairman, Barry Heaney, has scored his fourth ace. He did it with a 6 iron at Wortley's 156-yard 5th. "It was a lovely feeling but it cost me a lot of money," he said. In fact it cost him about £70, but it helped the 8-handicapper to a gross 73.

■ One of Kevin Wroe's first big jobs will be preparing for the Hayter Challenge final. 35-year-old Kevin is moving from Weston-super-Mare this month to take over as head greenkeeper at Pannal GC, near Harrogate. Pannal has a team of five greenkeeping staff.

■ Seven-handicap Barry Webster is the new course manager at Ealing GC, the 18-hole parkland course that sometimes gets watered by the River Bront. Barry, formerly assistant course manager at Harpenden, has a team of five and takes over from Julian Doughty, now at Stratford-upon-Avon GC.

■ A new research facility has been launched by ADAS Environmental at their Gleadthorpe Research Centre near Mansfield. Its purpose is to offer an independent research facility for sports and amenity turf to enable the testing of materials, turf care products and techniques in relevant soil and climatic conditions.

some extremely experienced old hands who at times are able to move mountains. Their contribution is vital.

Finally in congratulating Nick Price he was quick to point out that his inspiration for the week came in practice when he appreciated just how well the course had been set up. This brings us back to George Brown and the staff at Turnberry – the plaudits are all yours and you have set standards for the future to which others can aspire. The profession has undoubtedly moved forward.