

## European architects get together

The first meeting of The Council for European Golf Course Architects took place recently at the Berkshire Golf Club, Ascot.

The delegates pictured represented the British, French, and European Groups and made substantial progress towards the formation of a Federation.

Standing: Howard Swan, Rainer Preissmann, Peter Harradine and Mark Adam. Seated: Jeremy Pern and Alain Prat.



# Skin cancer fears lead to warnings about sunburn

The Health and Safety Executive has launched a new free booklet warning of the dangers of sunburn.

The leaflet "Keep Your Top On" is aimed at all those who work outside and are in excessive danger of exposure to the sun.

"It is extremely important for outdoor workers to realise the danger of over-exposing the skin to the sun," said Dr Paul Davies, a senior health policy official at HSE. "Too much sunlight can be damaging - especially to people with sun-sensitive types of skin. Excessive exposure can prematurely age the skin, leaving it wrinkled and leathery and

increase the chance of skin cancer in later life."

In England and Wales there are nearly 40,000 new cases of skin cancer registered among the general population every year and around 1,600 deaths. This number has increased over the last decade and this is believed to be linked to the increased extent to which people expose themselves to the sun for a suntan.

"In our climate the sun is not as strong or as intense as in the tropics but workers are advised to protect their skin from undue exposure to the sun while working out of doors in the summer - particularly during the three or

four hours around the middle of the day. Recommended precautions include wearing a long sleeved top and a hat with a wide brim which will shade the face, head and back of the neck," said Dr Davies.

The leaflet also explains that some people are more sensitive to the sun than others and gives simple advice on how to recognise skin types most at risk.

Copies of the leaflet "Keep Your Top On - Health Risks from Working in the Sun", ref IND(G)147(L) are available free from HSE Books PO Box 1999, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6FS. Tel: 01787 881165.

## STRI sets out its policy statement for golf clubs

The Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) has led the field for many years in providing sound, independent advice to golf clubs.

Golf courses are an integral component of our countryside supporting a wide diversity of habitat types, often contributing significantly to the conservation of the landscape, much of which is under continual threat of habitat destruction and/or modification. Many golf courses are important in conserving nationally and internationally important plant and animal species. Golf clubs are gradually realising the importance of the surrounding natural landscape for the enhancement of the game, realising the need for sympathetic approaches to ecological management.

In working alongside golf, the STRI is striving to promote a greater ecological awareness through:

- Education to establish a greater depth of underpinning knowledge behind ecological management and naturalistic approaches to landscape

development.

The STRI will strive to:

- Consider all issues related to golf course management, especially those with ecological implications.
- Keep abreast of, and comply with, relevant environmental legislation.
- Work with the management of the golf club to develop and implement environmental enhancement programmes and their future monitoring.
- Avoid activities which could result in undue or excessive danger to plant, fish or wildlife, or which could threaten or damage their habitat.
- Provide recommendations for the most effective and most efficient use of resources.
- Ensure that contractors and managers recognise their environmental responsibilities.
- Provide recommendations for the most effective use of fertilisers and pesticides and to minimise their movement from target areas to the immediate environment through transport in air, water or soil.

## FLYING DIVOTS

■ A new report shows that nine out of ten golf courses built within the last five years are in financial difficulty.

The report "Financial Performance of UK Golf Developments" by the Golf Research Group claims that of the 388 courses built since 1989, 88% have incurred losses and many have been forced to cut joining fees and reduce standards to attract new members.

An analysis of the accounts of 78 new courses found that 28 made a combined profit of £17.85 million with two of them accounting for almost £12 million of that while the other 50 had combined pre-tax losses of £32.79 million. The report is available from the Golf Research Group price £195. Tel: 0181 987 9950.



■ Andre Baylis formerly Claymore Area Sales Manager for Midland, Wales and East Anglia has been charged

with running the company's new replacement parts division. "Over the past few years we have seen a considerable increase in the growth of the company and this has meant more machinery being used and a great demand for replacement parts. Andre Baylis will coordinate the whole of the replacement parts operation to ensure we meet our commitment to our customers," said Managing Director Keith Christian.

■ UK based companies considering whether to attend the GCSAA show in Orlando will be interested to know that Department or Trade and Industry funding is available to assist with the cost of a stand. The funding is only available to UK based exhibitors and only goods made in the UK may be displayed. To apply for a grant register through the the AEA - servicing the Amenity, Environmental and Agricultural Industries - by Friday November 3. For further information and an application form contact Debbie Dale on 01733 371381.

## Honour for Fazio

Tom Fazio has been named as recipient of the Old Tom Morris Award by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The presentation, to one of the game's top course designers, will be made during the GCSAA's 67th International Golf Course Conference and Show in Orlando in February.

Fazio joins Arnold Palmer, Bob Hope, Gerald Ford, Patty Berg, Robert Trent Jones Snr, Gene Sarazen, Chi Chi Rodriguez, Sherwood Moore, William Campbell, Tom Watson, Dinah Shore, Byron Nelson and Dr James Watson as recipients of the award. The winner is selected by the GCSAA.

■ BIGGA's presentation to Arnold Palmer: Pages 12-15