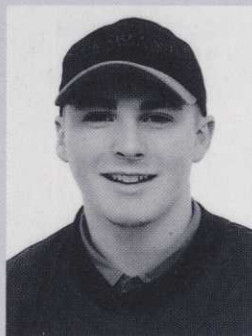




Usually the spotlight falls on the Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper at a Club.

Now it is the turn of those whose work often goes unheralded to star.



Name: Alan Jack

Club: Cathcart Castle

Position: Apprentice

Age: 21

1. How long have you been a greenkeeper?

One year

2. What education are you currently undertaking?

SVQ Level 2 at Elmwood College

3. Which one task do you most enjoy doing?

Hand mowing tees and greens

4. Which one task do you most dislike doing?

Divoting fairways on my own

5. What job other than greenkeeping might you have ended up doing?

Before greenkeeping I was a professional footballer

6. Who has been the biggest influence on your career?

Robert Hogarth, Head Greenkeeper at Cathcart Castle and Brian Hillan, Head Greenkeeper at Drumpellier

7. What would you do to improve the life of a greenkeeper?

Less interference from members

8. What are your hobbies?

Football and golf

9. What do you get out of BIGGA?

Monthly magazine, Education, Reading articles on other courses and greenstaff

10. What do you hope to be doing in 10 years time?

Head Greenkeeper

Scotts Company has big move all planned out

The Scotts Company has announced the formation of a new structure following the company's purchase of Miracle Professional in '96 and Levington Horticulture Ltd last year. The new company will be called the Scotts UK Professional Business Group and will be based at the Levington Horticulture offices at Bramford, Ipswich.

The new structure is a key step in the integration of the professional operations of the two businesses.

In the Turf and Amenity sector, products include Sierrablen, Greenmaster and Longlife fertilisers plus treatments such as Daconil, Casoron, Tritox and Turfclear are involved.

Under General Manager, Louis de Kort, the Scotts Professional Business Group will have a dedicated Professional Marketing Department headed by Martin Morgan and a Sales and Customer Service Department similarly focussed exclusively on profession-

al grower and amenity customers. To maximise the quality of service offered to customers, three new UK Sales Support Teams have been established with the the Turf and Amenity team being headed by UK Sales Manager, Chris Briggs.

General Manager Louis de Kort said: "The creation of a dedicated UK Headquarters for the new business is a tremendous step forward, enabling us to establish skilled and experienced teams to focus specifically on the needs of our UK customers. That we are able to base ourselves at the Levington Horticulture site is especially important, as it will facilitate close and vital liaison with the Scotts Research and Development operation, located at the same site."

The new contact details for the company are: Scotts UK Professional Business Group, Paper Mill Lane, Bramford, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 4BZ. Tel: 01473 830492. Fax: 01473 830386.

Tykes bowled over by mower

The first orders for Huxley's new HD84M mid/rear mounted triple mower have been placed by North Yorkshire County Council.

Huxley Area Dealer Gibsons of Kirkham, Lancashire, secured the first order at the end of last year and, following initial evaluation, North Yorkshire County Council recently ordered a further two machines from Gibsons.

The Huxley HD84M hydraulic cylinder mower has been developed specifically for fitting to the Kubota ST30 28.6 h.p. hydrostatic drive tractor. The three cutting units can be raised and lowered independently to allow variable cutting width - maximum 84" (2.13m) and minimum 57" (1.45m). Reel drive can be reversed for backlapping or for clearing obstructions.

Price for the Huxley HD84M (excluding tractor) is £8,990 plus VAT including independent hydraulic system and hydraulic oil.

For further information contact: Paul Huxley, Telephone: 01962 733222.

Moss control advice given

Weed control specialist Nomix-Chipman has issued a new technical advice sheet on moss control for hard surfaces and turf. This includes details on its non-residual moss killer which now has MAFF approval for use on internal and external hard surfaces.

Based on dichlorophen, Nomix' liquid Mosskiller delivers effective control of moss and fungi on paths, hard surfaces such as car parks and ornamental paved areas as well as lawns and fine sports and amenity turf. Mosskiller also offers an unrestricted number of applications through the season.

Mosskiller is applied by knapsack sprayer during active growth at rates of 17 litres/hectare (170ml in 10 litres of water for 100m²) when treating hard surfaces. For turf areas, the application rate is 50 litres/hectare (500 ml in 10 litres of water to treat 100m²).

For further information Tel: 01179 574574.

Early bird bookings!

The South West and South Wales Region are already planning for BTME '99 and have put together the package for the BTME Express which includes luxury coach travel, leaving Tuesday morning and returning Friday afternoon, three nights B&B and entrance to all seminars. All for £95.

On top of that, where a Head Greenkeeper is bringing an assistant the price for the assistant is £85, but both must be from the same club. For greenkeepers under the age of 21 on December 31, 1998, 20 places will be available on a first come first served basis at £45. Members wishing to take advantage of this should apply in writing to Paula Humphries,



Truants Cottage, Zeal Monachorum, Crediton, Devon, EX17 6DF.

South West and South Wales Region wish to thank Amenity Technology for their generous help in sponsoring this event. A generous amount is also being contributed by the Region from the profits made at Westurf.

Payment may be made by instalment. Contact Paula on 01363 82777.

Sweet smell of success!

A new competition involving four man teams from golf clubs in South Wales is to be held at Celtic Manor Hotel and Country Club in August. Teams comprising the Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper, the Secretary or Club Manager, Chairman of Green or a member of the

Green Committee and the Club Captain or Vice Captain will play for the Golf Management Trophy sponsored by Scotts Turf and Amenity, on August 27, for the considerable prize of one tonne of fertiliser. The format for the competition is four ball better ball

with two score to count on each hole and the cost to enter plus coffee on arrival and a two course meal is £60 per team. For further information contact Paula Humphries, BIGGA South West and South Wales Regional Administrator Tel: 01363 82777.