

IN THE PICTURE

'THE ICI GREENKEEPER AWARD'

FOLLOWING discussions with ICI Professional Products, I am delighted to announce the introduction of 'The ICI Premier Greenkeeper Award'. This competition will run throughout 1990 and annually thereafter.

The basis of the competition will be the submission of a paper of between 2000 and 3000 words, the subject for 1990 will be 'A Year in the Life of My Golf Course'. Papers must be submitted by 31 July 1990.

The Regional structure will be used to determine finalists for the Award. They will be chosen on the basis of one per Region plus two best runners up - seven in all. Finalists will be selected by a panel consisting of the Chairman of BIGGAs Education Sub-Committee, the Education Officer and myself together with nominated representatives of ICI. At this stage the seven finalists will be visited at their courses by a representative of ICI and a representative of BIGGA to assess the general presentation of the course and workplace and in particular compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Safe Use of Pesticides legislation.

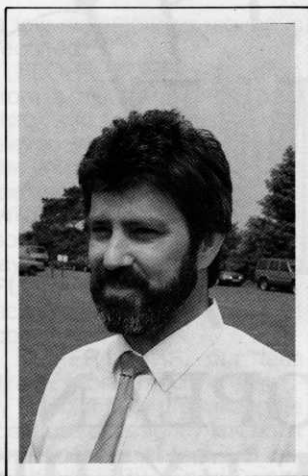
Panel interviews will follow and will be held at Aldwark Manor in November/December each year with winners being announced each January at E.T.M.E. and in 'Greenkeeping Management'.

The Panel interviews will comprise of a question/answer session and the winners will be determined on the basis of interview together with an assessment of the paper submitted and the course/workplace visit.

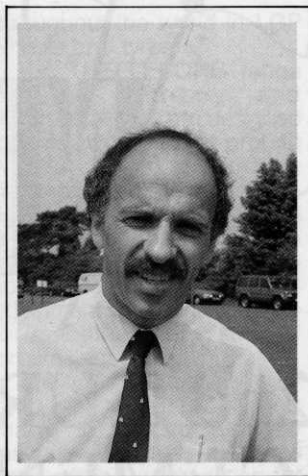
The Award's structure will incorporate a first prize of a place on the annual BIGGA trip each February to the GCSAA Exhibition/Conference in America. The second prize will be a weekend for two in London with tickets provided for a major golf event and West End show.

The third prize will be a weekend for two in York based at Aldwark Manor (including complimentary golf) with tickets for an event of the winner's choosing.

The winning entry will be published in 'Greenkeeping Management'. Awards will be



Roger Mossop



David Siddon.

"This award reinforces our support for the fine sports turf industry and BIGGA"

- Roger Mossop

made to the other finalists as well as to other entrants deemed by the Panel to have reached a high standard of presentation.

Members should note that the seven finalists will be awarded credits towards the Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

The Award represents an extension of ICI Professional Products support for BIGGAs Education Programme. Members will be aware that ICI already support the E.T.M.E. Seminar Programme and this additional backing for greenkeeper education and training is much appreciated by the Association.

Members can register for the competition on either the ICI or BIGGA stands at the E.T.M.E. in January. Alternatively please write requesting 'The ICI

Premier Greenkeeper Award' application form to Headquarters Office or telephone Debbie Savage on 03473 581/2.

NEIL THOMAS

JOINT SISIS/BRITISH SEED HOUSES/ROLAWN FIELD DAYS

AROUND 330 groundsmen and greenkeepers turned out at the three joint SISIS/BSH/ROLAWN field days in Birmingham, Stoke and Southampton at the end of October.

In spite of hard ground conditions the SISIS Varicore pto operated aerator performed impressively and the new Hydromain Twin 25 aroused much interest.

The cricket square at Hamp-

shire County Cricket Club had been re-seeded earlier in the year using the SISIS Auto-Seeder and the tennis courts with the new Contra-Seeder. The excellent results were plain to see. Demonstrations of other new and established SISIS aerators, Scarifiers, seeders, top dressers and sweepers provided a well-balanced programme of interest to local authorities, golf clubs, and all types of sports clubs who attended.

All those who attended the events were interested to hear about the production and use of Rolawn cultivated turf from Technical Director, Robert Laycock.

Samples of turf on display attracted much favourable comment and all concerned were impressed by the professionalism of the Rolawn team.

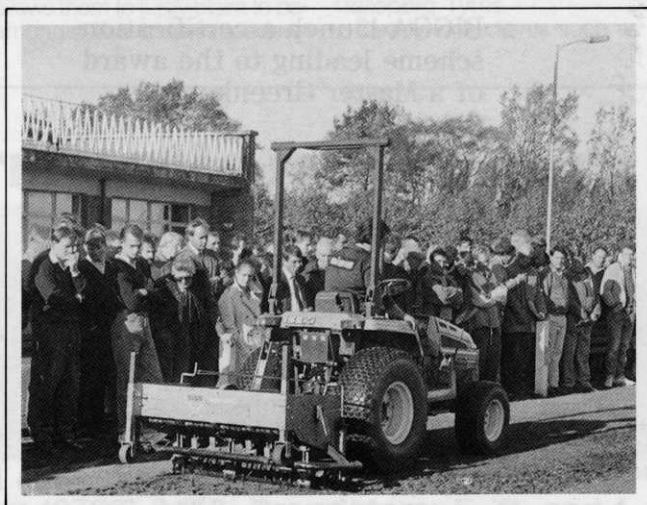
Some of those present had had no experience of using turf other than meadow turf and many did not realise there was now a ready supply of cultivated turf direct from Rolawn depots and that it could save time and money and satisfy their committees and players at the same time.

The selection of grass seed species was the theme behind the British Seed House presentation, taking into account that the wear tolerance of a grass sward is the main criteria for those engaged in the maintenance of outfields. Similarly tolerance of close mowing of certain grass species is equally important for the upkeep of fine turf areas.

Specific cultivars were later highlighted quoting examples of where they had been successfully sown: Penncross Creeping Bent had been chosen as a monoculture for seeding the greens at the new Johnny Miller course at Collingtree and light play was possible eight months after seeding.

Mermes, Loretta and Gatton perennial ryegrasses are consistently specified by local authorities for renovation of winter sports pitches and British Seed Houses confirmed that these cultivars are excellent choices with quick establishment and maximum wear tolerance guaranteed.

The possibility of holding similar seminar/demonstration days in 1990, in other parts of the country is being discussed and plans will be announced early next year.



The SISIS VARICOR is demonstrated at the Field Day.

IN THE PICTURE

BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT COURSES

Sponsored by Kubota (UK) and the Greenkeepers Training Committee

BIGGA's first in-house training courses enabled 100 delegates to enjoy seminars from leading speakers in their various specialist fields. Every course place was filled.

Delegates from all over Britain and several from Germany gathered at the BIGGA Headquarters at Aldwark Manor near York to learn both from the speakers but also from exchanging their greenkeeper experiences amongst themselves.

For many of the delegates it was their first taste of greenkeeper education and training other than perhaps the occasional lecture or company open day. The week, whilst intense, was very rewarding for all who attended.

The subjects covered during the week were management of time; computers and the course manager; grasses for the golf course; budgeting and accounting; conservation and the golf course; Health and Safety at Work Act; problems associated with the management of golf greens, trees, fairways and bunkers; communications; personnel management and the management of pesticides and turf diseases.

The sponsorship by Kubota (UK) and the Greenkeepers Training Committee enabled costs to be limited to £115 per week (inclusive of VAT) ap-

proximately 30% of the true cost.

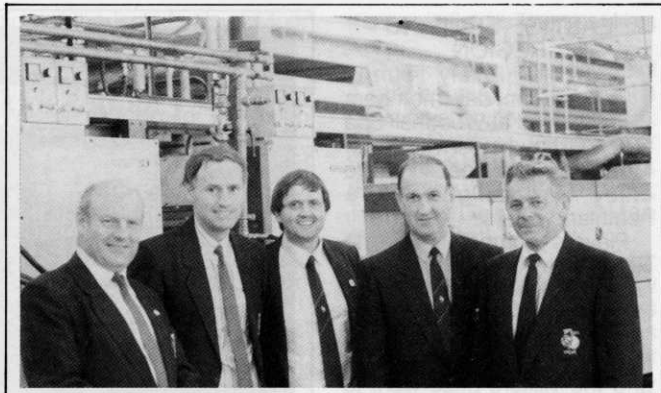
Brian Hurlley, Vice President-Director, Kubota (UK) commented: "As major suppliers of tractors and ride-on mowers to the turfcare market we have a commitment to assist greenkeepers. With the golf market expanding rapidly there is going to be a need for more greenkeeping staff and the courses carried out by BIGGA are an important contribution to the future of golf courses in the UK."

The enthusiasm generated throughout the four weeks will ensure that management courses will be repeated next October/November on a similar format and the courses are likely to be heavily oversubscribed. Attendees enjoyed first class hotel and conference facilities and given that the BIGGA Headquarters are within the venue, the setting is ideal.

The success story of BIGGA's first series of in-house courses demonstrates that in addition to the Greenkeepers Training Committee's 'approved' college courses, many members wish to further their education through the more informal surroundings of BIGGA Headquarters at Aldwark Manor.

SECOND SITE FOR STA-BRITE

STA-BRITE Supplies Limited, the rapidly growing grounds maintenance supplies and equipment company, are moving into their newly acquired freehold warehouse and office complex in Basingstoke during December. Their accounting function will remain undisturb-



At the printers, left to right, Ivor Scoones, Neil Thomas, Roy Kates, Paddy McCarron and Dennis Archer.

ed at their existing Farnborough site together with the manufacture of STA-BRITE goal posts and sight screens. So STA-BRITE will be very ready for a New Year of continuing expansion, and they are currently looking to recruit 2 or 3 new Territory Sales Managers to meet the demands of an increased customer base throughout the South.

The new warehouse is fully enclosed and will be racked out for palletised goods, including an ample chemicals store built on a modular design and capable of being extended to contain up to 13 tons of herbicides and pesticides on pallets and loose on shelving. Innovative mechanical handling should make the warehousing operation extremely efficient and the excellent level of service provided to customers at present is set to improve still further. Extra staff are being recruited to ensure that order processing, despatch and delivery to customers will be quicker than ever.

For the new Sales Office, phone (0256) 811811 (6 lines) or fax 811078, or write to: STA-BRITE Supplies Limited, Unit 7 Bessemer Park, Bessemer Road, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 3NB.

For further information please contact Mike Lyons on (0252) 512595.

THE Association's Magazine Sub-Committee visited Newcastle recently to assess the progress of their publishing operation. The whistle-stop tour included visits to main sub-contractors such as the printers, the pre-print house and the Mailing House. Sub-Committee Chairman Roy

Kates summed up the Committee's reaction as "a real eye opener as to what goes on behind the scenes".

The Committee also met the staff. Particular note was taken of the team building problems encountered following the launch of Greenkeeping Management last June in mid season and the subsequent logistics of setting up the circulation data base.

The Association Chairman Paddy McCarron expressed everyone's view when he said "we were saddened to hear about David White's resignation as Editor and thank him for his efforts". The Committee met the new Associate Editor Mike McClennan.

It was unanimously agreed that the magazine had successfully established itself and had played a major role in the massive increase in membership over the past 6 months. Also of particular note was the current spectacular commercial success and subscription sales. Over one quarter of the U.K. golf clubs are already taking the magazine and are continuing to do so at the rate of about 25 per week.

Circulation policy, which has been the subject of unjustified comments by outsiders, was discussed and endorsed; the popularity of Greenkeeping Management within both the private and public sectors was noted. And, of course, the magazine is now essential reading for the growing membership which has grown to nearly 3,500.

Latest news is that Rene Orban, previously Managing Director with Compact Machinery of Selby, Yorkshire, has been appointed General Manager of Jacobson in the UK.



At Aldwark - David Golding, Bill Lynch, Roy Kates, Paddy McCarron and Ivor Scoones.