



South West's Gordon Child pictured beside the BIGGA stand at Westurf.



Some of the many exhibits soak up the sun at Long Ashton Golf Club.

## Giant stride forward for West

Greenkeeping Management's Editor Mike McClennan recently attended the Westurf 90 Exhibition held at Long Ashton Golf Club near Bristol. These are his views of the day.

If numbers tell the tale then Westurf Exhibition 1990 was a resounding success. More than 80 trade members took advantage of glorious weather to participate in what is rapidly establishing itself as the South West region's premier exhibition. That figure represents a 40 per cent increase in trade participation since the inaugural Westurf exhibition last year. And judging from their response traders were more than enthusiastic about the whole event.

Long Ashton Golf Club, nestling in the hills surrounding picturesque Bristol was the venue and a full car park bore witness to the fact that visitors came from far and wide to attend.

Long Ashton is the home to BIGGA's current Chairman, Ivor Scoones, and Ivor was well to the fore meeting people, making them feel at home and generally seeing that the exhibition was a great success.

"It's very hard work but very enjoyable", said a red faced Ivor, sweating after his exertions under a boiling sun.

"This year has shown just what a great demand there is for such an event and the potential for expansion is there for all to see".

The Westurf exhibition was the brainchild of South West area chief, Gordon Child, who has seen the event mushroom in an incredibly short time.

Gordon sees Westurf as an ideal vehicle to promote the Association in the South West, bringing trade and members together for mutual benefit.

"This year has seen a great step forward from 1989. Then we had 60 odd stands. This year it is over 80 and some of the big boys have given us support.

"I am pleasantly surprised at the amount of support we have received and I am sure things will continue to grow in the future.

"I feel it is vital, particularly in the South West region, for people who may be spread far and wide to be brought together in an exhibition such as this.

"The good weather has obviously helped and many bookings have already been made for next year's show."

Major companies such as Iseki, Maxwell Hart, I.C.I., Huxley's and Jacobsens all turned up on the day together with a whole host of smaller, localised firms and representatives of training colleges.

BIGGA's Executive Director, Neil Thomas, was rather delighted with the exhibition's success.

"Everything seems to have gone off very well and members are pleased with the outcome. Exhibitions such as Westurf are a marvellous initiative and one I would applaud whole-heartedly."



BIGGA Executive Director Neil Thomas (second right) listens intently to the members' views.



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