

Behind the Scenes at Wimbledon

STMA Executive Director, Steve Trusty, received a grand tour of the only major tennis tournament played on grass. Head Groundsman, Eddie Seaward, gave Trusty the tour during his recent trip to England in early September. Since this was a behind-the-scenes tour, the entrance shown on the upper left-hand of the page wasn't seen by Trusty until half way through the facility. Trusty was impressed with the size of The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, Wimbledon. Besides the famous Centre Court and the other main courts featured during the fortnight in June, there are a total of 34 grass courts. 20 of these are used for competition and 14 for practice. There also are clay courts, hard courts and even indoor artificial courts.

While club play takes place around the facility during the year, the famed Centre Court sees players only during the Grand Slam event. Eddie (pictured below left on Centre Court) maintains excellent conditions on all the other courts of the club for their continual use, while spending 50 weeks of the year making sure everything is ready for the eyes of the world to turn to Centre Court as they tune in to Wimbledon. During that fortnight he also must contend with the 38,000



people - milling daily around the property and filling the stands. As with any good groundskeeper he is most con-

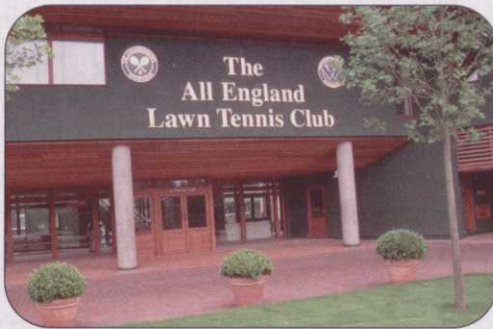
cerned about the surface for the players. During his 11 years at Wimbledon he has worked for some of the best.

The balcony outside the Centre Court Stadium (pictured at upper right) is used by club members throughout the year. The walkway (pictured

bottom right) leads from one of the parking areas, through a beautiful water feature, into the picnic area and to the rest of the facilities at Wimbledon. Number 1 Court is to the left of the picture. The Administration and Media Building is to the right. Centre Court Stadium is between them.

For your own in-depth, behind the scenes tour of "A

Year in the Life of Wimbledon" come meet Eddie Seaward in Tampa next January and hear his presentation.



Proud to Support STMA

