An Open invitation to help at big event

Applications are invited from members to join BIGGA's Greenkeeping Support team for the Open Championship at Royal Lytham & St Annes GC. Members wishing to be considered must be working greenkeepers and should be available from Wednesday evening July 17 to Sunday evening July 21, 1996. The opportunity to take part in the most important golf event of the year is open both to team members from previous years and also those members who are wishing to participate for the first time.

Duties will be allocated on a rota basis over the four days of play and include early morning course preparation, bunker raking while matches are in play and evening course maintenance. Members may also be asked to co-operate with the gathering of information for distribution in the Press Centre which helps raise the profile of the Association at the Championship. All members of the Support Team will be expected to remain on the course throughout the day and be available in the event of any unforeseen circumstances arising.

Accommodation, all meals and transport will be provided by the Association but successful applicants will be expected to pay their own travelling expenses from home to the Championship and return.

Those members wishing to be involved should put their names forward in writing to John Pemberton, Administration Manager at BIGGA's HQ, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York Y06 2NF to be received no later than March 18, 1996. All candidates' names will then be placed into a draw to select the successful applicants.

Further information can be obtained from Charterhouse Turf Machinery Tel: 01428 661222.

Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd, in conjunction with Dowdeswell Engineering are pleased to announce their entry into the Open Championship at Royal Lytham & St Annes GC.

The shedder works in the same way as a large food blender with 24 reversible blades mounted on a 500mm shaft at compound angles. It drives at 3000 RPM and will digest virtually any vegetation. The different gratings, with varying apertures, are available to produces ideal results for any type of material.

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Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd, in conjunction with Dowdeswell Engineering are pleased to announce the signing of an agreement for future development and cooperation.

Initially Charterhouse will be marketing the Dowdeswell Titan range of Spikers together with the Dowdeswell Roller Mowers and the re-designed Dowdeswell Camcorer.

‘Food blender’ tackles debris

Charterhouse Turf Machinery’s latest import, the Eliet shredder, is giving golf courses the chance to re-cycle general debris and use it as compost or walkway material.

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Experts join forces to improve standards

Six leading consultant agronomists have joined forces to form a new materials testing laboratory for the golf industry.

The laboratory known as European Turfgrass Laboratories Ltd (ETL Ltd) will be accredited by the USGA Green Section and run to the highest standards to give rapid results for construction work not only in the UK but throughout the world.

The six consultants—pictured from left, Eddie Connaughton, Mike Harbridge, John Hacker, John Souter, George Shiers and Jack McMillan—are well known throughout the UK and Europe for their high standardised based on both scientific training and practical experience.

Their individual companies McMillan Shiers, Grass Technology International and Professional Sportsturf Design (NW) Ltd continue as independent companies but now have access to a rationalised laboratory service.

It will be staffed with qualified and experienced technicians and a laboratory manager responsible for liaison, co-ordination and quality control.

The new laboratory opened for business on February 1 and details of specific services and charges can be obtained by calling 01786 449195.

Deere's new range at Belfry

The Belfry—world-famous venue of the 1983, '89 and '93 Ryder Cup matches, and headquarters of the PGA—has invested in nine new John Deere machines worth over £100,000, to assist in course preparation and maintenance throughout the complex.

The purchase comes during an £8 million development programme by De Vere Hotels at The Belfry which includes the new PGA National Training Academy opening this month and a third 18-hole golf course, the PGA National Course, is due to open in spring 1997, alongside the Championship Brabazon and the Derby Course.

Dr Wolfgang Kumpf, lawn & grounds care equipment director for Britain & Europe, flew from Germany formally to hand over the new machines to Derek Ganning, BEM, Course Manager, and his team of three Head Greenkeepers.

"The Belfry's new range has been supplied by local John Deere grounds care dealer GME Ltd, part of the Mitchells Group of companies, and includes: a 3235 lightweight fairways mower; two 2243D diesel greens mowers; two Gator 6 x 4 utility vehicles; two 2653 utility tees mowers; a 955 33hp compact tractor; a 1200A bunker rate."

"The John Deere machines fitted the bill," he says. "All the equipment we use at The Belfry has to win the approval of all 32 greens staff; following the latest tender John Deere was their top choice for ease of operation and adjustment, quality of cut and serviceability."

Training centre opens

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Training centre opens

Staff from machinery dealers and customers throughout Britain and Europe are beating a path to Ransomes' superb new International Training Centre at Ipswich.

The building is fully equipped to provide training and instruction in the operation, care and maintenance of all Ransomes, Cushman and Ryan turf equipment. In addition to engineer and operator training, the building is used also for product familiarisation courses for Ransomes and its dealers' sales staff.

"We are proud of our new centre," said Mike Prentice, the company's technical training officer. "First-class training facilities are an essential part of the total support we provide for our machinery dealers, owners and users."

HAYTER CHALLENGE

Welcome from across the globe

To the names Ryder, Walker, Curtis, Solheim and Dunhill you can now add Hayter if the enthusiastic welcome given to the new Hayter International Cup from all corners of the globe is any gauge.

The Hayter International Cup, which runs alongside the Hayter National Final this year, has already been warmly received by virtually all the invited nations and a successful inaugural event, at West Lancashire Golf Club, this September is all but guaranteed. The Americas team comprising representatives from USA, Canada and Argentina is already complete while the Rest of the World team is all but confirmed.

The Hayter International Cup will be played every two years, alternating between the United Kingdom and the USA, with the four home nation representatives being selected from their performances in the scratch to 12 handicap category in the Hayter Challenge Final the previous year.

The road to the Hayter Challenge Final at Fairhaven GC in September has now been laid with sectional events and the regional finals in place.

Those who survive the first hurdle can look forward to the Regional finals at the following venues: Scotland, Royal Aberdeen May 29; South East, Benton Hall, June 6; South West and South Wales, Salisbury and South Wilt, June 12; Northern, Abergeldie & Penpont, July 3 and Midland, Peterborough Milton, July 16. As ever some fine golf courses and excellent days, even if you don't quite make it through to the final, to look forward to.

Kim Macfie gave more details of the Hayter International Cup at the Hayter Dinner during BTME '96 where he also presented Hayter's annual Outstanding Award for Dealers to Gibson Machinery Sales of Kirkham.