Are you over the limit?

Paul Bishop, Course Manager at Manor House GC, in Castle Combe, telephoned the magazine to pass on a cautionary tale which resulted from his run-in with the local constabulary.

Paul was stopped by the police as he returned to the course after filling 10 jerrycans with petrol.

"I was told that the maximum amount of petrol you are legally allowed to carry, without having a Hazchem' signs at the front and back of the vehicle, is one gallon," said Paul. "And these signs have to be removed when you are not carrying petrol."

"You also have to carry a fire extinguisher in the cab and have another larger one fixed to the back of the truck," he added.

Paul was allowed to carry on with no more than a warning but he has since been on a course in Petrol and Handling Petrol, while his mechanic has built a special frame for the truck which will safely hold up to 10 jerrycans and which allows them to be strapped down securely.

"We have 40 buggies at our club which all require fuel but at most golf clubs the staff often have to fill three or four jerrycans," said Paul.

"If they have been unaware of the regulations I hope that my tale will be of interest to them."

All change at Hardi UK

Nick Tremlett has been appointed as Managing Director of Hardi Limited.

"Nick will have responsibility for our UK operation and has been appointed to Hardi's Strategic Planning Executive to continue to ensure that all our UK customer requirements are integrated into our current and future product development plans, strategies and initiatives - we could not have wished for a better start for 1998," said Sten Kelstrup, Sales and Marketing Director for Hardi International A/S.

Nick worked for Massey Ferguson for 11 years where he held Sales and Marketing positions both in the UK and overseas. Prior to leaving he was their Business Operations Manager responsible for AGCO's interests in Southern Africa.

For the past two years Nick has been working for UFB Humbercyde (the French based European Financier UFB Lacaball's subsidiary), developing their manufacturing relationships in the UK.

Summing up his reasons for joining Hardi, he said, "The opportunity of heading up Hardi Ltd is an exciting and challenging prospect, the company has established an enviable global reputation with its exciting and challenging prospect, the company has established an enviable global reputation with its extensive product range and its commitment to wide range of machinery and equipment to meet customers requirements."

Multi-core aerator opens up the market

Multi-core has added a new model to its range of tractor-mounted aerators.

"Developed to enable greenkeepers, groundstaff and contractors to carry out fast, effective aeration of large, open turf areas, the British-built MC 20 aerator complements the existing one metre and one and a half metre wide machines in the Multi Core range.

"All three aerators can be equipped with a choice of solid, coring, slicing or chisel tines to suit specific turf needs and seasonal aeration requirements."

Go West this April

Westurf '98, on April 29, at Long Ashton Golf Club is offering the opportunity to meet and chat with experts in many industry fields.

The "Meet the Experts" Marquee will have representatives from Symbio, Astara, Scots Supaturf, EBA STRI, Avoncrev, Breton Precast, BIGGA as well as Sparsholt, Hartpury, Pencoed and Cannington colleges.

The show, which will also boast a wide range of machinery and equipment, a pitch and putt competition while for the first time there will be full catering and a licensed bar.

Jim Arthur will also be at the show to sign copies of his book "Practical Greenkeeping" to be sold at a special exhibition price.

The show starts at 10am and runs until 4pm.

Make mine a Bailey's!

After the success of last year's golf competitions Bailey's of Norfolk have decided to hold two competitions this year. Both to be played at Royal Cromer G.C. on April 21st and August 11th. Entry is free and includes a carvery meal at the evening prize giving. Each competition will be divided into 0-14 and 15-28 Handicap categories. Prizes for each event will be worth in excess of £500.

For further information call Bailey's on 01603 754607

New Midland Help Line

The Midland Region has set up a support group on a six month trial basis. Because of the many factors involved in forming such a project, it was thought advisable to begin with a trial which would serve as a learning time, allowing us to assess demand and costs before embarking upon further training for support group members for other regions.

"The formation of this project comes from the many concerns we have about the high percentage of greenkeepers who are suffering from stress as a result of pressure at work. This often has a knock-on effect, leading to more serious illness, thus affecting families and places of work," said BIGGA Past Chairman Paddy McCarron.

"We are also aware that the demands on today's greenkeepers are many and varied and ever-increasing with all-year-round golf. People's expectations at times are too high for the greenkeeper to deal with and because of these constrictions and course limitations and poor communications, difficulties build up. It may be that the golf club and the greenkeeper are just not compatible," explained Paddy.

"It is also a concern that too many greenkeepers are looking to change their jobs, often for the wrong reasons and may be suffering from stress during the time that their grievances are developing. What we are saying is: Talk to us first."

"Our desire is to see more greenkeepers happy in their work and more golf clubs happy with their greenkeepers. We do not promise success - that depends on you, but we are there to talk to," said Paddy.

"The service will be totally confidential and the only cost to the caller will be that of the telephone call. Appointments will be necessary if someone wishes to talk in person."

"Thanks to A.L.S. Amenity Land Services for their financial support of this worthy cause," said Paddy.

Telephone: 0116 2739189 or 01480 437507

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