unable to tackle some pretty rough going. Powered by a 20kW (26.5hp) diesel, the all-wheel drive 4300 will take two people and 800kg plus rear load to places on a course that many would consider inaccessible by a vehicle.

Club Car are another company that offers models that push the utility vehicle concept beyond a machine that is at home on roughs and fairways. Take the company’s rough terrain models that include the CarryAll 295. Power comes from a choice of 20hp air-cooled Honda petrol or 20hp Kubota diesel engine. The 295 features Intellitrak all-wheel drive. This automatically diverts power to the wheels as required.

In some markets, the CarryAll 295 is offered in a long-wheelbase four-seat version and as the SE with a front attachment system. All of which points to the increased versatility of this type of utility vehicle.

Talking of four-seater models, Kawasaki and its now ubiquitous Mule range have had its four-seat Trans model on sale for a while now. Based upon the established Mule 3010 diesel, the LWB Trans can be used either as personnel transport with a reduced length load platform or, by folding the rear seats, as a high capacity utility.

The Mule Trans converts between four-seat and long load mode quickly and easily. It is extremely versatile as a result. At the other extreme, the company sells its petrol powered ‘baby’ Mule in 600 two-wheel and 610 four-wheel drive versions. Powered by a 400cc petrol engine developing 9.9kW (13hp), the Mule 600 / 610 have a 181kg load capacity but are rated as having a generous 500kg towing capacity.

Kubota is unique in offering its RTV 900 with a full hydrostatic transmission. Powered by a 16.1 kW (21.6hp) 898cc diesel triple, the RTV also boasts power steering and, dependent upon specification, a really powerful hydraulic tip for its 500kg capacity load bay.

The ever growing choice of utility vehicles now includes models that are able to tackle rougher ground than more established designs. This is good news. Rugged and built to take tough conditions in their stride, these machines could have long service lives on a typical golf course. Just make sure the load height of the rear platform is taken into consideration. The greater the ground clearance, the higher the lip of the rear platform.
A golf course is no place to settle for second best. That’s why John Deere Golf & Turf engineers products for every inch of your course. From tees and approaches, to roughs, bunkers and rolling greens – our products take course maintenance to the next level. We take you beyond precision course grooming with products that feature intuitive controls and safety and comfort features. For information about our complete line, contact your John Deere dealer today. www.johndeere.co.uk
Padraig Harrington has just won The Open at Carnoustie and suddenly thousands of young hopefuls can be seen on golf courses across the globe, aspiring to follow in his footsteps.

The popularity of this Championship increases year on year, mainly due to its increased media exposure. However, as the sport’s popularity increases, so does criminal awareness that golf equals rich rewards.

The aftermath of burglary can be an overwhelming stressful time. Lost machinery can incur considerable costs, add to that the hassle of acquiring replacement machinery at short notice, valuable time spent talking to the police and your insurance company, the possibility of having to attend court and, being lumbered with a hefty increase in premiums.

Burglaries tend to either be planned by thieves who are targeting specific machinery to sell on, or those who may have noticed a weakness in the club’s security system and fancy their chances. However, there is always the opportunist thief who may act on impulse after noticing an unattended piece of machinery that happens to still have the keys in its ignition.

The main issue it seems, is that many properties within a golf club are vacant during the day with greenkeepers having to work quite a distance away from their facilities.

So what preventative steps can we take to ensure our machinery and belongings are secure while we are out on the course?

**IDENTIFICATION**

Ideally golf clubs should invest in an organisation offering property marking and asset registration services. If money is an issue, an ultra-violet pen be used to mark your equipment, however, a UV Mark can fade in time.

Marking your equipment can help with Police tracking and, at the same time, make life a lot harder for the thieves selling the goods on.

**BARRIERS**

Automatic barriers provide effective control of vehicle access and more and more golf clubs are having them fitted. There are various types of safety barrier, rising road blocks, automatic gates etc.

It is also possible to lead thieves through an alarmed route by building ditches and blocking unnecessary tracks around the golf club.

**CCTV**

Closed Circuit Television is an extremely useful tool for both monitoring and deterring criminal activity. The only downside to CCTV is that it is costly. CCTV cameras need proper maintenance, the lenses need to be kept clean, the correct area of the golf course needs to remain covered and the tapes need to be changed daily.

**ALARMS**

Alarm Systems are a popular, effective deterrent against burglary. However, it is always best to seek advice from your local Police when investing in an system, as various types of alarm are available from wireless – which sends radio signals to a central control panel that activates either an audible alarm, flashing lights or fills the building with dense smoke, to signalling alarms - which alert your local Police that an offence is taking place at your premises.

**LOCATION**

If your club is planning a new machinery facility then it is worth discussing a change of location. Machinery sheds should be placed as near to the clubhouse or hotel as possible, where most staff, members and guest will be situated – their presence acting as a deterrent. It is also important to keep this area free from trees and shrubs etc, which provide ideal cover for thieves.

**MACHINEARY**

It is of utmost importance that all ignition keys are removed and securely locked away when machinery is not in use.

Towing eye locks enable a number of units to be chained together, while wheel clamps and wall locks also prove useful for securing equipment.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Club</th>
<th>What security measures do you currently have in place?</th>
<th>Have there been many problems with theft in your area?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lauchlan Millar</td>
<td>Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>Hayling GC, Hampshire</td>
<td>Our Buildings are alarmed and the compound is surrounded by a 6ft high fence. All of our equipment is marked with a security code and we hold a log of all the serial numbers.</td>
<td>Although we are on an Island with only one road on and off there have been a few thefts, which is probably similar to most areas of the country and unfortunately a sign of the times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Follager</td>
<td>Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>Whitstable &amp; Seasalter GC, Kent</td>
<td>We have alarms and a flood light in place.</td>
<td>Not really, not at our club. Herne Bay, just down the road, I believe has had a few problems. Our Clubhouse is 100 yards from the high street so vehicles are constantly travelling up and down the road, also, we are surrounded by about 60-70 houses. We have had a couple of minor break-ins at the Clubhouse but as soon as the burglar’s break-in, the alarm goes off and they’re gone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Lyons</td>
<td>Head Greenkeeper</td>
<td>Deanwood Park, Berkshire</td>
<td>We have a locked gate at the entrance, with security lights, locked secure yard, security shutters and alarmed building going straight to police. We also have security lights and CCTV in the car park.</td>
<td>Not really.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Ake Tyllman</td>
<td>Course Manager</td>
<td>Ingaro GC, Sweden</td>
<td>We currently have good security measures in places – An alarm, a 3m high fence with barbwire on top and barred windows and a security company looking after the sheds in case of alarm.</td>
<td>No, not as yet but they always try to steal gasoline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hans Nielsen</td>
<td>Course Manager</td>
<td>Dejberg Golf Klub, Denmark</td>
<td>We have a burglar alarm connected to a surveillance company. Sensors are placed in staff facilities as well as in the workshop and garage. Also, windows are guarded by metal grids and sliding doors are reinforced. The surveillance company give me a call when an alarm occurs to check whether it might be a false alarm. If not, they send a watchman to check.</td>
<td>Not recently. Being situated way out in the countryside we generally enjoy good crime statistics. We did have some break-ins a few years back though - guys looking for cash and a drink, I think.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iain Gunn</td>
<td>Course Manager</td>
<td>Blackpool North Shore GC, Lancashire</td>
<td>We have a modern alarm system, Redcare, which is linked directly to the Police, also bars across the shed windows and smaller machines are kept in cages.</td>
<td>Two years ago we had two or three break-ins within a short period of time, hedgetrimmers, power saws and strimmers were stolen. A public footpath also runs across our course and is next to a compound which we have to ensure is locked. We have suffered vandalism on the course, including vandalism of our irrigation system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Cunningham</td>
<td>Course Manager</td>
<td>Trentham Park GC, Staffordshire</td>
<td>All the buildings are alarmed with Redcare support and CCTV cameras with lighting cover the facility. All of the staff are trained and are accountable for looking up and setting the alarm.</td>
<td>We get the odd flag stick going missing but I have not heard of anything serious in the five years I’ve been here.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## SECURITY

### Have you had advice from police or professional companies on security?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We have had a visit from the local Crime Prevention Officer.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We’ve recently had a new implement shed – it has never been broken into, so we have not had to seek advice from anyone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, when we where building the new sheds in ’99 we consulted a security company for advice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, from a professional company when deciding to install the alarm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We had advice from the Police to install Redcare and our insurance company made the suggestions to bar the windows and cage and padlock small machines/equipment. Redcare is a good system but if you have too many false alarms, the Police stop coming out to see you for a period of time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have talked with the alarm company that monitor the site while the system is being serviced. We have also taken advice from the Club’s insurance company.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COUNTERFEIT CLUB SCREENING SERVICE

Golfbidder, the industry’s leading online retailer of pre-owned golf equipment has launched a free screening service to tackle counterfeit golf equipment fraud.

As online shopping has grown in popularity, so has the sale of fake golf clubs, and an increasing number of golfers are being duped into buying imitation clubs at premium prices.

With the threat to a UK golf hardware market worth £275 million growing, Golfbidder has moved decisively to provide golfers with a safeguard against the counterfeiters.

Golfbidder’s new counterfeit screening service allows customers to verify equipment’s authenticity either before or after it is purchased. The service, which will be available to everyone including non-registered Golfbidder customers, invites concerned customers to send images of the products for Golfbidder experts to assess.

www.golfbidder.com

Can you spot the fake? The club on the left is a Callaway Steelhead X-16 sand wedge. The one on the right is not.

DIGITAL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE (CCTV) SYSTEMS

Chubb Digital Video Surveillance (CCTV) Systems provide an effective crime deterrent, utilising the latest digital technology to monitor access to secure areas, unauthorised activities, theft or criminal damage and personal safety or even provide a remote response to an intrusion. Typical applications include: Basic Stand-alone, Intermediate CCTV and Complex Video Surveillance System.

www.chubb.co.uk

GOLF WATCH SYSTEM

North Yorkshire Police coordinate Watch Schemes throughout the County which bring the Police and the public together to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

The Golf Watch System uses the Ringmaster computerised message system to inform local golf course and clubs about crime and crime trends affecting their premises, such as: suspicious individuals, vehicle crime, theft and stolen property.

For more information on joining the scheme contact Deborah Palmer.
01904 669072.

ULTRA VIOLET MARKING

Marking items with a Permanent UV Marker Pen is a valuable aid to tracing the owner of recovered stolen property.

Your postcode is a police recommendation for easily identifying the rightful owner of recovered stolen goods. By additionally including your house number or the initials of your house name will further establish your identity.

Geoffrey Waldmeyer Associates Ltd offer a permanent UV marker pen that can be used on all surfaces. It leaves an indelible UV mark, requires no over-seal protection, has an extended non-fade reaction and UV life, even in sunlight.

www.property-marking.co.uk

SECURITY LIGHTING

The GJD 910 DygiZone security lighting control system from Greenhills Security Products (NI) Ltd, includes the following features: back-lit LCD digital display; two timers per zone; onboard microphone to provide voice option when detection occurs (optional for each zone); keypad lock feature and up to 3 keypads per system.

www.greenhillssecurity.co.uk

VANDAL-RESISTANT ENTRY PANELS

The vandal-resistant Targha entry panel from bpt, blends an attractive design with a highly resilient structure. Special burglar-proof screws and the mechanical qualities of the buttons ensure that they are hardwearing and tamperproof.

The special technical features assure outdoor resistance and the materials used – stainless steel and 4mm thick polycarbonate – enhance Targha’s tamperproof and knock-resistant properties.

www.bpt.co.uk
SECURITY BARRIERS
Security Barriers are increasingly being fitted by crime-conscious businesses. Jaymac offer every potential customer a full, site survey completely free of charge, a full installation service throughout the UK and, if required, can arrange for products such as security bollards and security barriers to be fitted under competitive leasing or hire purchase agreements.

www.jaymacsecurityproducts.com

AUTOMATIC BOLLARDS
Automatic rising bollards from ATG Access Ltd, comprise of steel cored heavy duty hydraulic units which can handle thousands of operations a day and withstand multiple impacts without affecting performance.

The company offers a variety of bespoke, automatic hydraulic bollard designs in a range of materials and aesthetically appealing finishes. This ensures that the systems will integrate seamlessly with modern streetscapes and architectural styles, while providing a visual deterrent and an impassable obstacle for unauthorised drivers.

www.atgaccess.com

WIRELESS
Homelogix™ is the new solution to wireless intrusion security and home automation.

A two-line backlit LCD display provides all necessary system information at a glance. Users can obtain vocal information about the system status anytime with a press of a button, locally or remotely by telephone.

Homelogix™ is compatible with Rosslare’s line of wireless sensors and remotes, enabling you to expand your security system to fit your needs, without costly and invasive installations.

www.sourcesecurity.com

ONE STOP LOCKS
Onestop-locks.com, online supplier of locking and security products, has added over 100 new lines to now offer its largest selection ever. One Stop Locks has selected top name brands including products from Chubb, Yale, ERA, Kidde, Maggi and Camlock Systems. In Vehicle Security there are ranges of locks for motorbikes, scooters and bicycles, as well as commercial vehicle safes for those who handle cash and other valuables in the course of their business.

www.onestop-locks.com

RETRACTABLE SECURITY GATES
The SecuroGuard 1001 is for highest security domestic use and high security for commercial, retail and counter/cabinet applications.

The SecuroGuard Retractable Gate System combines a classic appearance with effective protection, ideal for home or workplace. The high security 1001 is tested and approved to LPS 1175-1. The system can be easily fitted to the face or reveal of a window or door aperture and can be specified in a single or double-sash configuration.

www.aws.co.uk
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An unlikely target for burglars, Bulwell Forest Golf Club has seen over 500 flags vanish from its course during 2007.

John has been a member of Bulwell Forest, the oldest golf club in Nottingham, for 20 years and told me that disappearing flags have always been a problem. "It’s got to the stage where we are buying cheaper flags and saving the best ones for special occasions," said Club Secretary, John Bush. "We used to be a municipal course and government workers used to collect the flags at night, however, when we entered into employment of our own, we decided to start leaving the flags out during the evening as members had complained that they had no flags to play to."

This created a tricky situation for the Club, as two or three flags started to go missing each night. Comparing the monetary loss of the theft of two or three flags to paying a greenkeeper to come back at night and pack the flags away, the latter still proved more costly for the Club.

"Over the last few months the problem has increased 10 fold," explained John, "We are losing a dozen or more flags each night."

The Club believes one of the sources is dogs. People walk their dogs over the course at night and the animal lifts the pin out of the hole and chews the flag.

"We tried confronting the individuals involved on several occasions and for a time, the number of stolen flags dropped, but this was only ever temporary," said a rather frustrated Club Secretary.

Bulwell Forest, where golf has been played since the 1870s, is in the unfortunate position of having a footpath running across its course, which many children cross coming home from school - this is another time of day when flags tend to go missing.

"We can’t imagine what particular use the flags could be put to. We often find them broken around the course and wonder if people used the old, more expensive, slender flag poles around the garden," said John.

After six break-ins in a fortnight, security at the heathland course has been strengthened with alarms and the Catering Manager is now living on the premises.

The course itself is situated in the middle of Nottingham city and is surrounded on three sides by large housing estates. Two public footpaths also run across the course, and although the course is fenced in many areas - along the roadside and southern sides of the course - it is still impossible for the staff at Bulwell to stop the public from cutting across their course.

"We are looking in to having security patrol the course at night, but this is obviously linked with the expense of having to pay a security person for three of four hours work a night. The cost of their wages in comparison to cost of the flags being stolen doesn’t prove to be cost effective for the Club," explained the Secretary.

There really doesn’t seem to be an easy answer to the problems this Club is facing. A certain amount of trust is involved when flags are left out, "It’s a case of how much money can you afford to spend on this – Do you simply have to sit back and accept the fact that it’s just going to continue happening?" said John Bush.

"We’ve reported the incidents on numerous occasions and unfortunately it seems the issue if a bit too small fry for the local Police."

The Club has installed CCTV within the Clubhouse but the cost of installing this out on the 18 hole course would be immense and problematic, what with having to lay out a power line.

The Club currently has flags out on the course which are used in the plumbing trade. This seems like the only way to try and save money, as they only cost around £2 each.

The Club has lost around £1200 worth of flags within the last year.

"We just need to find someone willing to donate 600 flags a year," said John, trying to remain upbeat about the situation.

SECURITY STATS
Trends in the British Crime Survey, Incidents of Crime:

- Burglary with Entry - down 50% from 1997 to 2006/07
- Burglary Attempts - down 61% from 1997 to 2006/07
- Theft of Vehicles - down 53% from 1997 to 2006/07
- Attempts Of and From Vehicles - down 59% from 1997 to 2006/07
Harrogate Week has been established for 20 years and during that time has grown to become a must-see grounds care event for many satisfied visitors. Networking at Harrogate Week will help you to discover new ideas, products and equipment, and provide you with all the knowledge you require to produce impressive grounds.

If your business is in Groundscare Management, make it your business to attend Harrogate Week. It’s your best opportunity to meet all the players under one roof where buyers and suppliers from 30 different countries gather to network, exchange ideas and do business in a superb environment.

Harrogate Week is the launch pad start to the new season - it is so much more than an exhibition. It’s packed with new and innovative ideas and has an outstanding seminar programme. With a Careers’ Clinic, Job Shop, AGM’s, and Forums running throughout the week along with Dinners, Receptions and a Banquet, it’s the only place to be each January.

The Continue to Learn Education Programme with more than a dozen speakers offer a wealth of learning opportunities. Hear papers presented by a wide range of professionals that are of relevance to everyone that works in the grounds care industry or has an interest in turf management. With subjects from Golf Course Design to Financial Management, all delegates will be able to find a workshop to suit them in the ever-popular Workshop Programme during Harrogate Week. Places are limited so book early.

The BIGGA staff will be on hand to give advice and information on all Association matters. Visit the BIGGA Stand to renew your membership, purchase some BIGGA merchandise and the chance to meet the people you only ever talk to on the telephone.

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Join us at the Majestic Hotel on Monday evening and pose your question to the panel. Roger Greenwood, television producer/director, will compere what promises to be a lively evening.

PARK & RIDE
Harrogate Week provides a FREE Park and Ride service from the Great Yorkshire Showground to Harrogate International Centre on all three days of the Exhibition. The journey in from the Great Yorkshire Showground to the HIC normally takes around 10 minutes stopping at the train station and some of the more popular hotels on route.

To register, book education or find accommodation, visit www.harrogateweek.org.uk