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 fourseat 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.



Koad homologation is another feature offered by manufacturers to include Kobota. With its hydrostatic transmission and power steering, the RTV 900 is currently unique.



Club Car CarryAll 295 has generous ground clearance and automatic selection of all-wheel drive. This type of machine offers great off-road ability.



The E-Z-GO ST 4x4 offers greater off-road scope than other models in the company's line-up, and serves to illustrate just how much choice there is in the utility vehicle sector.

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  $9.9 \, \text{kW}$  (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.



With seat belts for four, but room for possibly six, the Mule Trans is a versatile tool. The rear bench folds to provide a full length load platform.



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# ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE SECURE?

Melissa Toombs investigates greenkeeping theft and offers advice on golf club security

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 ultraviolet 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.

#### **MACHINERY**

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.

### TALKING HEADS

#### WHAT SECURITY MEASURES DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE IN PLACE? HAVE THERE BEEN MANY PROBLEMS WITH THEFT IN YOUR AREA? high fence. All of our equipment is marked with a security code and we hold a log of all the serial numbers. and off there have been a few thefts, which is probably similar to most areas of the country and unfortunately Name: Lauchlan Millar Position: Head Greenkeeper Club: Hayling GC, Hampshire We have alarms and a flood light in place. 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 Name: John Fullagar soon as the burglar's break-in, the alarm goes off and Position: Head Greenkeeper Club: Whitstable & Seasalter GC, they're gone. Name: David Lyons Position: Head Greenkeeper Club: Deanwood Park, Berkshire We currently have good security measures in places – An alarm, a 3m No. not as yet but they always try to steal gasoline. high fence with barbwire on top and barred windows and a security company looking after the sheds in case of alarm. Name: Jan-Ake Tyllman **Position: Course Manager** Club: Ingaro GC, Sweden 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. 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 Name: Hans Nielsen Position: Course Manager Club: Dejberg Golf Klub, Denmark We have a modern alarm system, Redcare, which is linked directly to Two years ago we had two or three break-ins within the Police, also bars across the shed windows and smaller machines a short period of time, hedgetrimmers, power saws are kept in cages. 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 Name: Iain Gunn irrigation system. Position: Course Manager Club: Blackpool North Shore GC, Lancashire 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 locking up and setting the alarm. ame: Gary Cunningham

## SECURITY

HAVE YOU HAD ADVICE FROM POLICE OR PROFESSIONAL COMPANIES ON SECURITY?	HOW HAVE YOU OVERCOME THEFT PROBLEMS AND WHAT SECURITY MEASURES WOULD YOU LIKE TO PUT IN PLACE IN FUTURE?	WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO FELLOW GREENKEEPERS?
We have had a visit from the local Crime Prevention Officer.	At my previous club we were unfortunate to have a strimmer back pack blower and chainsaw taken from the sheds during work hours, when we stupidly left the doors open while we were working out on the course. I now make sure all doors are locked and also the compound gate is shut whenever no one is around. As for the future maybe CCTV will be considered.	Keep your sheds secure and compound tidy, and don't leave anything lying around that could be used to help break in - Don't trust anyone, do not assume delivery drivers or other visitors, including golfers, are not looking around in order to come back later to turn you over. Take down the registration number of the vehicles of any suspicious callers. Don't leave easily removed equipment lying invitingly around, lock them away out of sight. Build a positive relationship with your local police and ask if maybe sometimes they could get a patrol car to pass by at night.  If you are unfortunate to be the victim of a robbery be aware that it is a tactic to return 2 or 3 weeks later to steal the brand new kit you have just bought as replacements!
We've recently had a new implement shed – it has never been broken into, so we have not had to seek advice from anyone.	Not at present.	Make sure you put your implement shed near the town! We are lucky that we are in a busy area. People don't get the chance to break-in, as there is always someone about.
Yes.	We increased security with alarms and a locked secure compound. We are thinking about movable or retracted bollards to prevent unwanted vehicle access.	Keep things out of sight from the general public or known workmen. Lock and shut doors when leaving your compound, make sure all employees know the correct procedure for locking up. Invest in a good alarm system as well as secure CCTV locks and gates.
Yes, when we where building the new sheds in '99 we consulted a security company for advice.	Maybe a surveillance camera (or a fake one) but you have to have permission to install one I think.	Watch out and don't leave anything valuable unattended.
	We are going to build new greenstaff facilities this winter, and of course an up-to-date alarm system will be part of the plan.	Firstly, machinery and computer/control systems cost a lot of money - secondly, losing them or having them damaged by uninvited guests also costs a lot of trouble and lost working time. We owe it to our members and ourselves to look after them!
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.	Over the next three years we are planning new greenkeeping sheds, we will have a full security regime put in place when this is done. The thefts have stopped since we installed Redcare and took the Police and insurance company's advice.	Make sure your sheds are locked at all possible times, your alarm is regularly serviced and all shed doors are well looked after and solid.
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.	I have not had any problems, as of yet (touch wood), our present signage and security measures must be working. If we do have a problem in the future we would seek advice and adapt to the problem.	Always use the security measures you have to the full, incase the worst happens and something goes missing or there's an accident on site, the insurance company may try avoid paying up due to your negligence.
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## Security - New Products

#### 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.





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 Standalone, 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 nonfade reaction and UV life, even in sunlight.



It is ideal for marking and identifying Mobile Phones, Lap-Top Computers, Home and Office Equipment, Gardening Equipment, Leisure and Sports Equipment etc.

www.property-marking.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.





#### **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

#### **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 SeceuroGuard 1001 is for highest security domestic use and high security for commercial, retail and counter/cabinet applications.

The SeceuroGuard 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.sws.co.uk





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# FLAG THIEVES STEAL OVER 500

Melissa Toombs talks to Bulwell Forest Club Secretary, John Bush

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  $\pounds 2$  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

Exhibition: 22-24 January 2008 Education: 20-24 January 2008

Harrogate Week has been established for 20 years and during that time has grown to become a must-see groundscare 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 groundscare 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.

#### **HAVE WE GOT VIEWS FOR YOU!**

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 accomodation, visit www.harrogateweek.org.uk

