WRIDDENMANN UK Hosts Series of Open Days

From Kerry to Kent, and from seven regional airports, Wiedenmann UK welcomed over 120 retailers, representatives and prospective customers to a series of three demonstration days recently. A total of 25 machines from its fleet of turf and ground care equipment were available for testing at Wiedenmann’s show field, next to its Glasgow Airport HQ.

With eight Terra Spikes lined up side by side, visitors were able to appreciate first hand how continuous product differentiation and R&D investment has enabled Wiedenmann to develop patented technology to deep aerate and decompact turf. David Rae, Wiedenmann UK’s Managing Director, told the audience: “We are known for our Terra Spikes aerators but increasingly customers are discovering our range of mowers, collectors, conditioning and commercial machinery. “This is your chance to get behind the controls and see everything up close.”

Photographs show one of eight groups at Wiedenmann’s series of Open Days.

New Chief Executive for Links Trust

Euan Loudon, 54, who currently Chief Executive of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, will take up the role of Chief Executive of the St Andrews Links Trust early next year. The Trust manages and maintains the seven public golf courses in St Andrews including the Old Course and The Castle Course. A former assistant professional golfer, he joined the army in 1974 and quickly rose through the officer ranks. He commanded the 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers and is his first appointment, after rank of Major General, he was General Officer Commanding the Army’s 2nd Division and Governor of Edinburgh Castle. In 1991, he was appointed Director of Operational Service in the Gulf and the Chief of Staff of The Desert Rats. In 2004 he was appointed OBE for operational service in Northern Ireland. Euan said, “I feel privileged to have been appointed to such a high profile position. St Andrews Links is recognised as one of the world’s finest golfing destinations and I look forward to developing that reputation even further in the years ahead.”

Harry Diamond Remembered

Harry Diamond was an outstanding member of the golfing community, and will be remembered for a lifetime of loyal support and service to local and national clubs. Diamond was the first greenkeeper at the high profile links course of the Duke of York’s Royal Artillery, St Andrews, and went on to become the long serving greenkeeper at the castle course.

The whole Diamond family were involved in the arrangements of the golf and the aprés golf and the Harry Diamond Quaich was presented by Harry’s twin, Susan. The winners were H. Russell, P. Tasker, P. Watson and A. Graham who had a remarkable score of 96 points, magnificent golf considering the weather.

The family wish to thank all who donated cheques and prizes, without which support the competition would not be possible. Also the golfers who turned out in such appalling weather are to be admired and thanked.

The whole day was a credit to Harry’s memory and depicts just exactly the high esteem in which Harry was held by the Army Golfing. The presentation of prizes closed with a vote of thanks for the staff involved in running and arranging the ever successful Harry Diamond Memorial Quaich.

Cecil George.
1. Cascading goals

Definition:
goals down through the organisation.

Teams and individuals throughout the organisation need to be briefed about what the goals are and what they should do to help achieve them. This requires a management process to be in place that cascades top-level goals.

The formation of goals that set out what a business is aiming to achieve is a key part of business planning. To reduce scrap/reject by 2%, by June 20XX. To agree 12 key supplier development projects to take place by December 20XX. To reduce waste by 10% and enhance the continuing support of the business by September 20XX. Profit goal - to reduce waste by a further 15% over the coming years.

These short, handy guides provide practical, step by step guidance on a range of subjects. The guides can be downloaded and used to help you develop your knowledge and implement new processes within your workplace.

To access the “How To...” guides, log on to the BIGGA Members Area at www.biggag.org and click on Member Resources.

Chairman’s Word

Should we keep Harrogate Week? You decide

Harrogate Week is unique. It is the only Groundcare event in Europe to offer its members the following combination of attractions in one place. As an Education and Training event that has dozens of seminars to choose from ranging from one hour to two days. An Industry Show that has all the latest products and services on display and under cover. A social networking experience within and year out greenkeepers return to re-charge their batteries and enjoy the camaraderie that brings the town of Harrogate to life. Greenkeepers from all over the globe gather at Harrogate every year. And as they should for BIGGA is the single largest Association for greenkeepers at all levels in the world. However, all trade shows are now going through a period of upheaval. In response to this, BIGGA, the IOG, Pitchcare, the AFA and others are looking at how Harrogate Week and SALTEX can be “future-proofed” over the coming years. BIGGA will fight fiercely to protect and enhance its membership services.

Starting soon the industry will be surveyed to determine exactly what is wanted – e.g. the Trade, the Member Associations, and the individual working greenkeepers and groundsman. Rest assured however – BIGGA will fight fiercely to protect and enhance its membership services at all times.

As a member of the Association you will be surveyed. May I strongly urge you – when the survey arrives, do not ignore it. Please consider each part of it very carefully. BIGGA is committed continuously to improving Harrogate Week. This year the event will feature even more career enhancing opportunities, ranging from a one-day ‘Fine Turf Managers’ Conference’, to a ‘Development Seminar for Assistant Greenkeepers’, to ‘You Volunteers’ – a Workshop aimed at supporting industry volunteers from home and abroad, to an ‘Environ-zone’ where experts will be on hand to discuss projects and advise on such issues as ‘grant-aid’, carbon reductions and green energy.

I hope you will take the opportunity to visit our suppliers and manufacturers and discuss with them the latest innovations as well as the tried and tested products.

Also, take a moment to thank our supporters who have donated £1 million to the Learning and Development Fund.

I am very concerned that if we do not support our trade shows we will lose them. If we want to keep them we will need to vote with our feet and get to Harrogate Week in January. We will need to fill out and return the surveys and show the industry what we want.

To paraphrase that well known TV show, ‘Should we keep Harrogate Week? You decide!’

Greenkeepers may not be able to continue to thrive in the profession without producing CPD certificates. Much will be written about Continuing Professional Development (CPD) in the coming months and years.

To continue in the profession Greenkeepers will have to embrace CPD. It is highly likely, for example, that Pesticide Spray Operators’ Certificates of Competence are to become time-limited, requiring a re-sit every three years - unless the operator can prove ongoing CPD. This ‘compulsory’ CPD exists in other professions. Just as lawyers and dentists cannot continue in their profession without attending the seminars that update their skills and awareness then pretty soon greenkeepers may not be able to continue in the profession without producing CPD certificates every year.

BIGGA will support your advancement all the way, providing the opportunities to keep up with quality workshops. I refer anyone in the slightest doubt about this to (for example) Jon Albutt’s Pesticide Update Course (12 CPD points) on the Monday of Harrogate Week 2011.

BIGGA wishes to introduce a modern, industry-recognised CPD scheme which delivers exactly the opportunities that are needed for today’s greenkeepers to thrive. However, without your help and participation the scheme would not be as effective or as user-friendly.

If you are an Assistant, or you know an Assistant who perhaps has never attended Harrogate Week, or who perhaps has felt overwhelmed at the prospect – then make a resolution to attend Harrogate Week in 2011.

There you will find something for everyone, and equal status as far as development is concerned. CPD has never been just for Master Greenkeepers.

It can be very lonely at times, and this brings me back to the network, networking and support that BIGGA provides support if you feel you are being treated unfairly by your employer or even your colleagues. We offer impartial and relevant advice through our legal helpline. Get in touch.

I would urge any member to get in touch as quickly as possible should difficulties arise.

It can be very lonely at times, and this brings me back to the network, networking and support that BIGGA can offer.

BIGGA has the systems in place for you to get up-to-date advice and support.

Let me also assure you that your volunteer Board of Directors has the vision and the determination not to shirk from difficult decisions if they are in the best interests of our members and the best interests of the greenkeeping profession.
Harrogate Week is unique. It is the only Groundcare event in Europe to offer its members the following combination of attractions in one place.

An Education and Training event that has dozens of seminars to choose from ranging from one hour to two days.

An Industry Show that has all the latest products and services on display and under cover.

A social networking experience: year in and year out greenkeepers return to re-charge their batteries and enjoy the camaraderie that brings the town of Harrogate to life.

Greenkeepers from all over the globe gather at Harrogate every year. And as they should for BIGGA is the single largest Association for greenkeepers at all levels in the world.

However, all trade shows are now going through a period of upheaval. In response to this, BIGGA, the IOG, Pitchcare, the AFA and others are looking at how Harrogate Week and SALTEX can be “future-proofed” over the coming years.

BIGGA will fight fiercely to protect and enhance its membership services.

Starting soon the industry will be surveyed to determine exactly what is wanted—e.g. the Trade, the Member Associations, and the individual working greenkeepers and groundsmen. Rest assured however—BIGGA will fight fiercely to protect and enhance its membership services at all times.

As a member of the Association you will be surveyed. May I strongly urge you—when the survey arrives—do not ignore it. Please consider each part of it very carefully.

BIGGA is committed continuously to improving Harrogate Week. This year the event will feature even more career enhancing opportunities, ranging from a one-day “Fine Turf Managers’ Conference”, to a “Development Seminar for Assistant Greenkeepers”, to “You Volunteers”, a Workshop aimed at supporting industry volunteers from home and abroad, to an ‘Environ-zone’ where experts will be on hand to discuss projects and advise on such issues as ‘grant-aid’, carbon reductions and green energy.

I hope you will take the opportunity to visit our suppliers and manufacturers and discuss with them the latest innovations as well as the tried and tested products.

Also, take a moment to thank our supporters who have donated £1 million to the Learning and Development Fund.

I am very concerned that if we do not support our trade shows we will lose them. If we want to keep them we will need to vote with our feet and get to Harrogate Week in January.

We will need to fill out and return the surveys and show the industry what we want.

To paraphrase that well-known TV show, “Should we keep Harrogate Week? You decide!”

Greenkeepers may not be able to continue to thrive in the profession without producing CPD certificates.

Much will be written about Continuing Professional Development (CPD) in the coming months and years.

To continue in the profession Greenkeepers will have to embrace CPD. It is highly likely, for example, that Pesticide Spray Operators’ Certificates of Competence are to become time-limited, requiring a re-sit every three years—unless the operator can prove ongoing CPD.

This “compulsory” CPD exists in other professions. Just as lawyers and dentists cannot continue in their profession without attending the seminars that update their skills and awareness then pretty soon greenkeepers may not be able to continue in the profession without producing CPD certificates every three years.

BIGGA will support your advancement in the profession, providing the opportunities to keep up with quality CPD.

I refer anyone in the slightest doubt about this to (for example) Jon Alburt’s Pesticide Update Course (12 CPD points) on the Monday of Harrogate Week 2011.

BIGGA wishes to introduce a modern, industry-recognised CPD scheme which delivers exactly the opportunities that are needed for today’s greenkeepers to thrive.

However, without your help and participation the scheme would not be as effective or as user-friendly. If you are an Assistant, or you know an Assistant who perhaps has never attended Harrogate Week, or who perhaps has felt overwhelmingly at the prospect—then make a resolution to attend Harrogate Week in 2011.

There you will find something for everyone, and equal status as far as development is concerned. CPD has never been just for Master Greenkeepers.

Now it is essential to all our careers. Essential because of the pressure of the recession. Essential if we are to advance the greenkeeping profession.

Finally, may I just say that many of us can find ourselves working on far-flung sites often without close support from peers and colleagues. BIGGA provides support if you feel you are being treated unfairly by your employer or even your colleagues. We offer impartial and relevant advice through our legal helpline.

Get in touch.

I would urge any member to get in touch as quickly as possible should difficulties arise.

It can be very lonely at times, and this brings me back to the networking and support that BIGGA can offer.

BIGGA has the systems in place for you to get up-to-date advice and support.

Let me also assure you that your volunteer Board of Directors has the vision and the determination not to shirk from difficult decisions if they are in the best interests of our members and the best interests of the greenkeeping profession.
OCTOBER 2010

The GTC is aware that many of the readers of this column are often the greenkeepers who, with the odd exception, have convinced that there is no substitute for having an educated, trained and preferably qualified greenstaff to maintain and manage the golf course. However...

For many years greenkeepers, mainly through their own Association, have asked for better support from the Home Unions and other golfing organisations including the R&A, GCMA, PGA and PGA European Tour to help spread the word to the golfer on the important role and work of the Course Manager and his/her greenkeeping team contribution to the game of golf.

In recent years we have seen real progress and the GTC Board with its representative bodies, the Home Unions and BIGGA are determined to make every effort to “educate the golfer.”

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.

The GTC has representatives from the Unions on both the Board and Technical Committee and this has assisted tremendously in “spreading the word” and in addition to the seminars and workshops the GTC has now been offered the opportunity to write articles in the Home Unions widely distributed newsletters.

The English Golf Union has proposed that six articles per year be written by leading Course Managers to explain, “A Year in the Life of a Golf Course” which is hopefully just the start of an ongoing campaign to inform golfers of the work that is carried out to all areas of the golf course at various times of the year.

The Scottish and Welsh Home Unions are also considering including similar articles in their publications, which is excellent for all greenkeepers.

All three British Home Unions have Golf Services Committees, which are very active in promoting all aspects of greenkeeper training. A couple of examples of their ongoing support to promote greenkeeper training are the Welsh Golf Union’s grant to its affiliated clubs registering a trainer at a GTC approved Centre and the Scottish Golf Union’s development of Case Studies showing best practices aligned to the Sustainable golf course programme.

There is now some excellent information available on the web site and the representative bodies on the GTC – visit www.the-gtc.co.uk and click on the respective logos.

We also should acknowledge the support, through a special project, the R&A has given to the GTC primarily to promote the Sustainable golf course and Benchmarking to our Centre turf staff but this years series of workshops also included representatives from the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) and the Golf Club Managers Association (GCMA).

Never has it been more important that all golfing bodies work together to not only promote greenkeeper training to maintain good sustainable playing surfaces but also to play a part in helping many golf clubs who are struggling in the economic climate.

The ongoing reports from the Home Unions that many private clubs and student greenkeepers are still in decline and the nomad golfers are increasing has led the GTC to plead with the golf clubs to consider donating a green fee to the work of the GTC on behalf of the casual player enjoying their facilities.

The letter to clubs from GTC Chairman, Donald Steel, can be viewed on the GTC website and any reader who feels they or their employers can assist the GTC, please feel free to download the letter and form.

All contributions will assist the GTC to continue its vital work for the game. The most recent initiative from the GTC is the launch of its Quality Assured Scheme.

One of the most important roles of the GTC is to direct both employers and greenkeeper students to those Centres and Training Providers who offer qualifications and courses in accordance with the National Standards for greenkeeping.

I make no apology in asking readers once again to look out for the GTC’s Quality Assured logo on literature and websites of those Centres and Providers who have met the criteria – see below.

For further information on any matters relating to greenkeeper education, training and qualifications contact the GTC direct: Tel 01347 838640 or email david@the-gtc.co.uk

October means dark nights, pumpkins and Halloween! With Harrogate Week approaching, you’ll be in for a treat.

Continue to Learn at Harrogate Week 2011

The Continue to Learn at Harrogate Week 2011 programme is now available. BIGGA members should have received a copy with this magazine.

With a combination of two day, one day and half workshops, supplemented by a series of free seminars, Continue to Learn 2011 will deliver almost 150 hours of education over five days. We have worked hard to ensure that there is something for everyone and for the first time we will be presenting a Turf Managers’ Conference.

We have been able to reduce the cost of the workshops and conference thanks to the support of the Gold and Silver Key contributors to the Learning and Development Fund.

The workshop programme will include:

Two-day workshops:
- Golf Course Design
- Moving into Management
- One-day workshops:
- Basic Golf Mechanics Workshop
- How to be an Outstanding Manager
- How to be an Outstanding Manager
- Irrigation System Design
- Moving With The Times
- Diagnostic and Problem Solving
- So You Want to be a Golf Course Finance

B但它 is hoped just the start of an ongoing campaign to inform golfers of the work that is carried out to all areas of the golf course at various times of the year.

The Scottish and Welsh Home Unions are also considering including similar articles in their programme. Which is hopefully just the start of an ongoing campaign to inform golfers of the work that is carried out to all areas of the golf course at various times of the year.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the golf clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeepers education on the programme.
OCTOBER 2010

The GTC is aware that many of the readers of this column are often the greenkeepers who, with the odd exception, are convinced that there is no substitute for having an educated, trained and preferably qualified greenstaff to maintain and manage the golf course. However…

For many years greenkeepers, mainly through their own Association, have asked for better support from the Home Unions and other golfing organisations including the R&A, GCMA, PGA and PGA European Tour to help spread the word to the golfer on the important role and work of the Course Manager and his/her greenkeeping team contribution to the game of golf.

In recent years we have seen real progress and the GTC Board with its representative bodies, the Home Unions and BIGGA are determined to make every effort to “educate the golfer”.

We now have annual seminars and workshops hosted by the Home Unions on behalf of the clubs they represent and more often than not include some aspect of greenkeeper education on the programme.

The GTC has representative bodies on the Home Unions and Technical Committee and this has assisted tremendously in “spreading the word” and in addition to the seminars and workshops the GTC has now been offered the opportunity to write articles in the Home Unions widely distributed newsletters.

The English Golf Union has proposed that six articles will be written by leading Course Managers to explain, “A Year in the Life of a Golf Course” which is hopefully just the start of an ongoing campaign to inform golfers of the work that is carried out to all areas of the golf course at various times of the year.

The Scottish and Welsh Home Unions are also considering including similar articles in their publications, which is excellent news for greenkeepers.

All three British Home Unions have Golf Services Committees, which are very active in promoting all aspects of greenkeeper training.

A couple of examples of their ongoing support to promote greenkeeper training are the Welsh Golf Union’s grant to its affiliated clubs registering a trainer at a GTC approved Centre and the Scottish Golf Union’s development of Case Studies showing best practices aligned to the Sustainable golf course programme.

There is now some excellent information available on the website and the representative bodies on the GTC – visit www.the-gtc.co.uk and click on the respective logos.

We also should acknowledge the support, through a special project, the R&A has given to the GTC primarily to promote the Sustainable golf course and Benchmarking to our Centre turf staff but this years series of workshops also included representatives from the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) and the Golf Club Managers Association (GCMA).

Never has it been more important that all golfing bodies work together to not only promote greenkeeper training to maintain good sustainable playing surfaces but also to play our part in helping many golf clubs who are struggling in the economic climate.

The ongoing reports from the Home Unions that many private clubs membership are still in decline and the nomad golfers are increasing has led the GTC to approach up to golf clubs to consider donating a green fee to the work of the GTC on behalf of the casual golfer who enjoys their facilities.

The letter to clubs from GTC Chairman, Donald Steel, can be viewed on the GTC website and any reader who feels they or their employers can assist the GTC, please feel free to download the letter form.

All contributions will assist the GTC to continue its vital work for the game.

The most recent initiative from the GTC is the launch of its Quality Assured Programme.

One of the most important roles of the GTC is to direct both employers and greenkeeper students to those Centres and Training Providers who offer qualifications and courses in accordance with the National Standards for greenkeeping.

I make no apology in asking readers once again to look out for the GTC’s Quality Assured logo on literature and websites of those Centres and Providers who have met the criteria – see below.

For further information on any matters relating to greenkeeper education, training and qualifications contact the GTC direct: Tel: 01347 838640 or email: david@the-gtc.co.uk

October means dark nights, pumpkin soup and wine or... treatment. With Harrogate Week approaching, you’ll be in for a treat!

The Continue to Learn at Harrogate Week 2011 programme is now available. BIGGA members should have received a copy with this magazine.

With a combination of two day, one day and half day workshops, supplemented by a series of free seminars, Continue to Learn 2011 will deliver almost 150 hours of education over five days. We have worked hard to ensure that there is something for everyone and for the first time we will be presenting a Golf Managers’ Conference.

We have been able to reduce the cost of the workshops and conference thanks to the support of the Gold and Silver Key contributors to the Learning and Development Fund.

The workshop programme will include:

Two-day workshops:
- Golf Course Design
- Moving into Management

One-day workshops:
- Basic Golf Mechanics Workshop
- How to be an Outstanding Manager
- How to be a Professional Tennis Coach
- Irrigation System Design
- Moving With The Times
- Director and Assistant Problem Solving
- Basic Budgeting and Golf Club Finance

For the most up to date list of Quality Assured Centres and Training Providers visit the GTC website www.the-gtc.co.uk

The Continue to Learn at Harrogate Week 2011 programme is now available. BIGGA members should have received a copy with this magazine.

The most recent initiative from the GTC is the launch of its Quality Assured Programme.

One of the most important roles of the GTC is to direct both employers and greenkeeper students to those Centres and Training Providers who offer qualifications and courses in accordance with the National Standards for greenkeeping.

I make no apology in asking readers once again to look out for the GTC’s Quality Assured logo on literature and websites of those Centres and Providers who have met the criteria – see below.

For further information on any matters relating to greenkeeper education, training and qualifications contact the GTC direct: Tel: 01347 838640 or email: david@the-gtc.co.uk

Contact Details

For more information on any matters relating to greenkeeper education, training and qualifications contact the GTC direct: Tel: 01347 838640 or email: david@the-gtc.co.uk

Thank you to our Golden and Silver Key Sponsors

Silver Key Individual Members: Steven Tierney; Nic Rogers; Andy Campbell-MD; GCMA; Ian MacLeod; Phil Howard; Nick Poole

Silver Key Individual Members: Ann Aitken; Steve Davis; Paul Jenkins; Ronald McKelvey; Sam Longridge; Rob McNair; Simon Mylne; Michael Beston; Douglas Coghill; Derek Girvan

Golfers: Key Individual Members: Steven Tierney; Nic Rogers; Andy Campbell-MD; GCMA; Ian MacLeod; Phil Howard; Nick Poole

Contact Details

www.toro.com
www.the-gtc.co.uk

Continue to Learn at Harrogate Week 2011 Seminar Programme

October 2010
Bearwood Lakes at Sindlesham, near Wokingham, has recently upgraded its machines from local dealer Golf & Turf Equipment. They include three 2500E hybrid greens vehicles and a PrecisionCut railway mowers and an 8800 TerraCut rotary semi-roughs mower. All the cylinder mowers are equipped with John Deere’s new Quick Adjust QA5 or QA7 cutting units, which are described as “awesome” by Greenkeeper Daniel Lightfoot, who has been Course Manager at Bearwood Lakes for the past five years.

“We have run John Deere tractors and Gator utility vehicles for a number of years, and the QA cutting units were a big factor in persuading us to change to the new mowers after I first saw them being demonstrated at The Berkshire and at BTME/Harrogate Week,” said Daniel.

“We like to change the cutting heights to suit ground conditions each day, if possible, and these new units allow us to do them all in just a few minutes, they really were a lot of time. They stay on cut really well too, and all the greens staff like using the machines, which are very comfortable with very good controls.

Lewis Blois Joins Scotts

Scotts Professional has appointed Lewis Blois as Technical Area Sales Manager for the East Midlands and East of England. He has strong links to the turf industry or to Scotts’ products, having joined from Sheriffs Amenity where he was Amenity Representative for Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. A keen semi-professional footballer with Norwich United, Lewis is looking forward to working with the Scots Turf & Amenity Team to provide advice and product support for the company’s extensive range of fertilisers, control products and grass seeds Scotts Professional’s Business Manager for the UK and Ireland, Richard Walton, said: “I am delighted that Lewis has joined the team.

His enthusiasm for the industry is abundant and he’ll provide superb technical and sales support to our valuable customers and distributors.”

Sign of the Times

As a direct ‘sign of the times’, JSM Distribution has seen a huge increase in enquiries for the hire of their Sand Storm screening system. Principally aimed at the renovation of golf course bunkers, the Sand Storm can also handle other materials that may benefit from a screening process. Vibrating screens on the Sand Storm work to remove debris such as leaves, twigs, needles, weeds, stone and clay particles. The screens will also trap silt deposits on their surface, allowing for wash off and removal. The process removes the sand particles and ‘fluffs’ it to a like new condition.

Eliminating settling and compaction as well as cleaning away unwelcome contamination the Sand Storm can dramatically improve the playing characteristics of the bunker and reduce the need for major sand replacement or renovation programs, where bunker contamination is a headache.

Sales Manager, David Timms said, “It is not surprising in the current financial squeeze that many organisations are considering hire rather than the purchase of capital equipment. However, the huge interest in the Sand Storm indicates that this cost concern doesn’t affect just machinery but all materials and practices. A lot more clubs are now becoming interested in the renovation advances they can achieve recycling their existing material, rather than replacing it in the past we have treated hire in a rather ad hoc fashion, but as a result of the upturn in enquiries this summer we are now organising ourselves to be able to hire the units on a national basis”.

The Sand Storm is available from JSM Distribution and hire rates start from £350 (+ vat) per week, plus delivery. – Call 0845 026 0064.

The dedicated turf management advice website for the UK and Ireland, GreenCast, now provides information on wind speed in easy to use miles per hour, rather than metres per second. GreenKeepers and Turf Care operators had highlighted traditional assessments and spray records called for details in MPH, rather than the metric equivalent.

GreenCast Project Manager, Karen Roberts, reports wind speed is a crucial factor in identifying optimum opportunities to spray, as well as assessing drying conditions that will influence irrigation and other turf management operations.

GreenCast

The dedicated turf management advice website for the UK and Ireland, GreenCast, now provides information on wind speed in easy to use miles per hour, rather than metres per second. GreenKeepers and Turf Care operators had highlighted traditional assessments and spray records called for details in MPH, rather than the metric equivalent.

GreenCast Project Manager, Karen Roberts, reports wind speed is a crucial factor in identifying optimum opportunities to spray, as well as assessing drying conditions that will influence irrigation and other turf management operations.

What’s your number?

Our regular and random profile of an industry figure continues with this month’s lucky number...

Shona Garner comes under the spotlight

Name: Shona Garner
Company: Shona Garner Coaching Services Ltd
Position: Director

How long have you been in the industry?
7 years

How did you get into it?
In the latter years of my career I’d often handkerched after trying my hand at starting out on my own, doing what I love – so seven years ago – took the plunge!

What other jobs have you done?
Bit of a mixed bag really! Major career choices were teaching, which I did for 17 years. Then I moved into the pharmaceutical industry. But I’ve also picked carnations in Jersey; done voluntary work on a wild-life reserve in Narratik and sung semi-professionally in a band!

What do you like about your current job?
I love seeing people grow! Have an endless fascination for psychology; what makes us tick; what makes some humans more “successful” or fulfilled or happy than others – and get a huge buzz from seeing those managers I work with on workshops or 1-1 develop, grow their potential and make a difference?

What changes have you seen in the industry?
Every industry faces change – it’s the only constant! And how people deal with it is what makes the difference between organisations which thrive and those which flounder.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I love walking, yoga and my step class! Great way to keep fit and healthy.

What other jobs have you done?
Bit of a mixed bag really! Major career choices were teaching, which I did for 17 years. Then I moved into the pharmaceutical industry. But I’ve also picked carnations in Jersey; done voluntary work on a wild-life reserve in Narratik and sung semi-professionally in a band!

What do you see yourself in 10 years time?
As a direct ‘sign of the times’, JSM Distribution has seen a huge increase in enquiries for the hire of their Sand Storm screening system. Principally aimed at the renovation of golf course bunkers, the Sand Storm can also handle other materials that may benefit from a screening process. Vibrating screens on the Sand Storm work to remove debris such as leaves, twigs, needles, weeds, stone and clay particles. The screens will also trap silt deposits on their surface, allowing for wash off and removal. The process removes the sand particles and ‘fluffs’ it to a like new condition.

Eliminating settling and compaction as well as cleaning away unwelcome contamination the Sand Storm can dramatically improve the playing characteristics of the bunker and reduce the need for major sand replacement or renovation programs, where bunker contamination is a headache.

Sales Manager, David Timms said, “It is not surprising in the current financial squeeze that many organisations are considering hire rather than the purchase of capital equipment. However, the huge interest in the Sand Storm indicates that this cost concern doesn’t affect just machinery but all materials and practices. A lot more clubs are now becoming interested in the renovation advances they can achieve recycling their existing material, rather than replacing it in the past we have treated hire in a rather ad hoc fashion, but as a result of the upturn in enquiries this summer we are now organising ourselves to be able to hire the units on a national basis”.

The Sand Storm is available from JSM Distribution and hire rates start from £350 (+ vat) per week, plus delivery. – Call 0845 026 0064.

What’s your number?

Our regular and random profile of an industry figure continues with this month’s lucky number...

Shona Garner comes under the spotlight

Name: Shona Garner
Company: Shona Garner Coaching Services Ltd
Position: Director

How long have you been in the industry?
7 years

How did you get into it?
In the latter years of my career I’d often handkerched after trying my hand at starting out on my own, doing what I love – so seven years ago – took the plunge!

What other jobs have you done?
Bit of a mixed bag really! Major career choices were teaching, which I did for 17 years. Then I moved into the pharmaceutical industry. But I’ve also picked carnations in Jersey; done voluntary work on a wild-life reserve in Narratik and sung semi-professionally in a band!

What do you like about your current job?
I love seeing people grow! Have an endless fascination for psychology; what makes us tick; what makes some humans more “successful” or fulfilled or happy than others – and get a huge buzz from seeing those managers I work with on workshops or 1-1 develop, grow their potential and make a difference?

What changes have you seen in the industry?
Every industry faces change – it’s the only constant! And how people deal with it is what makes the difference between organisations which thrive and those which flounder.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I love walking, yoga and my step class! Great way to keep fit and healthy.

What other jobs have you done?
Bit of a mixed bag really! Major career choices were teaching, which I did for 17 years. Then I moved into the pharmaceutical industry. But I’ve also picked carnations in Jersey; done voluntary work on a wild-life reserve in Narratik and sung semi-professionally in a band!

What do you see yourself in 10 years time?
As a direct ‘sign of the times’, JSM Distribution has seen a huge increase in enquiries for the hire of their Sand Storm screening system. Principally aimed at the renovation of golf course bunkers, the Sand Storm can also handle other materials that may benefit from a screening process. Vibrating screens on the Sand Storm work to remove debris such as leaves, twigs, needles, weeds, stone and clay particles. The screens will also trap silt deposits on their surface, allowing for wash off and removal. The process removes the sand particles and ‘fluffs’ it to a like new condition.

Eliminating settling and compaction as well as cleaning away unwelcome contamination the Sand Storm can dramatically improve the playing characteristics of the bunker and reduce the need for major sand replacement or renovation programs, where bunker contamination is a headache.

Sales Manager, David Timms said, “It is not surprising in the current financial squeeze that many organisations are considering hire rather than the purchase of capital equipment. However, the huge interest in the Sand Storm indicates that this cost concern doesn’t affect just machinery but all materials and practices. A lot more clubs are now becoming interested in the renovation advances they can achieve recycling their existing material, rather than replacing it in the past we have treated hire in a rather ad hoc fashion, but as a result of the upturn in enquiries this summer we are now organising ourselves to be able to hire the units on a national basis”.

The Sand Storm is available from JSM Distribution and hire rates start from £350 (+ vat) per week, plus delivery. – Call 0845 026 0064.
INDUSTRY UPDATE
The latest turf industry news from around the globe

E-Z-GO SUPPORT WOMEN’S RUGBY

E-Z-GO supported the recent Women’s Rugby World Cup which took place at the Surrey Sports Park, providing a fleet of electric shuttles and an ambulance vehicle for use at the tournament.

All of the preliminary round games were played at the Surrey Sports Park with the semi-finals and final taking place at Twickenham’s Twickenham stadium, the home to Harlequins RFU.

New Zealand beat England 13-10 in a thrilling final, watched by a crowd of almost 14,000. E-Z-GO provided a fleet of 10 electric RXV-2 shuttle, which can be used for transporting up to four people or, with the rear seats folded, converted in an instant to a two-seater with a load platform for carrying cargo. The shuttles are equipped with a range of standard accessories, such as a winch, a winch seat, and an emergency kit, in case of need.

Six of the Best for Bearwood Lakes

Bearwood Lakes at Sindleshaw, near Wokingham, has recently upgraded its mower fleet with six new John Deere machines from local dealer Golf & Turf Equipment.

They include three 2500E hybrid greens mowers and two PrecisionCut rotary semi-roughs mower and an 8800 TerrainCut rotary mower. All the cylinder mowers are equipped with John Deere’s new Quick Adjust QA5 or QA7 cutting units, which are described as “awesome” by Master Greenkeeper Daniel Lightfoot, who has been Course Manager at Bearwood Lakes for the past five years.

“We have run John Deere tractors and Gator utility vehicles for a number of years, and the QA cutting units were a big factor in persuading us to change to the new mowers after I first saw them being demonstrated at The Berkshire and at BTME/Harrogate Week,” said Daniel.

“We like to change the cutting heights to suit ground conditions each day, if possible, and these new units allow us to do them all in just a few minutes, they really were a lot of time.

They stay on cut really well too, and all the greens staff like using the machines, which are very comfortable with very good controls.

Lewis Blois Joins Scots

Scotts Professional has appointed Lewis Blois as Technical Area Sales Manager for the East Midlands and East of England.

He’s no stranger to the turf industry or to Scots’ products, having joined from Sheriffs Amenity where he was Amenity Representative for Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

A keen semi-professional footballer with Norwich United, Lewis is looking forward to working with the Scots Turf & Amenity Team to provide advice and product support for the company’s extensive range of fertilisers, control products and grass seed. Scots Professional’s Business Manager for the UK and Ireland, Richard Walton, said, “I am delighted that Lewis has joined the team.

His enthusiasm for the industry is abundant and he’ll provide superb technical and sales support to our valued customers and distributors.”

GreenCast

The dedicated turf management advice website for the UK and Ireland, GreenCast, now provides information on wind speed in easy to use miles per hour, instead of metres per second. Greenkeepers and sports care operators had highlighted traditional assessments and spray records called for details in MPH rather than the metric equivalent.

GreenCast Project Manager, Karen Roberts, reports wind speed is a crucial factor in identifying opportunities to spray, as well as assessing drying conditions that will influence irrigation and other turf management operations.

What’s your number?

Our regular and random profile of an industry figure continues with this month’s lucky number...

Shona Garner comes under the spotlight

Name: Shona Garner
Company: Shona Garner Coaching Services Ltd
Position: Director

How long have you been in the industry?
7 years

How did you get into it?
In the latter years of my career I’d often hanker after trying my hand at starting out on my own, doing what I love – so seven years ago – took the plunge!

What other jobs have you done?
Bit of a mixed bag really! Major career choices were teaching, which I did for 17 years. Then I moved into the pharmaceutical industry, But I’ve also picked carnations in Jersey; done voluntary work on a wildlife reserve in Namibia and sung semi-professionally in a band!

What do you like about your current job?
I love seeing people grow! Have an endless fascination for psychology; what makes us tick; what makes some humans more “successful” or fulfilled or happy than others – and get a huge buzz from seeing those managers I work with on workshops or 1-1 develop, grow their potential and make a difference!

What changes have you seen in the industry?
Every industry faces change – it’s the only constant! And how people deal with it is what makes the difference between organisations which thrive and those which founder.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I love walking, yoga and my step class! Great way to relieve stress.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?
Continuing with this month’s lucky number...

What do you consider to be your lucky number?
17

Shona has picked no. 17, Carol Borthwick of Elmwood College
Back in 1997 a 12 year-old schoolboy explained to his Careers Advisor that he loved cutting grass and really would like a job that paid him to do just that.

The Advisor suggested that he think about greenkeeping and recommended that he check out the internet to find out more. When he did, the first thing he came across was a report on the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award in Greenkeeper International.

If young Andrew Stanger had been keen to cut grass for a living prior to that the realisation that you could also win prizes and make a proper career out of it set a rocket under his ambitions and 13 years later he has emulated 1997 winner, Steve Nixon, and become the 2010 Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to bits," said Andrew. "Before I got to Aldwark Manor I'd read about all the other finalists in the magazine and realised just how tough a competition it would be. "It was very intimidating and when the runners-up names were read out, and it was win or bust, I looked across at the others and saw a number of potential winners sitting there. When my name was read out I could hardly move."

While Andrew was shocked to win, it would have come as no surprise to anyone who has come across him during the last five years.

Since then he has achieved his NVQ Level 2 in six months; worked at Liberty National Golf Club, in New York, as part of the Ohio State University Intern programme; worked at Augusta National for a period including the 2009 Masters, and was snapped up as Course Manager of Horsforth Golf Club, in Leeds, on his return to the UK.

Andrew can trace his passion right back to the age of five when he used to join his dad at weekends as he worked at Sowerby Bridge Cricket Club.

"I used to stand on the back of his roller and go round and round for hours. I was just fascinated by the stripes, the grass clippings, the smell of petrol... everything."

He got his first job selling lottery tickets at Halifax Rugby Club when he was just seven and started working on gardens when he was not much older.

"I just thought then that if someone would pay me to cut grass every day I'd do it."

Returning home he put together a CV and sent it out to 50 clubs within an hour of his home. One of them, Calverley GC, invited him over for a chat and he met Course Manager, Clive Walton, who immediately offered him a job, starting the following day.

"When I was 14 I got a job at a stables. It was a big stately home and the owner asked me if I could make it a full day and work on the gardens in the afternoon. I was there for six years and I always used to leave the lawns until last because that was my favourite bit."

Andrew Stanger
Back in 1997 a 12 year-old schoolboy explained to his Careers Advisor that he loved cutting grass and really would like a job that paid him to do just that.

The Advisor suggested that he think about greenkeeping and recommended that he check out the internet to find out more. When he did, the first thing he came across was a report on the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award in Greenkeeper International.

If young Andrew Stanger had been keen to cut grass for a living prior to that the realisation that you could also win prizes and make a proper career out of it set a rocket under his ambitions and 13 years later he has emulated 1997 winner, Steve Nixon, and become the 2010 Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to bits," said Andrew.

"Before I got to Aldwark Manor I'd read about all the other finalists in the magazine and realised just how tough a competition it would be. It was very intimidating and when the runners-up names were read out, and it was win or bust, I looked across at the others and saw a number of potential winners sitting there. When my name was read out I could hardly move."

While Andrew was shocked to win, it would have come as no surprise to anyone who has come across him during the last five years.

Since then he has achieved his NVQ Level 2 in six months; worked at Liberty National Golf Club, in New York, as part of the Ohio State University Intern programme; worked at Augusta National for a period including the 2009 Masters, and was snapped up as Course Manager of Horsforth Golf Club, in Leeds, on his return to the UK.

Living the dream

Scott MacCallum meets the 2010 Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year

"When I was 14 I got a job at a stables. It was a big stately home and the owner asked me if I could make it a full day and work on the gardens in the afternoon. I was there for six years and I always used to leave the lawns until last because that was my favourite bit."

Andrew Stanger
For two of the most famous and spectacular holes in golf making sure they were in perfect condition before and during the 2009 Masters.

“The attention to detail was incredible and it never ends. Once, early on, I went back and said I’m done and they said, “what do you mean you’re done?”

“They took me back and said what about this bit, and what about that bit. I got the idea pretty quickly. By the end I knew every inch of my holes,” he said, revealing that during Masters week itself he worked 11½ hours alone.

Andrew's visa ran out the third day after the Masters finished and although Greg and Brad both offered him jobs he'd already decided to return home.

It wasn't long before he was snapped up. His old boss at Calverley, Clee, rang him to say that he'd been contacted by Horsforth Golf Club about taking over for three weeks as the Course Manager had been badly injured in a car accident.

"He said he couldn't do it but had told them that I'd do it. I must admit that I wasn't sure that I could, but I was still brimming with confidence from my time in America and went along.

"All the guys were older than me bar one and I hadn't had much people management experience but I felt that as it was only for three weeks and I was capable of keeping the place tidy and mowed.

"That three weeks became three months and then, with the returning Course Manager due to retire earlier this year he was offered the job on a full time basis from June and at the Final he had been doing the job for two and a half months.

"The club is right behind Andrew and know that it is unlikely that he'll be with them for 40 years like the previous head.

"I've told them that I've still got a lot to prove and many goals in my career but right now Horsforth will get my full attention for as long as I'm there.

"I believe that given the right resources I can present a very well maintained golf course. I'm not bothered about the money or the club's name on my shirt, it is about pushing myself as far as I can go. I've got a long way to go, but I believe I can do it.”

Thirteen years on Andrew is now head greenkeeper at Askham Bryan College to do my NVQ 2,” he said.

Having been trained in advance by Clee, he sailed through in just six months and picked up the College’s Student of the Year prize.

"I thought Steve Piran, the Head of Turf at the College, was amazing. He'd come in without notes and read off information and facts. I couldn't believe that he knew so much and it showed me that I had a mountain to climb.”

Andrew had already applied to the Ohio State Intern programme, putting himself under pressure to achieve his NVQ within the timescale, and it was while he was working in a pub, something he did on Saturdays, Sundays and Tuesdays, that he got a call from Mike O'Keefe, asking him how New York sounded and offering to send him to Liberty National Golf Club.

"It sounded brilliant, although I couldn't believe that he knew so much and it showed me that I had a mountain to climb.”

After just two months Greg asked him where he would be going after New York and Andrew explained that it very much depended on the timescale, and it was while he was working in a pub, something he did on Saturdays, Sundays and Tuesdays, that he got a call from Mike O'Keefe, asking him how New York sounded and offering to send him to Liberty National Golf Club for six months.

"It sounded brilliant, although I was terrified. I checked the club out on the website and, at that time, it was the most expensive course ever built, costing, I believe, $250 million and laid out on an old toxic wasteland using rubble from the Twin Towers,” said Andrew, who handed in his notice to Calverley, got his visa and, within a couple of weeks, was off.

Andrew’s enthusiasm and drive soon caught the attention of the Liberty National Superintendent, Greg James.

"I said yes to everything and never took a day off. I was spraying greens within a week, rolling greens and lapping it all up. I’d often be there on my own at weekends carrying out the greens check and reporting back to Greg,” said Andrew.

Andrew spent the rest of his time at Augusta solely responsible for keeping the place tidy and mowed.

“the attention to detail was incredible and it never ends. Once, early on, I went back and said I’m done and they said, ‘what do you mean you’re done?’

By the end I knew every inch of my holes!”

Andrew Stanger

As the Bunker Technician and was then put on the Hole Care team initially being responsible for holes 8 and 9 but within a couple of weeks the prime holes of 11 and 12 on Amen Corner became available and they said that they thought I’d be good down there and did I fancy it?”

So Andrew spent the rest of his time at Augusta solely responsible for two of the most famous and spectacular holes in golf making sure they were in perfect condition before and during the 2009 Masters.

“The attention to detail was incredible and it never ends. Once, early on, I went back and said I’m done and they said, “what do you mean you’re done?”

“They took me back and said what about this bit, and what about that bit. I got the idea pretty quickly. By the end I knew every inch of my holes,” he said, revealing that during Masters week itself he worked 11½ hours alone.

Andrew’s visa ran out the third day after the Masters finished and although Greg and Brad both offered him jobs he’d already decided to return home.

It wasn’t long before he was snapped up. His old boss at Calverley, Clee, rang him to say that he’d been contacted by Horsforth Golf Club about taking over for three weeks as the Course Manager had been badly injured in a car accident.

“he said he couldn’t do it but had told them that I’d do it. I must admit that I wasn’t sure that I could, but I was still brimming with confidence from my time in America and went along.

“All the guys were older than me bar one and I hadn’t had much people management experience but I felt that as it was only for three weeks and I was capable of keeping the place tidy and mowed.

That three weeks became three months and then, with the returning Course Manager due to retire earlier this year he was offered the job on a full time basis from June and at the Final he had been doing the job for two and a half months.

The club is right behind Andrew and know that it is unlikely that he’ll be with them for 40 years like the previous head.

“I’ve told them that I’ve still got a lot to prove and many goals in my career but right now Horsforth will get my full attention for as long as I’m there.

“I believe that given the right resources I can present a very well maintained golf course. I’m not bothered about the money or the club’s name on my shirt, it is about pushing myself as far as I can go. I’ve got a long way to go, but I believe I can do it.”

Thirteen years on Andrew is now head greenkeeper at Askham Bryan College to do my NVQ 2,” he said.

Having been trained in advance by Clee, he sailed through in just six months and picked up the College’s Student of the Year prize.

“I thought Steve Piran, the Head of Turf at the College, was amazing. He’d come in without notes and read off information and facts. I couldn’t believe that he knew so much and it showed me that I had a mountain to climb.”

Andrew had already applied to the Ohio State Intern programme, putting himself under pressure to achieve his NVQ within the timescale, and it was while he was working in a pub, something he did on Saturdays, Sundays and Tuesdays, that he got a call from Mike O’Keefe, asking him how New York sounded and offering to send him to Liberty National Golf Club.

“It sounded brilliant, although I couldn’t believe that he knew so much and it showed me that I had a mountain to climb.”

After just two months Greg asked him where he would be going after New York and Andrew explained that it very much depended on the feedback and how well Greg would say that he’d done.

“He told me that he had friends at Augusta National and that I might like to think about going down there. I said I didn’t need to think about it and sent my CV down to Superintendent, Brad Owen, I then had a three hour telephone interview and after an intense process was told that I’d get the position. I felt I’d got the Golden Ticket but, again, I was terrified.”

As before he threw himself into it and, keen not to allow home sickness to kick in, immersed himself in work, even swapping with guys from the sister squad so that he could work every weekend.

“We’d start at 4am and I knew I wouldn’t finish until at least 5pm, but would often work until 7, 8 or 9.”

The other finalists were Robert Beal, of Bearsted GC; Tom Hayward, of Frome GC; Gavin Moore, of Launceston; Sean Borrett of the Manor H &GC; and Don Bushman, who win all expenses to visit the GCSAA’s Golf Industry Show, in Orlando, and Toro’s Californian headquarters.

The other finalists were Robert Beal, of Bearsted GC; Tom Hayward, of Frome GC; Gavin Moore, of Launceston; Sean Borrett of the Manor H &GC; and Don Bushman, who win all expenses to visit the GCSAA’s Golf Industry Show, in Orlando, and Toro’s Californian headquarters.

Andrew’s visa ran out the day after the Masters finished and although Greg and Brad both offered him jobs he’d already decided to return home.

It wasn’t long before he was snapped up. His old boss at Calverley, Clee, rang him to say that he’d been contacted by Horsforth Golf Club about taking over for three weeks as the Course Manager had been badly injured in a car accident.

“he said he couldn’t do it but had told them that I’d do it. I must admit that I wasn’t sure that I could, but I was still brimming with confidence from my time in America and went along.

“All the guys were older than me bar one and I hadn’t had much people management experience but I felt that as it was only for three weeks and I was capable of keeping the place tidy and mowed.

That three weeks became three months and then, with the returning Course Manager due to retire earlier this year he was offered the job on a full time basis from June and at the Final he had been doing the job for two and a half months.

The club is right behind Andrew and know that it is unlikely that he’ll be with them for 40 years like the previous head.

“I’ve told them that I’ve still got a lot to prove and many goals in my career but right now Horsforth will get my full attention for as long as I’m there.

“I believe that given the right resources I can present a very well maintained golf course. I’m not bothered about the money or the club’s name on my shirt, it is about pushing myself as far as I can go. I’ve got a long way to go, but I believe I can do it.”

Thirteen years on Andrew is now head greenkeeper at Askham Bryan College to do my NVQ 2,” he said.

Having been trained in advance by Clee, he sailed through in just six months and picked up the College’s Student of the Year prize.