A Quick Trim

Introduced to the UK market 18 months ago by JSM Distribution, the TAS Trimmer range is gaining in popularity with clubs around the country. Sprinkler head and marker maintenance is now made easy, with various sizes to cover all popular makes of sprinkler head, valve boxes and yardage markers. Our happy convert is John Boon, Head Greenskeeper at Caversham Heath Golf Club. ‘I heard about the TAS Blades on the BIGGA website and ordered one to try. It arrived at 10.00am the next day and fitted straight onto my Stihl strimmer within 5 minutes. We had half the irrigation heads on the course (300) trimmed and fitted straight onto my Stihl strimmer within 5 minutes. They also appreciate what good value it is with a relatively modest price and how neat the finished job looks. They also appreciate what good value it is with a relatively modest price and how neat the finished job looks. 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LISTER WILDER

The series aimed at celebrating the great work done by dealerships up and down the country.

What would you like to see changed?

We would like to see Golf Courses given more choice to pick the best of what's available, rather than being pushed towards package deals where they sometimes have to accept second best on certain product lines.

Do you support customers who have in-house Service facilities (i.e. OEM parts supply)?

We would like to see our customers’ individual needs and strengths, as our flexibility and willingness to work with them over the years has certainly been a factor in attracting and retaining excellence sales, parts and service staff. It's their knowledge and expertise that allows the company to, in its own words “make the leap from being just another machinery dealer” into one of the most respected, customer friendly, and forward thinking Dealerships in the South of England”.

The franchises play a big part in any dealership and Lister Wilder has worked hard to build up a significant portfolio of many of the leading names in Groundcare. Kubota plays a large part in the business and the company has developed an extremely good working relationship with them over the years. Lister Wilder is now Kubota’s largest dealer in the UK.

The company has a branch in each of the prime locations, brilliant staff (and a few lucky breaks!) which has allowed them to grow over the past 60 years to become a committed dealer and supplier of state of the art machinery, parts and service and a very strong partner for their customers.

Specialist services offered:

Spin and Relief grinding, Chipper blade grinding, Winter servicing and breakdown response

How has the dealership changed over the years?

Core values haven’t altered at all over the years and the company remains committed to its staff, its franchises and its customers.

Expectations of service have steadily improved – just as they do for any business, but one that Lister Wilder has investing in and embraced.

Franchises

Kubota Tractors, Kubota Mowers, Kubota Engines, Hayter, Opico, Timms Villiers, Charterhouse, Barlows, Dennis, AJM, Dakota Spreaders, E&J, Husqvarna

To nominate a GI Dealer of the Month contact Scott McCallum with your reasons why the dealer of your choice should be featured. Email scott@bigga.co.uk
To advertise within Greenkeeper International please contact Jill on 01347 833 800 or email jill@bigga.co.uk

Advertising rates:
- Full page - £1500
- 1/2 page - £790
- 1/4 page - £570

Contact Tel: 01759321000 visit www.inturf.com or email alex@inturf.co.uk or stephen@inturf.co.uk

All of our grades are available in metre rolls or the Big Roll format. Our needle punched rootzone turf is £250 for a FULL 6 MONTHS, full colour, please call Jill on 01347 833 832 or email jill@bigga.co.uk

**Specialist Turf Cutters**

Lister Wilder is a very straightforward company which specialises in supplying and maintaining machinery for four key markets: Agriculture, Construction, Arboriculture and, of course, Groundcare. Established in 1947, it remains a wholly owned family business, and this has certainly been a factor in attracting and retaining excellent sales, parts and service staff. It’s their knowledge and expertise that allows the company, in its own words “to make the leap from being ‘just another machinery dealer’ into one of the most focused, customer-friendly, and forward thinking Dealerships in the South of England”. The franchises play a big part in any dealership and Lister Wilder has worked hard to build up a significant portfolio of some of the leading names in Groundcare. Kubota plays a large part in the business and the company has developed an extremely good working relationship with them over the years. Lister Wilder is now Kubota’s largest dealer in the UK.

Core values haven’t altered at all over the years and the company remains committed to its staff, its franchises and the customers who have been granted a PATENT in the UK and Ireland under Number EP0788301BI

Contact Tel: 01759321000 and email listerwildercustomercare@listerwilders.co.uk

We would like to see one of our customers who have in-house service facilities (i.e. OEM parts supply)

The series aimed at celebrating the hard work done by dealerships up and down the country

**What would you like to see changed?**

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**Do you support customers who have in house Service facilities (i.e. OEM parts supply)?**

We would like to see our strengths as our flexibility and willingness to meet our customers’ individual needs. And with this in mind we already work with a number of key accounts where they hold what we call ‘impress stock’. This is stock owned by Lister Wilder but held at the customers’ premises that can be used and subsequently provided as we move through the year.

**Franchises**

Kubota Tractors, Kubota Mowers, Kubota Engines, Husqvarna, Hayter, Groom, Timberwolf, Charterhouse, Barrow, Dennis, Allett, Dakota Spreaders, Still, Husqvarna, Tebbutt Associates. For more information please see www.tebbuttassociates.co.uk
Wrotham Heath Golf Club

HEAD GREENKEEPER

This Members Club comprises of an 18 hole Heathland Course set in the delightful heart of the North Weald of Kent.

The Club seeks someone with the following skills and attributes:

- At least 3 years as a Deputy Head Greenkeeper.
- Qualified to NVQ3 or equivalent.
- Spraying Certificates PA1, 2 & 6.
- Proven strong supervisory and communication skills.
- Understanding, maintaining and encouraging growth of fine grasses.
- Computer literate and capable of developing and tightly controlling a green budget.
- Understanding of ecological management.

Salary is negotiable based on previous experience.

Please apply in writing to
The Secretary, Wrotham Heath Golf Club,
Seven Mile Lane, Comp, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 8QZ.

CROYDON BOWLING CLUB Ltd.

Greenkeeper

The 40 member club founded in 1878, has a vacancy for a Greenkeeper to
maintain 2 six rink and 1 two rink outdoor greens. The successful applicant will
receive a suitable remuneration according to qualifications and experience. Duties
would include maintaining the bowls green surrounds and completing various
maintenance tasks within the club building, which has a six rink indoor facility.

This position offers accommodation, consisting of a three bedrooms flat on the
depot premises.

Applicants should apply as writing, enclosing a current C.V to
Vice President Gill Harrison, Croydon Bowling Club Ltd,
10 Nottingham Road, South Croydon, CR2 1EN
or emailing the above documents to
croydonbowlingclub@icloud.com

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I first visited BTME in the mid 90s and have been coming ever since. Initially we operated under the wing of Kawasaki UK and our Trillo products were used on Kawasaki Mules, which had just been launched onto the golf course market. My first impressions of Harrogate were that I was genuinely surprised at how busy it was. At that time I had no experience of this market sector, but it was lively with a very good atmosphere.

At that time our products didn’t automatically drop into this market and we had to amend our range to meet the requirements of the greenkeeping world. The Show gave us the opportunity to meet greenkeepers and discuss exactly what they were looking for.

Even if we produced a product which wasn’t precisely what they wanted, the Show gave us valuable information and allowed us to develop the product from there. As our range started to develop it became clear that we needed to take a stand in our own right and since then there has never been a doubt about our attendance in Harrogate every year.

As a growing company we hadn’t been drawn towards exhibiting on a biennial basis as that model doesn’t fit with how we wanted to do business.

Indeed, in the years when some of the large manufacturers have not been there we have had some of our better shows. Perhaps it is a case that when the larger exhibitors are there they tend to draw people to their stands and when they are not there we are top of people’s agendas rather than second. During Show hours we just don’t get off the stand at all. Over the years we’ve worked our way to the front of the Show and our stand is now at the front of Hall A and it is manic from minute one.

I remember about three years ago that it got to around 3 o’clock in the afternoon and my colleague and I were feeling awful. It then dawned on us we hadn’t even had a chance to have a drink, never mind something to eat since 8 o’clock that morning and we’d worked straight through. Our bodies were saying “Hang on a minute, you’ve got to have something to eat”.

We do enjoy the evenings. We go for a drink straight from the show then, in the evening, we need to catch our breath so we usually meet our suppliers for a meal, talk through the day and generally catch up.

The days are so full, and I don’t want to sound lightweight, but if I did now what I have done once or twice in the past and gone right through to the next morning I’d be in no shape for the next day’s onslaught.

However, Harrogate does give some great opportunities to meet customers after the Show and we have looked at how we can utilise what the town has to offer. We have come up with some creative ideas, some of which didn’t get past the planning stage!

I have some wonderful memories of Harrogate in the past and one of the main ones was the occasion, I think it was in 1995, when the snow came and many people were trapped in Harrogate.

I remember looking out at around 2am and seeing snowflakes the size of 50 pence pieces. The entire town became gridlocked. Luckily we were driving a Range Rover Discovery, which was about the only way to get out, and we joined our Kawasaki colleagues in Knaresborough. We found a restaurant and were the only people in it but we made it worthwhile whilst to remain open.

Year on year we evolve and our Stand size increases and or activities broaden and Harrogate takes on a new dimension for us.

I was particularly pleased last year that more recognition was given to the exhibitors. We are an integral part of the success of the Show and our views should be considered. We are fundamental in the development of Harrogate, particularly at a time when things are so difficult in the market place.

It is a very fluid situation at the moment and those who are not questioning themselves are mismanaging the situation. I don’t believe that the way things are at the moment that there is a road map to guide us through.

Change can happen so quickly, just look at the money market. Things can turn on their head in no time at all.

I always feel the year has started when we get to Harrogate and we can look forward to the new season. We always find it a little frustrating that we can’t go out immediately and demonstrate the kit. We’ve got to wait six to eight weeks until the weather is kind enough to let us out, but it certainly sets up the on-coming season and allows you to consolidate any business that you have been negotiating.

What was very apparent last year was that it was the education that was bringing in the greenkeepers. Education is very much what it is all about.

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Tim Merrell, MD, The Grass Group