Celebrate 175 years of innovation with us.

In 1837 John Deere produced his famous plough which cut through the sticky prairie soil. That spirit of innovation continues today with the 2500B/E greens mowers. Their offset cutting units and hybrid technology help to create championship greens the world over.

Now you can celebrate this special birthday with us. We’re offering an extra set of either cutting or verti-cut units, for just £175* with every new 2500B PrecisionCut or 2500E E-Cut Hybrid riding greens mower. These quality extra units have no shelf life. Compatible on models back to 2006.

Just ask your dealer for details of our big birthday offer.

Freephone 0800 085 25 22
Celebrate 175 years of innovation with us.

In 1837 John Deere produced his famous plough which cut through the sticky prairie soil. That spirit of innovation continues today with the 2500E greens mowers. Their offset cutting units and hybrid technology help to create championship greens the world over.

Now you can celebrate this special birthday with us. We’re offering an extra set of either cutting or verti-cut units, for just £175* with every new 2500B PrecisionCut or 2500E E-Cut Hybrid riding greens mower.

These quality extra units have no shelf life. Compatible on models back to 2006.

*Offer valid from 1 February to 30 June 2012. Available only at participating dealers.

Please ask your dealer for details of our big birthday offer.

Freephone 0800 085 25 22
16 Finding the key to progress
Scott MacCallum visits Chipping Sodbury, a golf club which is finding a way to move forward.

22 What every golfer wants
A new survey of golfers reveals their likes and dislikes. They are not always what you might think.

26 A first for Bulgaria
BIGGA member Jordan Fairweather describes his life working at a club in one of the newer golfing destinations.

31-54 The Review
Harrogate Week 2012 was a huge success. Belie it or discover what you missed in our bumper review of the week.

56 Turf Diseases
Dr Terry Mabbutt offers advice to younger greenkeepers keen to learn more about disease identification.

62 Evolution in Action
James de Havilland casts his expert eye over the lightweight fairway mower.

REGULARS
6 Newsdesk
11 Chairman’s Word
12 GTC
13 Learning and Development
14 Industry Update
15 What’s your Number? - Adrian Abbott
68 Around the Green
71 Assistant Profile – Tom Wood
73 In the Shed
74 Membership
75 Diary of Events
82 Soapbox – Sam Lennox
Finding the key to progress
Scott MacCallum visits Chipping Sodbury, a golf club which is finding a way to move forward.

What every golfer wants
A new survey of golfers reveals their likes and dislikes. They are not always what you might think.

A first for Bulgaria
BIGGA member Jordan Fairweather describes his life working at a club in one of the newer golfing destinations.

31-54 The Review
Harrogate Week 2012 was a huge success. Believe it, or discover what you missed, in our bumper review of the week.

Turf Diseases
Dr Terry Mahboubi offers advice to younger greenkeepers keen to learn more about disease identification.

Evolution in Action
James de Havilland casts his expert eye over the lightweight fairway mower.

REGULARS
6 Newdesk
11 Chairman’s Word
12 GTC
13 Learning and Development
14 Industry Update
15 What’s your Number? - Adrian Abbott
68 Around the Green
71 Assistant Profile – Tom Wood
73 In the Shed
74 Membership
75 Diary of Events
82 Soapbox – Sam Lennox

Harrogate Week
The Review 31-54
The Wentworth Club Golf Courses Manager, Chris Kennedy, is retiring from his position after 22 years exemplary service.

Chris, who joined the Club in February 1990, will continue to work until June 29 and be responsible for his final BMW PGA Championship in May.

When Chris retires he will have managed the course presentation at Wentworth for a staggering 52 European Tour Professional Golf Tournaments.

Julian Small, Chief Executive of Wentworth Club, commented: “We wish Chris the very best in his retirement. He has been an exceptional member of the team here and overseen significant development of all our golf courses. I don’t think there is a Golfer Course Manager in the world that can match Chris’s record in preparing golf courses for professional tournaments.”

Chris’s successor, Kenny Mackay, will join Wentworth at the end of April. Currently Director of Golf Courses and Grounds at The Belly since 2005, Kenny has gained a wealth of experience in golf course management and professional golf tournament preparation over the last 18 years, forging an enviable Curriculum Vitae including previous roles at The London Golf Club, Hasbury Manor and The Forest of Arden. He is also a Past Chairman of BIGGA.

Kenny stated “I am very excited about this new challenge and realise that I am joining a class venue with a superb team. Working with the Tour for the PGA Championship is the highlight of the year and all the boys have worked hard over the years to help make the event so great. I would like to welcome Kenny Mackay to the Club as my replacement and working with him during our handover period. I know he will do a great job.”

J.R.D. Palmer (David) 1926 to 2012

David Palmer known across the trade for developing and guiding Supaturf Products LTD through the 60s 70s and 80s, died earlier this month after a battle with Alzheimer’s disease.

David was a long time supporter of BIGGA serving on the show steering committee for a number of years. His interest and passion for the amenity industry was partly generated through his long and successful rugby career, playing for Coventry, Leicester Tigers and captaining Leicestershire in the 50s.

His many years in the trade as MD and Owner of Supaturf Products LTD saw him build the company through the fledging years of the amenity industry.

Manufacturing fertilisers specifically for use on golf courses and sports facilities at the G.A Palmer Ltd Factory in Peterborough through the early 60s and carrying out important development work in turf nutrition.

David built up the business over a 35 year period and Supaturf became known nationwide with five depots across England through the 80s, offering a vast range of supplies to the industry.

He further increased Supaturf sales across the world through the 90s selling products across Europe and as far afield as the southern hemisphere, before retiring in 2000.

David is survived by wife, Jane, sons, Michael and Marcus, and his five grandchildren.

In memory of David the following website has been set up to help collect vital funds so that modern medicine can get a greater understanding and hopefully a future cure for Alzheimer’s disease, that today effects so many people.

www.justgiving.com/remember/2293/David-Palmer

GI NEWSDESK
The latest news from around the globe
Wentworth Club Announces Retirement of Chris Kennedy

The Wentworth Club Golf Courses Manager, Chris Kennedy, is retiring from his position after 22 years exemplary service.

Chris, who joined the Club in February 1990, will continue to work until June 29 and be responsible for his final BMW PGA Championship in May.

When Chris retires he will have managed the course presentation at Wentworth for a staggering 52 European Tour Professional Golf Tournaments.

Julian Small, Chief Executive of Wentworth Club, commented: “We wish Chris the very best in his new role. He has been an exceptional member of the team here and overseen significant development of all our golf courses. We don’t think there is a golf course manager in the world that can match Chris’s record in preparing golf courses for professional tournaments.”

Chris’s successor, Kenny Mackay, will join Wentworth at the end of April. Currently Director of Golf Courses and Grounds at The Belffy since 2005, Kenny has gained a wealth of experience in golf course management and professional golf tournament preparation over the last 18 years, forging an enviable Curriculum Vitae including previous roles at The London Golf Club, Harbury Manor and The Forest of Arden. He is also a Past Chairman of BIGGA.

Kenny stated “I am very excited about this new challenge and realise that I am joining a world class venue with a superb team and a superb professional. I look forward to the professional challenges that come with the events along with meeting and getting to know the members.”

“Chris Kennedy has achieved much here over the years, and now looking forward, I feel excited for all that lies ahead for me at Wentworth Club.”

Chris said of his time at the Club, “It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have been Golf Courses Manager for the last 22 years at Wentworth Club. I would like to thank both Elliott Bernerd and Richard Caring, the two owners of the Club during my time here, for giving myself and the team the chance to be involved in all the course changes over the years.

Wentworth is a special golfing venue with three wonderful courses, all different. Working with the Tour for the PGA Championship is the highlight of the year and all the boys have worked hard over the years to help make the event so great.

I would like to welcome Kenny Mackay to the Club as my replacement and working with him during our handover period. I know he will do a great job. Finally after 50 years in the golf industry, Jill and I are going home to Scotland to play some golf and spend time with our families.”

Kenny Mackay

J.R.D. Palmer (David) 1926 to 2012

David Palmer known across the trade for developing and guiding Supaturf Products LTD through the 60s 70s and 80s, died earlier this month after a battle with Alzheimer’s disease.

David was a long time supporter of BIGGA serving on the show steering committee for a number of years. His interest and passion for the amenity industry was partly generated through his long and successful rugby career, playing for Coventry, Leicester Tigers and captaining Leicestershire in the 50s.

His many years in the trade as MD and Owner of Supaturf Products LTD saw him build the company through the fledgling years of the amenity industry.

Manufacturing fertilizers specifically for use on golf courses and sports facilities at the G.A Palmer Ltd factory in Peterborough through the early 60s and carrying out important development work in turf nutrition.

David built up the business over a 35 year period and Supaturf became known countrywide with five depots across England through the 80s, offering a vast range of supplies to the industry.

He further increased Supaturf’s sales across the world through the 90s selling products across Europe and as far afield as the southern hemisphere, before retiring in 2000.

David is survived by wife, Jane, sons, Michael and Marcus, and his five grandchildren.

In memory of David the following website has been set up to help collect vital funds so that modern medicine can get a greater understanding and hopefully a future cure for Alzheimer’s disease, that today effects so many people.

www.justgiving.com/remember/2293/David-Palmer
Carnoustie’s John Philp to Retire

Carnoustie’s Links Superintendent, John Philp MBE is retiring this June after 26 years in charge of the Links.

Announcing his retirement, John said: “I consider it to have been a privilege to have been part of a great team effort whose original target was the resurgence of Carnoustie Links in world golf. I have cherished many moments experienced over the last 26 years and none more so than the return of The Open to Carnoustie. That was the major highlight.”

During his tenure, the course has also staged the Scottish Open, Dunhill Links, Senior Open and, last year, for the first time, the Women’s British Open.

John’s last week in post will coincide with Carnoustie hosting the Ladies’ Open Amateur Championship on 26-30 June.

A total of 28 young service technicians recently graduated from the John Deere Turf Tech and Ag Tech advanced apprenticeship programmes, run by national training provider Babcock.

The group of third year students, almost a third of the total of 101 apprentices now undergoing training with John Deere and Babcock, received their certificates during a visit to the company’s Manheim facilities.

The trip also included a tour of the cab manufacturing facility and European Parts Distribution Centre at Bruchsal, and a graduation dinner with John Deere management.

Bruce Cockburn, of W M Dodds Ltd at Jedburgh, Roxburghshire, was named Apprentice of the Year and presented with a crystal plaque, an additional certificate and vouchers for workshop tools worth £300.

The apprentices can go on to complete their education for a fourth year to gain the John Deere Diploma and register at LTA2 level in the industry’s Landbased Technician Accreditation scheme, while starting their adult training within the John Deere University.

Toro is proud to launch the revolutionary new Greensmaster TriFlex range. Designed and built from the ground up, the TriFlex 3400 and TriFlex Hybrid 3420 are both packed with ground-breaking technology and deliver an unrivalled quality of cut and exceptional finish.

Check out the unique cutting unit suspension system and DPA cutting units that hug ground contours for superb cutting consistency. And redesigned balloon-style tyres that make tracks virtually invisible. What’s more, the TriFlex has been built with the operator firmly in mind. Quick-change cutting units can be switched instantly to other units – all without tools. But perhaps most exciting of all, the TriFlex Hybrid 3420 is the first Toro to feature an all-electric cylinder drive system for a greener mower. Discover the all-new Greensmaster TriFlex range for yourself, call us on the number below and join the revolution!

Call 01480 226800 or visit www.toro.com
Carnoustie’s John Philp to Retire

Carnoustie’s Links Superintendent, John Philp MBE, is retiring this June after 26 years in charge of the Links.

Announcing his retirement, John said: “I consider it to have been a privilege to have been part of a great team effort whose original target was the resurgence of Carnoustie Links in world golf. I have cherished many moments experienced over the last 26 years and none more so than the return of The Open to Carnoustie. That was the major highlight.”

During his tenure, the course has also staged the Scottish Open, Dunhill Links, Senior Open and, last year, for the first time, the Women’s British Open. John’s last week in post will coincide with Carnoustie hosting the Ladies’ Open Amateur Championship on 26-30 June.

Jon Joins Etesia

Etesia UK has appointed Jon Welling as Southern Area Sales Manager for its range of Etesia & Pellenc products covering the South East and the South West.

Jon joins Etesia UK with over 20 years experience in the grasscare and amenity sector and has an enviable and extensive knowledge having previously worked at Sisis Equipment (Macclesfield) Ltd and more recently Vitax.

Jon’s responsibilities will include providing product advice, demonstrations and assistance to customers and dealers within his region, as well as attending shows and exhibitions. He will also be responsible for the recruitment of new, approved dealers.

A total of 28 young service technicians recently graduated from the John Deere Turf Tech and Ag Tech advanced apprenticeship programmes, run by national training provider Babcock.

The group of third year students, almost a third of the total of 101 apprentices now undergoing training with John Deere and Babcock, received their certificates during a visit to the company’s Marnham facilities.

The trip also included a tour of the cab manufacturing facility and European Parts Distribution Centre at Bruchsal, and a graduation dinner with John Deere management.

Bruce Coieburn, of W M Dodds Ltd at Jedburgh, Roxburghshire, was named Apprentice of the Year and presented with a crystal plaque, an additional certificate and vouchers for workshop tools worth £300.

The apprentices can go on to complete their education for a fourth year to gain the John Deere Diploma and register at LTA2 level in the industry’s Landbased Technician Accreditation scheme, while starting their adult training within the John Deere University.

Toro is proud to launch the revolutionary new Greensmaster TriFlex range. Designed and built from the ground up, the TriFlex 3400 and TriFlex Hybrid 3420 are both packed with ground-breaking technology and deliver an unrivalled quality of cut and exceptional finish.

Check out the unique cutting unit suspension system and DPA cutting units that hug ground contours for superb cutting consistency. And redesigned balloon-style tyres that make tracks virtually invisible. What’s more, the TriFlex has been built with the operator firmly in mind. Quick-change cutting units can be switched instantly to other units – all without tools. But perhaps most exciting of all, the TriFlex Hybrid 3420 is the first Toro to feature an all-electric cylinder drive system for a greener mower. Discover the all-new Greensmaster TriFlex range for yourself, call us on the number below and join the revolution!

Call 01480 226800 or visit www.toro.com

JOIN THE REVOLUTION!
Jacobsen and GEO Sign Global Agreement

Jacobsen, has signed a new global partnership agreement with the Golf Environment Organization. This will see the organisations broaden their collaboration jointly to promote awareness, understanding and solutions in the Americas and Asia as well as Europe, Middle East and Africa.

Through significant, long-standing support for GEO, Jacobsen is also investing in bringing practical and credible sustainability programmes for golf course management, renovation and new development to practitioners around the world.

GEO is a non-profit organisation entirely dedicated to sustainable golf, building awareness, developing and administering golf's ecolabel, GEO CertifiedTM, and new development to support the golf community.

Jacobsen, has signed a new global partnership agreement with the Golf Environment Organization. This will see the organisations broaden their collaboration jointly to promote awareness, understanding and solutions in the Americas and Asia as well as Europe, Middle East and Africa.

Through significant, long-standing support for GEO, Jacobsen is also investing in bringing practical and credible sustainability programmes for golf course management, renovation and new development to practitioners around the world.

GEO is a non-profit organisation entirely dedicated to sustainable golf, building awareness, developing and administering golf's ecolabel, GEO CertifiedTM, and new development to support the golf community.

Less is more

Managing with Less - Exploring the Economic and Environmental Benefits of a Sound and Sympathetic Course Management Policy, seminar being held at Temple Golf Club on Tuesday, January 28, at 8.30pm.

Supported by the British & Irish Wildlife Trust, the seminar will bring together all of the GEO business units around the globe that are currently using the GEO system, to help clubs and developments achieve the distinction.

Based on a long-standing relationship with Ransomes Jacobsen, that has supported GEO’s pioneering work to help the industry embrace the environmental opportunities and challenges in sector, the new worldwide Jacobsen agreement will strengthen efforts and results.

Jonathan Smith, Chief Executive of the Golf Environment Organisation, said: “GEO is privileged to have such a dedicated partner, committed to continued investment in the things that make sustainability more accessible and produce golf that’s better for the environment.”

Ransomes Jacobsen has supported GEO from the very start and has made a significant difference in the development, delivery, and awareness of the solutions we provide for the golf community.

David Withers, President of Jacobsen, responded: “Jacobsen is a global company and GEO has global relevance and solutions, with programmes accessible worldwide in a growing number of languages and a high quality, credible and increasingly recognised international ecolabel for golf.

Expanding our partnership to encompass all of the Jacobsen business units around the globe makes good sense, further aligns our outlook and will multiply many new positive outcomes.”

Alan Pickerton, Jacobsen Managing Director for Asia Pacific added: “In the Asia Pacific region we are seeing pressure for valuable resources such as land, water and energy and it is vitally important that future golf facilities and resorts are built with sustainable development at the forefront. This has to happen right from the initial planning phase through to completion and then be continued through the life of the course.

“Managing with Less - Exploring the Economic and Environmental Benefits of a Sound and Sympathetic Course Management Policy, seminar being held at Temple Golf Club on Tuesday, January 28, at 8.30pm.

Supported by the British & Irish Wildlife Trust, the seminar will bring together all of the GEO business units around the globe that are currently using the GEO system, to help clubs and developments achieve the distinction.

Based on a long-standing relationship with Ransomes Jacobsen, that has supported GEO’s pioneering work to help the industry embrace the environmental opportunities and challenges in sector, the new worldwide Jacobsen agreement will strengthen efforts and results.

Jonathan Smith, Chief Executive of the Golf Environment Organisation, said: “GEO is privileged to have such a dedicated partner, committed to continued investment in the things that make sustainability more accessible and produce golf that’s better for the environment.”

Ransomes Jacobsen has supported GEO from the very start and has made a significant difference in the development, delivery, and awareness of the solutions we provide for the golf community.

David Withers, President of Jacobsen, responded: “Jacobsen is a global company and GEO has global relevance and solutions, with programmes accessible worldwide in a growing number of languages and a high quality, credible and increasingly recognised international ecolabel for golf.

Expanding our partnership to encompass all of the Jacobsen business units around the globe makes good sense, further aligns our outlook and will multiply many new positive outcomes.”

Alan Pickerton, Jacobsen Managing Director for Asia Pacific added: “In the Asia Pacific region we are seeing pressure for valuable resources such as land, water and energy and it is vitally important that future golf facilities and resorts are built with sustainable development at the forefront. This has to happen right from the initial planning phase through to completion and then be continued through the life of the course.

The enthusiasm and hunger to learn more is inspirational and I saw many young members who, I’m sure, have a bright future