BTME TO BE EVEN BIGGER FOR 2014

Following the success of last year’s show BIGGA are gearing up for a huge BTME 2014, as it returns to a four hall exhibition with the world’s major machinery manufacturers preparing to head to Harrogate.

The Harrogate International Centre is sure to be bustling next January with the likes of John Deere, Toro and Ransomes Jacobsen joining Kubota, RECO and New Holland at BTME 2014. Deere, Toro and Ransomes Jacobsen joining BTME 2014.

Many of last year’s happy exhibitors are also returning with many increasing their stand space. After a surge of early bookings over the summer BTME 2014 will also boast a terrific selection of returning exhibitors including Barnew Mowers, Campey Turf Care Systems, Sneydridge, Everris plus dozens more.

Jim Cranton, CEO of BIGGA, said: “We’re delighted that the exhibition will once again feature four halls. This will allow us to both increase the number of exhibitors and attract even more visitors from all corners of the turf management industry.

“I’m particularly encouraged by the number of exhibitors who have already rebooked after last year’s show. Many have also increased their stand space which is a reflection of how well BTME 2013, Croston, continued: “This will be BTME’s 25th year and it’s becoming increasingly popular. The feedback we’ve received from exhibitors, buyers and guests has been extremely positive and we anticipate that returning to four halls next year will extend its appeal even further. It’s a very exciting time for everyone involved.”

Europe’s leading turf care exhibition – which next year begins on Tuesday 21 January at the Harrogate International Centre - showcases market leaders from all sectors of the turf industry, including artificial grass, course furniture, drainage, fertilisers and top of the range machinery, to name just a few of the highlights.

BTME 2014 will also boast a terrific educational programme, with the extremely popular ‘Turf Managers’ Conference’ again returning to the programme in 2014 where the industry converge on Harrogate. There will also be more workshops and seminars through the auspices of Complete to Learn’s programme with a terrific range of knowledgeable and passionate presenters – keep an eye out for the confirmed speakers over the coming months.

BIGGA is urging anyone looking to reserve a stand to call now to avoid disappointment. There is still limited space remaining and places are being taken quickly. For your opportunity to exhibit at next year’s BTME, contact Jill Rodham or Matt Wignall on 01347 833812 or 01347 833832.

SOUTH EAST GOLF DAY

Play unfortunately had to be abandoned due to incessant rain on the Old Course at Walton Heath – but the terrible weather didn’t dampen spirits at the South East Golf Day. Despite the grey and hard work by Alan Broatch and his team to prepare the Old Course, heavy overnight rain followed by more rain during the day forced members and guests of the course. They took refuge from the elements and enjoyed the refreshments kindly provided by Johnny Beck and James Watson of Sheriff Amenity at the 11th hole.

Competitors were able to enjoy the warm hospitality of the Clubhouse before over a hundred sat down to an early meal in the Holderness Dining Room. Chairman Tim Smith introduced BIGGA CEO Jim Cranton to thank the Club for, as always, making us so welcome on the day before proposing the toast to Walton Heath Golf Club and their guests. This was followed by Captain Michael Vaines who welcomed everyone to the club.

This month’s featured blog is from Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club in Kent, which will host the 2013 Amateur Championship and is one of four venues selected for Final Open Qualifying from 2014 to 2018. The blog was started by Assistant Links Superintendent James Bridge shortly after joining the Club last October. It’s crammed with information and high quality pictures documenting the greening team’s work including rough management, tee platform renovation, bunker rectifying and all manner of winter work taking place on the course.

The Club has already seen several clear benefits from writing the blog. James says: “Take the overseeding for example, we spent a good sum of money hiring an experienced line to do a specific task. Many golfers were asking what we were doing and why we were doing it. We were able to view the blog and get the information they required. We later were able to post a picture of the results and we are confident that a good part of the membership now understand why we do what we do.”

Leith Superintendent Chris Barnard added: “I think the blog was a great idea from James, it’s a very useful tool for keeping members informed about current projects on the course. It helps to answer many questions before they’re asked giving us more time out on the course to get through this year’s very busy winter programme.

“Our members are interested in the week we do and are proud of the course. We wanted to document and share with everyone exactly what we’ve been doing throughout the winter ahead of what will be a very busy season. James posted a link on the BIGGA bulletin board to see if anyone else was blogging. There were loads of positive replies and it seems a few courses have started blogs as a result. The Cruiser Cup and Carnoustie blogs are particularly interesting as well as a few others. Some other blogs have inspired us to post too by adding extra like video footage. Perhaps our blog inspires other courses to start!”

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GI NEWSDESK

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ROGUE TRADERS CASH IN ON CHALARA CONFUSION

Reports from South East England suggest unscrupulous operators masquerading as professional arbitors and tree surgeons are scaring landowners into filling perfectly safe and healthy common ash trees. They are preying on already considerable fears generated by the national media storm over chalara ash dieback at the end of last year. Kent Trading Standards is the latest to warn on this development.

The national media storm appears to have abated for now, but some landowners with ash trees on their properties clearly do not require much persuasion to err on the side of caution as they see it.

Current information from DEFRA says no-one will be forced to destroy ash trees unless they are young trees which are part of a recently planted site derived from a stock of chalara ash dieback disease.

In these situations the Forestry Commission or another branch of the UK plant health authority will issue a Plant Health Notice. This effectively means that all mature ash trees could (for the moment) be spared. However, this does not take into account any developing issues with public safety which (in the case of a home owner or landowner) are clearly responsible for.

Such a threat to perfectly healthy fully grown ash trees from ‘cowboy’ operators shows the urgent need for FC and PERA to introduce the microinjection of systemic fungicide as a means of ash tree protection, so at least landowners have the option of protecting trees rather than pre-emptively felling them.

Finding a solution should not prove too difficult. North Americans have to deal with a potentially lethal disease of oak trees called oak wilt caused by a close relative of Chalara fraxinea (chalara ash dieback).

Oak wilt is a fungus called Chalara quercina. Oak trees in North America have been successfully protected (and in some cases cured) of oak wilt by injection of the systemic fungicide propiconazole, a member of the azole (club group triazole) fungicides, and by mode of action described as a Sterol Demethylating Inhibitor (DMI).

The fungicide is injected into the tree trunk by operators working at ground level and is subsequently transported to all aerial parts of the tree in the xylem (water conducting tissue). There are other different triazole fungicides including tebuconazole which are used in a similar way to protect against and control oak wilt disease.

Dr Tony Malbett
Ransomes Jacobsen’s three-hole golf course, located at their European headquarters on the outskirts of Ipswich, has been re-certified by the Golf Environment Organization (GEO).

With this latest accolade, the RJ National becomes the first golf course in the UK to be awarded GEO Certified™ status for excellence in environmental performance for a second time.

Following his recent assessment visit, Keith Duff, an independent verifier accredited by GEO said:

“The creation of this small golf course, built and managed to good sustainability standards, has hugely improved the environmental quality of the area. What was once covered in cement and scrub, as part of an industrial park, is now an ecological asset.

“Good areas of semi-natural habitat have been created and are developing well, and there are plans for further biodiversity initiatives. Record keeping is exemplary, regulatory compliance is unblemished, and there are very high quality innovative communications, including newsletters and video blogs, to show others how the work is being done and what the benefits are.

“The quality of the playing surfaces is also very high, demonstrating well how playing quality and sustainable management can go hand in hand. I have no hesitation in recommending that this course should be re-certified.”

The unique three-hole golf course was the brainchild of David Withers, then managing director at Ransomes Jacobsen and now president of parent company, Jacobsen.

“With the support of some of our industry partners, our parent company Textron, and a tremendous team effort by everyone at Ipswich - spearheaded by Matt Le Brun, our former greenkeeper, the RJ National has been a great success on many levels,” he said. “The course is a great asset for testing machinery, showcasing the products we manufacture and is a facility to demonstrate our environmental leadership to distributors and customers. Hopefully our example serves as an inspiration – showing that creating and maintaining a sustainable golf course can be good for golf and good for business.”

GEO’s Chief executive Jonny Smith concluded by saying:

“We are delighted that the RJ National has been re-certified, representing as it does, sustainability throughout their golf environment through a continued commitment to protect and enhance nature, while using resources efficiently and carefully.

“The reduction of waste and other pollutants benefits the surrounding community. Re-certification is a vital point of credibility for all eco-bolling, affirming the important ‘continued improvement’ principle that makes sustainability a mindset and a journey, rather than a static level to achieve. We are delighted to note all the new activities undertaken in the last three years.

“This also demonstrates that GEO Certified™ can celebrate the achievements of all types of courses, from RJ National’s innovative short course to high-profile, internationally recognised facilities.”

**RJ NATIONAL THREE-HOLE COURSE BREAKS NEW GROUND**

**GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL SURVEY**

Thanks to everyone who took the time to take the Greenkeeper International survey which was emailed to members. It’s vital that the magazine continues to evolve and improve to be another real benefit of BIGGA membership, and the survey has thrown up a range of suggestions, ideas and opinions.

“We’re still going through your feedback and you will start to notice some changes resulting from this in future editions. There was also some particularly useful constructive criticism and observations which we’ve taken on board.

To take the survey, follow the link from our news pages or visit the education and training forum on the bulletin boards.

It will only take five minutes of your time, and we’ll publish some of the results in next month’s issue.

**THE SOLUTION**

Mogeton is a treatment for the targeted control of moss on golf course tees and greens.

**CERTIS**

USE PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS SAFELY IN THE UK. FULL AICAP REGULATIONS AND THE BRITISH COSHH REGULATIONS. AVOID INJURY, DAMAGE TO PROPERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH PROPER HANDLING, STORAGE AND USE. USE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANUFACTURER’S INSTRUCTION. **ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION.** FOR ADDITIONAL PRODUCT INFORMATION, INCLUDING WARNING PHASES AND SYMBOLS, REFER TO THE PRODUCT LABEL. Mogeton is a registered trademark of Agro - Kanesho Co. Ltd. Agro - Kanesho Co. Ltd. Greenbank, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN5 7SP www.mogeton.co.uk

**Efficacy** has been backed up by independent trial results conducted by STRI. **Mogeton®** contains quinoclamine. **Mogeton®** is a registered trademark of Agro - Kanesho Co. Ltd. **REFER TO THE PRODUCT LABEL.**

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It will only take five minutes of your time, and we’ll publish some of the results in next month’s issue.
I was recently bought a Golf Course Turfgrass Management qualification. Funding is available for those providing a higher education qualification. Visit the website for further details: www.bigga.org.uk/education/funding-opportunities/

BIGGA Membership
The membership team reflect on current news and affairs affecting you, the BIGGA member

CHANGES ARE AFOOT...
It is with some excitement that I write this last membership column in its current format. There will be some subtle differences from May’s BIGGA International onwards.

As most members will be aware BIGGA have been going through some organisational changes at BIGGA House over the last 12 months with new personnel being appointed. Although change can affect us in an emotional way, this change is bringing with it its own advantages. I think if you ask everyone at BIGGA House what they think of the alterations, they will say they are really positive. This is because changes have been presented as a means of introducing improvements.

All the members at BIGGA are very enthusiastic and excited about the future of BIGGA and are looking forward to working with the Board, the Regions, the Sections and you!

I read an article that ‘People don’t resist organisational change – people resist being changed’! I think this is true of many organisations or even golf clubs, but most people can adapt to change if managed properly.

Greenkeeper International Feedback
BIGGA have recently been collecting your feedback on the Association’s membership magazine, Greenkeeper International, to find out what you think about it. You’ve told us what’s good, what’s not, what’s useful, what could do with improving and changing. The results gained via the survey, the Regional Administrators or the recent roadshows undertaken by Jim Croston, Tony Smith and myself have given us really useful and interesting feedback.

Thank you to all who took part in one or all of the feedback methods, but mostly thank you for being members of BIGGA and providing such excellent constructive feedback which we can now analyse, digest and incorporate in future issues of Greenkeeper International.

Bigga Higher Education Scholarships
The latest member to receive a scholarship is Ben Burrill for his Head Greenkeeper Management qualification. Funding is available for those providing a higher education qualification. Visit the website for further details: www.bigga.org.uk/education/funding-opportunities/

Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year
Application forms for the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award have been distributed to all college and training providers and are also available to download from Education area of the website. The closing date for applications is Friday 10 May 2013.

In the coming months we’ll be changing the content and layout of both the Membership and BALD sections of this magazine, based on feedback you gave in the recent Greenkeeper International survey.

Tell us how our education programme and membership benefits have helped you, and we can publicise all that BIGGA membership has to offer. Contact Communications Executive Steve Castle on steve.castle@bigga.co.uk

Developing the membership team
The team members express why they are proud to be part of Greenkeeper International and look forward to supporting you in the future.

Choosing your membership
We review the options available for BIGGA members. Learn more about what membership has to offer and how you can pick the right level for you.

Gold Key Packages
These packages are designed to support the candidates who are undertaking a higher education qualification. Visit the website for further details: www.bigga.org.uk/education/funding-opportunities/

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Good luck to BIGGA members Greg Skinner – £140
Deputy/Greenkeeper aged 21 & over – £82
Greenkeeper aged 20 and under – £60
Unattached Member – £36

Student Member – £26

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**Future Turf Managers’ Initiative**

By the time you read this article, the inaugural Future Turf Managers’ event will have taken place at the headquarters of Head Greenkeeper in Ipswich. Jacobsen recognise the importance of preparing the younger generation of greenkeepers to take on the role of Head Greenkeeper or Course Manager. The FTMI has been designed to provide practical tools and guidance to help the candidates pursue their career aspirations through this professional development conference. The group of 20 assistants and deputies were selected following an online application process. The successful applicants are:

- Lewis Birch – Greenkeeper, Sunningdale Golf Club
- James Bledge – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Royal Cinque Ports
- Leigh Powell – Deputy Course Manager, Hockley Golf Club
- Daniel Scott – Greenkeeper, Woburn Golf & Country Club
- Ben Brearley – First Assistant Greenkeeper, Abridge Golf & Country Club
- Tom Wood – Greenkeeper, Out-Jane Golf Club
- Ross Owens – Deputy Course Manager, Roatbrough Hotel & Golf Course
- James Parker – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Close House Golf Club
- Paul Jenkins, Justin Cheung, Graham Wiley, Michael Beaton, Steve Dixon, Richard McGlynn
- David Docherty
- Silver Key Individual Members: Steve Clark, Andrew Tardiff, Wally McInerney, Mark McInerney, Keybrella, Michael Beaton, Peter Jenkins, Justin Cheung

During the two-day event the candidates will concentrate on topics including communications, budgeting, organisational politics, CV writing and interview techniques as well as taking part in discussion group on subjects such as team management and alternative career paths.

Supporting the candidates are five mentors who will work with the groups during the event and will continue to support them throughout the year.

The mentors are:
- Steve Chappell, Head Greenkeeper, Gleneagles
- Matt Pleted, Course Manager, Muswell Hill Golf Club
- Michael Sadowski, Club Manager, Dalwich and Sydenham Hill Golf Club
- Lee Strutt MG, Course Manager, Woburn Golf Club
- Stuart Yarrow MG, Course Manager, Lyhn Golf Club
- John McLoughlin – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, East Brighton Golf Club
- Paul Cartwright – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Grange Park Golf Club
- Adam Mitchell – First Assistant Greenkeeper, Chelmsford Golf Club
- Adam Moss – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Blackwell Golf Club
- Rhys Norville – Greenkeeper, Celtic Manor Resort
- Ross Owen – Deputy Course Manager, Roatbrough Hotel & Golf Course
- James Parker – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Close House Golf Club
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**Regional Roadshows**

Several roadshows are taking place to talk about the regional team and its contents or contact your Regional Administrator.

**Regional Membership**

BIGGA has made a small increase in membership subscription effective from 1st April, they are as follows:

- Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper – £140
- Deputy/Greenkeeper aged 21 & over – £82
- Greenkeeper aged 20 and under – £62
- Unattached Member – £36

**Membership Subscription increase from 1st April 2013**

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**Regional Offices**

**Contact Details**

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Greg Skinner
Brighton & Hove
Mobile: 07539 827782
tel: 01347 846101

**BIGGA Membership**

The membership team reflect on current news and affairs affecting you, the BIGGA member.
We have all been waiting with bated breath for a National Action Plan - a document that each Member State of the EU has to produce to show how the Sustainable Use Directive (SUD) would be implemented in their own country. When all is said and done, the outcome for the Pesticide Application is disappointing. Due to the current economic climate, the Government was unwilling to ‘Gold Plate’ EU legislation. We are now left with a diluted SUD where although training, education and storage are still given prominence, great leaps forward have not been made. When it comes to accurate Pesticide Application, ALL operators must have gone through PA training to the required standard and should always be able to demonstrate good knowledge of calibration and understand the product they are using. Too often, tired specifications are trotted out, only re-dated, and showing little understanding of what is happening in the weed control world. It is now awash with new formulations – Dichlobenil used to give medium longevity control of weeds at 150 kgs per ha. Now, the same level of control can be achieved using a thousandth of this amount - Flazasulfuron at 150 grammes per ha!

We are entering a new era for Pesticide Application, and we must all be armed appropriately to deal with the demands ahead. This will mean investing in people, equipment and associated training, which although expensive, ensures the job is carried out to the highest standard possible.

JOHN DEERE LAUNCH NEW ONLINE SHOP

A new online merchandise shop has been launched on the John Deere website for customers and fans of the brand in Europe. Featuring an updated design and improved user interface - you can visit it at www.johndeere shop.com/en_uk.

The SMARTest just got SMARTer

The world’s most flexible set of units you’ll ever demo

The TMSystem™ continues to revolutionise

The only total turf refinement cassette system for triple green mowers in the world today. Compatible with all mainstream makes of triple green mowers and lightweight fairway mowers.

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TADMARTON HEATH INVESTS IN ‘THE BEST’ TO GROW MEMBERSHIP

North Oxfordshire hidden gem Tadmarton Heath Golf Club has signed a new five-year agreement with Toro. This traditional private members club is investing in the new machinery as part of a ten-year course improvement plan to retain and grow membership levels.

Course manager Brian Owen – who recently celebrated 20 years of working at the club – is delighted with the arrival of the new fleet, which includes a Greensmaster TriFlex greensmower.

“"The new machines will help keep us moving forwards – we want to achieve a lot more for this club.""

TOP TIPS FOR GREAT GREENS

British Sugar TOPSOIL, the UK’s leading supplier of quality topsoil has teamed up with golf course expert Peter Jones to launch a new course management guide for the industry.

The eight-page technical guide called ‘The essential guide for the golf course industry’ is aimed at greenkeepers and course managers. It provides useful information and practical advice on using topsoil to improve course quality and performance, along with top tips on golf course management from industry expert Peter Jones.

British Sugar TOPSOIL is a fertile, consistent and traceable topsoil which is derived from prime arable soils to offer greenkeepers a sustainable topsoil solution. Possessing good nutrient and moisture retention properties British Sugar TOPSOIL is perfect for bunker construction projects and non-irrigated areas of a course.

The new guide is available to download from the TOPSOIL website: www.bstopsoil.co.uk or by telephoning 0870 2402314.
We have all been waiting with bated breath for a National Action Plan - a document that each Member State of the EU has to produce to show how the Sustainable Use Directive (SUD) would be implemented in their own country.

When all is said and done, the outcome for the Pesticide Application is disappointing. Due to the current economic climate, the Government was unwilling to ‘Gold Plate’ EU legislation.

We are now left with a diluted SUD where although training, education and storage are still given prominence, great leaps forward have not been made.

When it comes to accurate Pesticide Application, ALL operators must have gone through PA training to the required standard and should always be able to demonstrate good knowledge of calibration and understand the product they are using.

Too often, tired specifications are trotted out, only re-dated, and showing little understanding of what is happening in the weed control world. It is now awash with new formulations – Dichlobenil used to give medium longevity control of weeds at 150 kgs per ha. Now, the same level of control can be achieved using a thousandth of this amount - Flazasulfuron at 150 grammes per ha!

We are entering a new era for Pesticide Application, and we must all be armed appropriately to deal with the demands ahead. This will mean investing in people, equipment and associated training, which although expensive, ensures the job is carried out to the highest standard possible.

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NEW PRODUCTS
The latest products on the market reviewed

APPLICATION ADVICE AT BIGGA SEMINAR

A new online Nozzle Selector will enable turf managers and sprayer operators to select the best combination of spray nozzle and water volume to optimise spray applications this season.

The simple tool, available at www.greencast.co.uk, enables operators to quickly select the intended spray target and the type of treatment or product being applied, to instantly see the appropriate XC Nozzle and water volume to use.

The Nozzle Selector covers the range of fungicides, herbicides and growth regulators, along with associated liquid fertilizer tank-mix combinations that can be included to improve turf health and vigour to counter disease risks.

Syngenta Turf Technical Manager, Dr Simon Watson, highlighted the new XC Nozzles can allow operators to apply at lower water volumes than previously used. This can enable greater sprayer output for more timely application, reduce weight carried on greens and, most importantly, increase product retention on the leaf that can give better results.

Greenkeepers, sprayer operators and students in the south west of England had the chance to see the new Syngenta XC Nozzles in action and pick up some of the latest tips and information on spray application technology at the BIGGA Devon & Cornwall Spring Seminar, held at St Mellion Golf Club.

Dr Watson detailed how the new XC Nozzle Technology has been engineered to deliver more consistent coverage across the spray boom when spraying slopes on golf courses, to counter the risk of drift to enable more spraying opportunities and incorporating exclusive design features to enhance all-round coverage of the turf leaf, to get the best possible results from every application.

Further tips provided in Dr Watson’s presentation and practical demonstration included sprayer calibration and nozzle height setting - along with advice on calculating the water volume to use.

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FANTASTIC FAIRWAYS AT BURGHILL VALLEY WITH HEADLAND AMENITY

Dramatic improvements have been made to the fairways at Bungay Valley Golf Club in Herefordshire last year using Multigreen, Elevate FE and Clipless from Headland Amenity.

Head Greenkeeper Steve Lloyd comments: “The course is on fertile, heavy clay which drains well and the greens were built from a local soil and sand mix. However, 20 years of top dressing and soil exchange using hollow tines have built up a good growing medium which gives an improved root structure for the turf. We have also reconstructed bunkers and tees over the years to make for more challenging play.”

Most recently the fairways came under the spotlight. The renovation programme began with hollow tining and deep aeration on the fairways before they were scarified in April.

“We then applied Multigreen temperature controlled release fertiliser, with Clipless growth regulator and Elevate FE. Certain greens were becoming very thin so we applied a complexed liquid iron in a tank mix,” he adds. “Clipless helps control excess growth while the iron in Elevate FE prevents any yellowing on the edges of leaves and helps carry it into the plant. The results have been an impressive thickening up of growth on the fairways which has filled in the divots so that they look like a carpet.”

Steve comments that the combination of Multigreen, Clipless and Elevate FE is a highly cost-effective solution, which gives the fairways a rich green colour rather than the light green of a growth flush.

Tricure AD is another useful product, he comments: “We don’t have many high spots on the greens, but using Tricure AD ensures that there are no dry patches. It is used in combination with Turfcomplex biostimulant to keep the turf healthy, which is essential as our greens are relatively small and get a lot of use. These are fantastic products and we get great results.”

AERATION BRINGS RUTLAND’S GREENS UP TO SPEED

Sitting alongside one of the largest man-made lakes in Europe, Rutland Water Golf Club offers the golfer 18 holes on the four-star championship Normanton Course and nine par three holes on the Plantation course. The club has many demanding water issues on its greens, but following the acquisition of a SISIS Javelin Aer-Aid 1500, Head Greenkeeper, Dan Wren reports a dramatic improvement.

The tractor mounted Javelin Aer-Aid 1500 not only aerates with a vertical action, but also injects air into the root zone at a fast working rate, creating thousands of fissures.

Dan says: “Certain greens were holding moisture and it seemed that whatever action we took the problem persisted. The greens concerned were those where the thatch layer was thicker. We did not want to over work the greens, but following the acquisition of a SISIS Javelin Aer-Aid 1500, I was aware of the beneficial effects of injecting air into greens and the improvement in the quality of our greens was achieved very quickly. The moisture retention problem has disappeared and the greens are consistent, firm and dry.”
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Further tips provided in Dr Watson’s presentation and practical demonstration included sprayer calibration and nozzle height setting - along with advice on calculating the area of greens and fine-tuning sprayer filling to achieve more precise and accurate application across the course.

All the techniques and advice offered by Dr Watson is available from the GreenCast website Application Zone. Thanks to Course Manager and Master Greenkeeper, Mike Bush, and the St Mellion greenkeeping team for hosting the event and assisting with the sprayer demonstration.

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Four seasons in one day

There’s no getting away from it – the West of Scotland is beautiful, but extremely wet. How do the team at The Carrick on Loch Lomond, lead by Jim Brown and Paul McClearn, cater for thousands of corporate clients while battling two metres of rain annually?

Greenkeeper Profile

Name: Jim Brown
Position: Course Manager
Born: Keighley, 1 January 1965
Handicap: 18
Hobbies: Cycling
Favourite Sports Team: Keighley Cougars Rugby League

Name: Paul McClearn
Position: Head Greenkeeper
Born: Galway, 28 September 1974
Handicap: 13
Hobbies: Spending time with two sons, cycling
Favourite Sports Team: Ireland Six Nations Team