

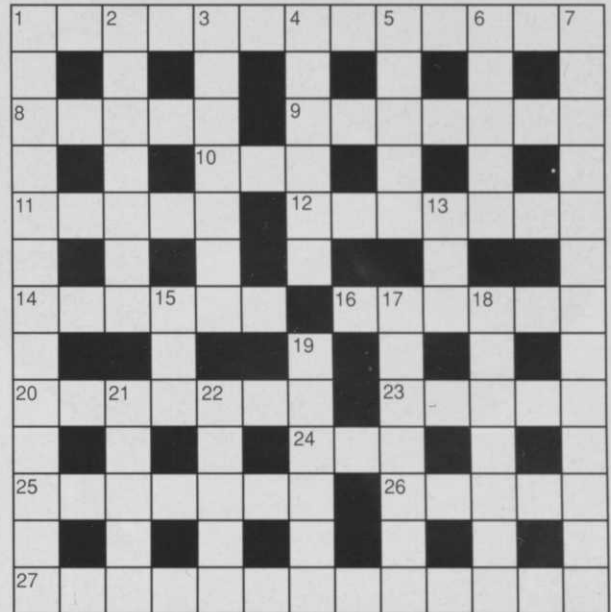
10 TIPS FOR SAFE TREE WORK

1. Always wear a hat. Things are constantly falling from trees as you work on them. It may only be a small branch but if it's coming from 50ft up, it can put you in hospital.
2. Protect your eyes and ears at all times. Small branches will poke your eyes, and blowing sawdust and woodchips are a constant irritation. If you get something in your eye just before you finish a major cut, you could be in big trouble. Chainsaws and chippers produce sound levels above 100dB, so be sure to wear hearing protectors to avoid hearing damage.
3. Wear chainsaw-resistant trousers, gloves, jackets and boots. They can reduce the chances of serious cuts.
4. Don't work too closely with a colleague. You should be at least 10ft apart when working with saws. And make sure no one is in the fall area when cutting branches and trees.
5. Use the proper stance, grip and position when using a chainsaw, ie. right hand on the trigger, left hand on the upper handle, left thumb below the handle, chain to the right of your arm, feet solidly on the ground.
6. Examine the tree carefully from the root up before climbing it. Check for power lines, structural defects, etc.

7. Check all your equipment. Make sure the saws are sharp (sharp saws are more dependable and less tiring), check ropes for wear, check ladders, etc.
8. Follow basic climbing rules. When tying in to the tree, put the line around the main trunk or stem. This way, if that limb breaks, you will fall only the distance to the next limb, not all the way to the ground. When climbing a tree, spread your body weight over at least three points, eg. avoid having both feet or hands on the same branch. Lines should be half-inch diameter with a breaking strength greater than 5,400 pounds. The metal links should be steel, not aluminium, with a breaking strength of 5,000 pounds.
9. Use ladders wisely. Extension and A-frame ladders are useful for getting into trees, but you shouldn't work from them. They are not stable enough to withstand rapid movement or being hit with falling limbs. You can use A-frame ladders for pruning hedges or small trees that won't support a climber.
10. Don't stand beneath the limbs you are cutting with pole runners or pole saws - stand to the side but remember, limbs fall tip first then flip back at you when they hit the ground.

GREENKEEPER'S CROSSWORD

Compiled by Mark G Smith



WIN A BIGGA BLAZER OR £50 IN CASH!

CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Commercial exhibition area at golf tournaments (6, 7)
- 8 Bob, USPGA Tour professional, winner of the 1994 Texas Open (5)
- 9 Some clubs do it to the hole as a concession to winter conditions! (7)
- 10 St Andrews' Golf Course opened in 1895 (3)
- 11 Sheep's Fescue, (L. Festuca) (5)
- 12 Regularity of green's cutting in summer (4, 3)
- 14 Height of cut in winter compared with summer (6)
- 16 Tynning, Aerating operation where plugs are removed from greens, tees etc. (6)
- 20 Type of dismissal warranted by acts of gross misconduct (7)
- 23 "..... Slap", 15th hole at Carnoustie, recently depicted on the 30p stamp (5)
- 24 Egg, when taking in from 11 across (3)
- 25 Lightly strike the flag stick (4, 3)
- 26 Hardy deciduous tree genus from Germany's sapling, known as "Tupelo Gum" (L. Aquatica) (5)
- 27 Golfers who play for a living (13)

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Biennial match between lady professional golfers of Europe and America (3, 7, 3)
- 2 Physical means of keeping rabbits, badgers etc. at bay (7)
- 3 To trap animals (7)
- 4 Watcher of televised golf (6)
- 5 Common name of the shrub (L. Syringa Vulgaris) (5)
- 6 What greens are in the period following 16 across (5)
- 7 How often 1 down is played (5, 3, 5)
- 13 Sutton, 1983 USPGA champion known as the "bear apparent" (3)
- 15 The strike in golf (3)
- 17 City in Florida where the USPGA Nestle Invitational is played (7)
- 18 Coastal change, for the club where the USPGA's Tournament of Champions is held (2, 5)
- 19 Usually removable from bunkers under the local rules of golf (6)
- 21 County of Western Ireland containing Enniscrone, Strandhill and County golf courses (5)
- 22 Common fruit tree (L. Pyrus Malus) (5)

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October winner: Gareth Roberts, deputy course manager, Hankley Common Golf Club. September winner: Alasdair McLaren, course manager, Abernethy Golf Club

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