

Send your letters to The Editor, Greenkeeper International, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aline, York YO6 2NF or fax them on 0347 838864

# How to extend the battery life of your electric mower

I have read your article on the new Ransomes E-Plex triple greens mower in the September issue with interest mainly because it is powered electrically. Although this is a very obvious statement, I am a sales engineer for a very known lawnmower grinding machine manufacturer, and we, as a company, vigorously promote the single blade grinding method of sharpening cylinders, or as it is more commonly known 'relief angle grinding'.

With the launch of the Ransomes E-Plex machine, we feel it would be an opportunity to tell prospective buyers of the mower about some very distinct advantages of 'relief angle grinding' as this will give much longer battery life on the E-Plex mower and as a result will extend the life of the batteries and obtain more 'charges' than 350 as stated in the article. Allow me to explain in a little more detail the advantages of this method of grinding cylinders with a relief angle.

1. There is less friction between cylinder and bottom blade.
2. Longer blade life - both reels and bedknives can last up to 2-3 times longer.
3. Motors, gears, transmissions and all other moving parts last longer due to less friction
4. Adjustments, reels to bedknives (or vice-versa), due to less wear, are less frequent.
5. Dry summers and the lack of moisture in the grass to lubricate the cutting action leads to rapid wear of the blades. Relief grinding of the cutting cylinder is the cure to this and other associated overheating problems.
6. The cleaner cutting action means that mowing can take place in very wet conditions without

tearing, ribbing or skidding of heavily set (tight) mowing machines.

So greenkeepers, if you are seriously contemplating purchasing one of the above machines or any other make and wish to keep your costs down even further, consider the above method of grinding.

**Peter Barrow**  
Southern UK sales engineer,  
Eric Hunter Grinders Ltd,  
Portsmouth

## Teenager with taste

I have recently come into possession of some old issues of your magazine. This is a fantastic publication and I just cannot put it down. Can I subscribe or is there any way for me to purchase it regularly?

I will be 17 in February and I want to become a greenkeeper.

**Alan O'Connor**  
Enniscorthy, Co Wexford, Eire  
*Editor's note: The subscription rate for non-BIGGA members is £34 per year, £44 if you live outside the UK.*

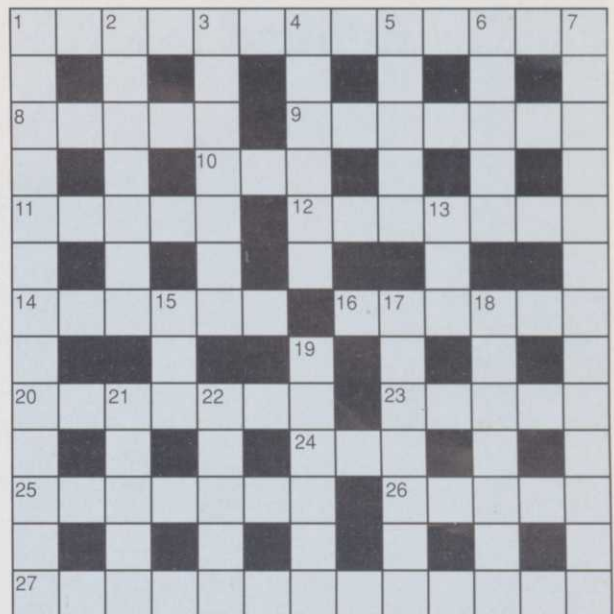
## A great time

**To the executive director,**  
Just a short letter to thank you and the BIGGA team for running the Open support team and the National Tournament so well. It was a great two weeks for me, which would not have been possible without the hard work that went into setting up these events and running them so professionally.

**John Wells**  
course manager, Brocket Hall Golf Club, Welwyn, Hertfordshire

# GREENKEEPER'S CROSSWORD

Compiled by Mark G Smith



## WIN A BIGGA BLAZER OR £50 IN CASH!

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Term given to the situation where a ball is accidentally deflected or stopped by an outside agency (Rule 19-1) (3, 2, 3, 5)
- 8 Period in which a series of events is completed, eg plant growth, engine operation etc. (5)
- 9 Competitive inter-club matches are often played in them (7)
- 10 Alternative name for a newt (3)
- 11 Blunt nosed short eared rodents some of which are aquatic (5)
- 12 .....Fields C.C., Illinois, venue of the USPGA Championship in 1925 (7)
- 14 What a golfer may ask of an opponent's stroke played out of turn in match play (6)
- 16 Situation on the putting green where an opponent's ball blocks the way to the hole, nowadays remedied by marking (6)
- 20 An item of golf apparel (7)
- 23 What a player's and a marker's card should do before signing! (5)
- 24 Make a mistake (3)
- 25 Andrew ..... winner of the 1993 Turespana Masters Open De Andalucia (7)
- 26 A spring of water (5)
- 27 Golfer with a zero handicap (7, 6)

### CLUES DOWN

- 1 Strokes played from hazards etc (8, 5)
- 2 To sharpen mower blades using grinding paste (4-3)
- 3 (L. ....Refracta) Deciduous bulbous plant of the Iris family (7)
- 4 Surname of the only British amateur to win the Open Championship twice in 1892 and 1897 (6)
- 5 Surname of the Australian winner of the 1990 USPGA Championship (5)
- 6 Provide with tools, clubs etc (5)
- 7 Explanation of why a Flymo is at its greatest height of cut (2, 5, 7)
- 13 Month in which the Volvo PGA Championship is played (3)
- 15 Open country or meadow (3)
- 17 Emotional state experienced by some tournament winners breaking fat rule (anag) (7)
- 18 Dog's .....(L. Chenopodium Bonus Henricus) poisonous weed, or metal (atomic number 80) (7)
- 19 Open Championship played at the National Golf Club and won in 1993 by Costantino Rocca (6)
- 21 Common name of the tree (L. Sambucus Nigra), renowned for its black berries (5)
- 22 Fish of the salmon family (L. Salmo Fario) (5)

★ Solve the crossword puzzle and you could win either a BIGGA blazer (worth £87.95) or £50 in cash! Send entries to: Crossword Competition, Greenkeeper International, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aline, York YO6 2NF.

Closing date October 30, 1994. First correct entry drawn after the closing date will win the prize. Photocopy your entry if you don't want to cut up your magazine. ➔ Last month's solution:

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DADDY LONGLEGS
E I A T R Y I
NIGER TWOIRON
S Y DUE S I G
MANNA RUSSELL
O I G S A E
REAMER POPSUP
E U G A P L
STADLER KOALA
H B A ARM NY
UNEARTH OLIVE
T L G A N S R
ELEVENMATCHES
    
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Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

If I'm the winner, please send me  £50 cash or  BIGGA blazer, size .....

## Greenkeeper is bound for Portugal

Callander Golf Club's W Myles has won a golfing holiday for two to Portugal in the Ocmis Irrigation survey prize draw. Ian Semple of Old Fold Manor GC won the second prize of two tickets to the Toyota World Match Play Championship. Twenty other head greenkeepers who completed the Ocmis survey will receive bottles of Somerset Royal Brandy.