

FURNITURE & FITTINGS



■ An automatic tee up playmat, complete with electric feed and deep pile synthetic grass, is set to spare the greenkeeper a few headaches when clearing up after over-enthusiastic golfers.

The ultimate forgiving device was put to the test at Charnwood

Golf Centre, Loughborough and proved to be a major attraction.

The practice mat is made from artificial grass used with some success by makers Range Servant over the last ten years. It allows mistakes and poor shots without shock to the player's arms – or

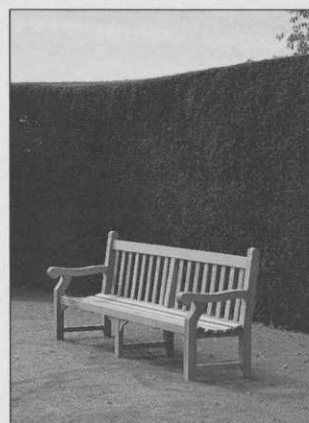
the greenkeeper's frayed nerves.

It works like this. There's a big tray into which the player tips his basket of balls – up to 80 or so. With a golf club, the ball to be played is pulled onto the synthetic grass, over the tee that then rises automatically to a pre-determined height. When the ball is played, the tee retracts leaving the mat free for iron shots from the surface. Every time a ball is pulled over the tee, it rises.

The head professional at Charnwood reckons the device offers both improved stance and swing practice, helping to speed up play. It also encourages the use of more balls, generating extra income for the range and better facilities for the player.

The Range Servant Automatic Tee Up comes complete with deep pile "grass" inlays, a rubber stance mat and sturdy ball tray. It requires an electric feed, 220/240 volt and costs just under £500 plus delivery and VAT.

Details: 01142 834242.



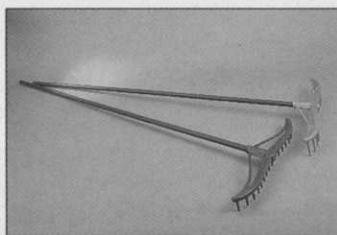
■ When even the keenest of golfers need to rest: enter the Gloster bench or chair.

The Gloster collection of outdoor, patio and conservatory furniture offers a range to cater for all golf club requirements, including an inscription service for commemorating events or club personalities.

Gloster uses teak, a highly close grain timber for its resistance to climactic extremes and for being practically maintenance-free. No paint or preservatives are required.

Probably the most important considerations to bear in mind when choosing furniture, is that it should be sturdy, attractive and require the minimum of maintenance. Weighing up to a hundredweight, the traditional teak bench is a long term investment: expect it to last 50 years or more.

Teak has been valued as the ultimate material for outdoor furniture manufacture, being warmer to the touch than stone or metal. It will also blend well with natural surroundings. Details: 0117 931 5335.



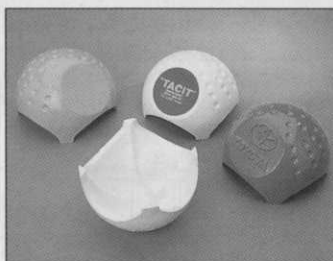
■ Tacit's Big Bird Bunker Rake (above) has a 6' shaft made from composite material and a sturdy 24" braced head for extra strength. Where this product really scores is that it's deliberately lightweight, which means it can be used for longer without wearing out the user.

Also from Tacit, something to stop greenkeepers constantly repairing or replacing plastic tee markers – an unbreakable one.

Made from heavy duty cast aluminium, and ribbed for added strength, these tee markers have no spikes to damage the tees or snap off and are raised off the ground to prevent scorching.

Tacit superior dimpled half golf ball design will eliminate all the problems that occur with plastic markers, say the manufacturers, for almost the same price.

Details: 01788 568818.



Unbreakable tee marker, from Tacit

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Talking point: a Pattisson's tee console, complete with ball washer

■ Pattisson's are acknowledged to be a one-stop shop for all course furnishings. From the tee area, Pattisson's range starts with the simple placement markers to their popular resin pear shaped and golf ball tee markers.

As an alternative, tee consoles come complete with a sign that can show anything from the course layout to yardage information. A ball washer, by Royale or one of the other makes, makes the tee console quite a feature of the tee area. The console can also

be finished off with a litter bin, towel and shoe cleaner. As with many of the Pattisson products, the console can be manufactured to a golf club's specification to maintain a consistency of style.

Specifically for the greenkeeper is the new pop up trimmer, a useful tool to cut around the sprinkler head areas that tractor mowers just can't get to.

Even the humble boot cleaner comes in an updated version: ask for the Pattisson catalogue on 01582 597262 and check out the "electronic boot wiper".



Sign of the times: elegance and information from Pattisson's

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