

# Stars of the small screen

Adrian Porter and his staff at Greatham Valley GC, Leicestershire, have broken into show business but you won't see them donning the grease paint and spouting Shakespeare or even appearing on *Blind Date* or *Noel's House Party*. No, their work was done behind the scenes but you will see the results of their handiwork during the new Jimmy Tarbuck game show "The Full Swing."

The show is based on golf and needed a properly turfed green to allow the contestants to display their skills and Adrian and his team were called in by the BBC to lay, prepare and maintain the green for the duration of the filming.

"Our owner's son Andrew Hinch worked with the BBC providing scenery for Middlemarch when it was filmed in Stamford and they approached him to provide the green for the show," explained Adrian.

They bought turf over the winter put it in greenhouses, fed it and kept it warm until it was required for the show.

"We went to Shepherd's Bush over Easter and built the 200 square metre green and surrounding rough on a fibre

glass sand covered base in the studio. We had the turf in 16 square yard rolls.

"We had to be around for the six days of filming to look after it, water it and four of us worked on shifts so that someone was always there in case it needed repairs.

"It lasted well although under the lights it was beginning to go a bit yellowish by the end.

"The show will look great on the TV. It's a little like *Big Break* and we meet Jimmy Tarbuck and some of the guests who were appearing on the show," said Adrian.

The show will be broadcast sometime this year and it is likely that Adrian and his crew will be back again to build another green for a second series.

● Pictured: Jimmy Tarbuck – and Adrian Porter's turf



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