

# Appeal to keep a look-out for stolen greenkeeping kit

In recent months the Greenkeepers' Store at Hallamshire has been burgled twice.

On the first occasion, last November, the offenders broke into the store during the night and removed much of the portable equipment such as strimmers, brushcutters etc and three new hand mowers which had been bought a short time earlier.

The three machines were Jacobsen 522 Pedestrian Green Mowers, complete with turf groomers, grass boxes and transport wheels, each one costing £5,300 plus VAT new. The serial numbers of the machines were 62261 02388, 62261 02390 and 62261 02317.

Subsequently, in April, the equipment was replaced.

Following recommendations made by the Insurers and the Police, the alarm system was renewed with the very latest system installed and connected to the alarm monitoring company.

Despite all the increases in the security and alarm systems, last month the store was broken into and two of the replacement Jacobsen machines, with serial numbers 62261 03346 and 62261 03317, stolen.

It was obviously a carefully planned burglary as the Course Manager only left the store some 15 minutes before the alarm was activated and the offenders knew exactly what they could transport in the limited time available, and apparently did not mind the risk of burgling the store and stealing property in broad daylight, despite the alarms.

These machines are not com-

mon in this country, being American imported and will only be useful to specialist organisations such as golf courses and certain sports facilities ie bowls clubs, cricket clubs and the like.

From enquiries that have been made it is quite apparent that golf clubs have been targeted through the North of England over recent months and burglaries appear to have taken place at many course stores with similar results and even repeat burglaries have taken place where replacement equipment has been bought.

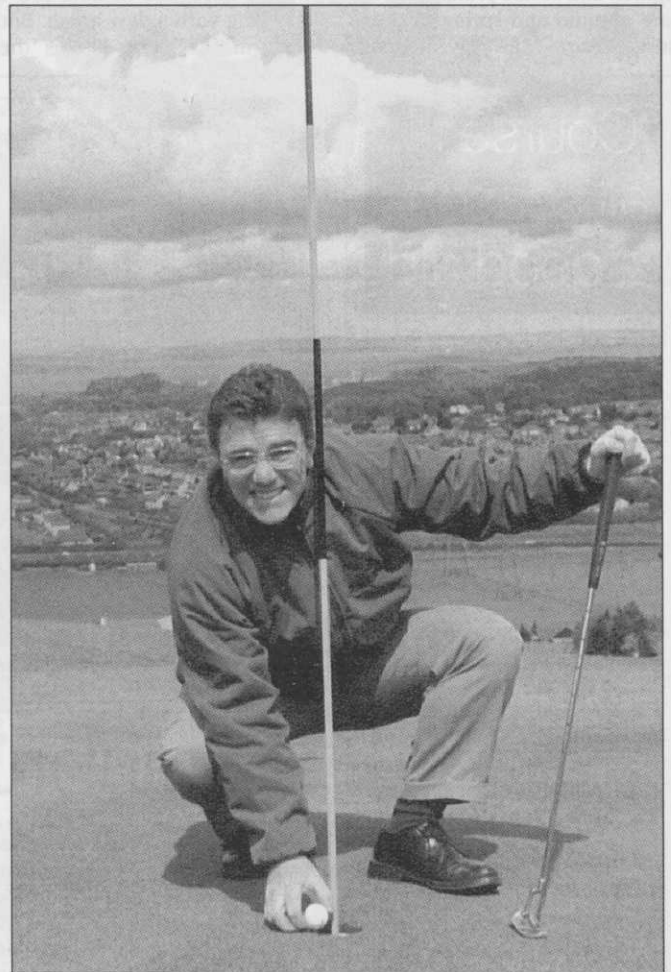
From the number of such incidents it is apparent that there must be an outlet for this equipment. South Yorkshire Police are asking if any Secretaries or Greens Staff are approached to purchase any similar machines to ours, or any other machinery which is being

offered for sale by anyone other than their normal reputable suppliers, to acquire as much detail of these people and their vehicles discreetly and pass this to South Yorkshire Police either through me, or direct.

Aside from the extra premiums and conditions that will be added to our insurance on the next renewal, the theft of such important and essential pieces of equipment causes some disruption to the normal working practices and could lose income to clubs by prestigious events being cancelled due to the course not being able to be presented in appropriate condition for tournaments.

— Keith Sharrocks, Secretary, Hallamshire Golf Club, Redmires Road, Lodge Moor, Sheffield

**'These machines are not common in this country'**



## Success, but at a price

Tom Brannan experienced one of the quickest ways of emptying a wallet known to man at Winterfield GC recently. He holed-in-one in the East of Scotland Section Spring Outing, the feat occurring at the par-3 4th.

Apparently, and this comes from Chris Yeaman, of Swanston GC, his quote after holing the shot was: "Getting a hole-in-one was nearly as exciting as a Thursday night in Trotter's Bar in Harrogate this year." Whatever could he mean?

BANKS AMENITY PRODUCTS PRODUCED  
AD REF 168



### BANKS AMENITY PRODUCTS

ANGEL COURT, DAIRY YARD, HIGH STREET,  
MARKET HARBOROUGH  
LEICESTERSHIRE LE16 7NL



**Fendress Greentop™ soil-less top dressing now available**

**Telephone: 01858 464346/433003 Fax: 01858 434734**

YOUR ASSURANCE OF QUALITY AND SERVICE FROM THE PEOPLE WHO CARE

## FENDRESS™ TURF TOP DRESSING BRITAIN'S NO. 1 YOU CAN'T BEAT THE ORIGINAL

NOW AVAILABLE:

- Fendress Regular
- Fendress Superfine
- Economy Top Dressing – for Tees and Approaches
- Sand/Loam Top Dressing
- Rootzone Mixes
- Highest quality Screened East Anglian Fensoil

- Fine Screened Sedge Peat for Fairways
- Fine Screened Sandy Loam
- Kiln dried Sand and Washed Grit for Vertidrainage
- Lime-free Silica Sands
- Bunker Sands – White – Cream – Pink or Yellow, including Moneystone