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Profile

Usually the spotlight falls on the Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper at a Club.

Now it is the turn of those whose work often goes unheralded to star.



Name: Richard Mullen

Club: Swanston GC

Position: Deputy Head Greenkeeper

Age: 24

1. How long have you been a greenkeeper?
8 and a half years

2. What education are you currently undertaking?
Just completed an HNC

3. Which one task do you most enjoy doing?
Cutting fairways

4. Which one task do you most dislike doing?
Patching fairways

5. What job other than greenkeeping might you have ended up doing?
Working in an office somewhere

6. Who has been the biggest influence on your career?
Jimmy Nielson, Scottish Chairman

7. What would you do to improve the life of a greenkeeper?
Better relations with the golf club

8. What are your hobbies?
Football and golf

9. What do you get out of BIGGA?
Outings and meeting people

10. What do you hope to be doing in 10 years time?
Course Manager

Textron support for Otley College

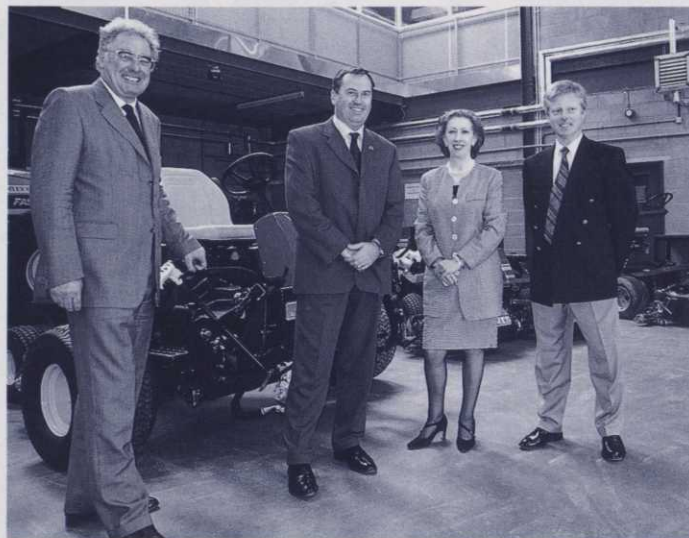
Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products have provided Otley College with one of their latest fairway mowers to assist with training for prospective engineers at their newly opened Centre of Excellence.

Leader of the House of Commons, the Rt. Hon. Margaret Beckett, M.P., on a recent visit accepted the Jacobsen LF3400 mower on behalf of the College.

Otley College of Agriculture and Horticulture is a recognised Centre of Excellence and recently secured a £1 million grant that enabled them to erect and equip a new building with high-tech electronic teaching equipment. The computer-based system enables engineering students to study electronics, pneumatics, hydraulics and electrics and can also be used for fault diagnosis.

The LF3400 will have faults introduced to its various systems by the lecturers and students will then use the equipment to initially diagnose the faults and then complete the relevant repair.

Ian Miller, Head of Resources/



Project Manager for the Centre of Excellence said, "We are extremely grateful for Textron's donation of the LF3400, as it is one of their latest machines and provides our

students with an excellent training aid. This will help us to maintain our status as a Centre of Excellence to the landbased engineering sector."



Re-surfacing undertaken at Valderrama

Rubaroc International, the world-wide manufacturer, supplier and installer of the rubber safety surfacing material Pro-Path, have recently completed the first phase of a major contract in southern Spain with Valderrama.

Valderrama, venue for the Ryder Cup in '97 and the venue for the European leg of the World Cup in November '99,

placed an order with Rubaroc International to re-lay the cart paths surrounding the magnificent 18-hole course.

Mr Ortiz-Patino, President of Valderrama, chose the product after seeing it installed at the Royal Melbourne. Over 2,000 square metres of Rubaroc were installed at the Royal Melbourne

in 1996, and they are still delighted at the durability. Mr. Ortiz-Patino was extremely impressed with the installed product. He felt that this would be the ideal solution to provide a permanent cover to the concrete cart paths and also to replace the indoor/outdoor surface to the main presentation area to the front of the clubhouse.