

# TALKING HEADS

FEATURE

	WHAT SECURITY MEASURES DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE IN PLACE?	HAVE THERE BEEN MANY PROBLEMS WITH THEFT IN YOUR AREA?
 <p><b>Name:</b> Lauchlan Millar <b>Position:</b> Head Greenkeeper <b>Club:</b> Hayling GC, Hampshire</p>	<p>Our Buildings are alarmed and the compound is surrounded by a 6ft high fence. All of our equipment is marked with a security code and we hold a log of all the serial numbers.</p>	<p>Although we are on an Island with only one road on and off there have been a few thefts, which is probably similar to most areas of the country and unfortunately a sign of the times.</p>
 <p><b>Name:</b> John Fullagar <b>Position:</b> Head Greenkeeper <b>Club:</b> Whitstable &amp; Seasalter GC, Kent</p>	<p>We have alarms and a flood light in place.</p>	<p>Not really, not at our club. Herne Bay, just down the road, I believe has had a few problems. Our Clubhouse is 100 yards from the high street so vehicles are constantly travelling up and down the road, also, we are surrounded by about 60-70 houses. We have had a couple of minor break-ins at the Clubhouse but as soon as the burglar's break-in, the alarm goes off and they're gone.</p>
 <p><b>Name:</b> David Lyons <b>Position:</b> Head Greenkeeper <b>Club:</b> Deanwood Park, Berkshire</p>	<p>We have a locked gate at the entrance, with security lights, locked secure yard, security shutters and alarmed building going straight to police. We also have security lights and CCTV in the car park.</p>	<p>Not really.</p>
 <p><b>Name:</b> Jan-Ake Tyllman <b>Position:</b> Course Manager <b>Club:</b> Ingaro GC, Sweden</p>	<p>We currently have good security measures in places – An alarm, a 3m high fence with barbed wire on top and barred windows and a security company looking after the sheds in case of alarm.</p>	<p>No, not as yet but they always try to steal gasoline.</p>
 <p><b>Name:</b> Hans Nielsen <b>Position:</b> Course Manager <b>Club:</b> Dejberg Golf Klub, Denmark</p>	<p>We have a burglar alarm connected to a surveillance company. Sensors are placed in staff facilities as well as in the workshop and garage. Also, windows are guarded by metal grids and sliding doors are reinforced. The surveillance company give me a call when an alarm occurs to check whether it might be a false alarm. If not, they send a watchman to check.</p>	<p>Not recently. Being situated way out in the countryside we generally enjoy good crime statistics. We did have some break-ins a few years back though - guys looking for cash and a drink, I think.</p>
 <p><b>Name:</b> Iain Gunn <b>Position:</b> Course Manager <b>Club:</b> Blackpool North Shore GC, Lancashire</p>	<p>We have a modern alarm system, Redcare, which is linked directly to the Police, also bars across the shed windows and smaller machines are kept in cages.</p>	<p>Two years ago we had two or three break-ins within a short period of time, hedgetrimmers, power saws and strimmers were stolen. A public footpath also runs across our course and is next to a compound - which we have to ensure is locked. We have suffered vandalism on the course, including vandalism of our irrigation system.</p>
 <p><b>Name:</b> Gary Cunningham <b>Position:</b> Course Manager <b>Club:</b> Trentham Park GC, Staffordshire</p>	<p>All the buildings are alarmed with Redcare support and CCTV cameras with lighting cover the facility. All of the staff are trained and are accountable for locking up and setting the alarm.</p>	<p>We get the odd flag stick going missing but I have not heard of anything serious in the five years I've been here.</p>

# SECURITY

HAVE YOU HAD ADVICE FROM POLICE OR PROFESSIONAL COMPANIES ON SECURITY?	HOW HAVE YOU OVERCOME THEFT PROBLEMS AND WHAT SECURITY MEASURES WOULD YOU LIKE TO PUT IN PLACE IN FUTURE?	WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO FELLOW GREENKEEPERS?
We have had a visit from the local Crime Prevention Officer.	At my previous club we were unfortunate to have a strimmer back pack blower and chainsaw taken from the sheds during work hours, when we stupidly left the doors open while we were working out on the course. I now make sure all doors are locked and also the compound gate is shut whenever no one is around. As for the future maybe CCTV will be considered.	Keep your sheds secure and compound tidy, and don't leave anything lying around that could be used to help break in - Don't trust anyone, do not assume delivery drivers or other visitors, including golfers, are not looking around in order to come back later to turn you over. Take down the registration number of the vehicles of any suspicious callers. Don't leave easily removed equipment lying invitingly around, lock them away out of sight. Build a positive relationship with your local police and ask if maybe sometimes they could get a patrol car to pass by at night. If you are unfortunate to be the victim of a robbery be aware that it is a tactic to return 2 or 3 weeks later to steal the brand new kit you have just bought as replacements!
We've recently had a new implement shed – it has never been broken into, so we have not had to seek advice from anyone.	Not at present.	Make sure you put your implement shed near the town! We are lucky that we are in a busy area. People don't get the chance to break-in, as there is always someone about.
Yes.	We increased security with alarms and a locked secure compound. We are thinking about movable or retracted bollards to prevent unwanted vehicle access.	Keep things out of sight from the general public or known workmen. Lock and shut doors when leaving your compound, make sure all employees know the correct procedure for locking up. Invest in a good alarm system as well as secure CCTV locks and gates.
Yes, when we where building the new sheds in '99 we consulted a security company for advice.	Maybe a surveillance camera (or a fake one) but you have to have permission to install one I think.	Watch out and don't leave anything valuable unattended.
Yes, from a professional company when deciding to install the alarm.	We are going to build new greenstaff facilities this winter, and of course an up-to-date alarm system will be part of the plan.	Firstly, machinery and computer/control systems cost a lot of money - secondly, losing them or having them damaged by uninvited guests also costs a lot of trouble and lost working time. We owe it to our members and ourselves to look after them!
We had advice from the Police to install Redcare and our insurance company made the suggestions to bar the windows and cage and padlock small machines/equipment. Redcare is a good system but if you have too many false alarms, the Police stop coming out to see you for a period of time.	Over the next three years we are planning new greenkeeping sheds, we will have a full security regime put in place when this is done. The thefts have stopped since we installed Redcare and took the Police and insurance company's advice.	Make sure your sheds are locked at all possible times, your alarm is regularly serviced and all shed doors are well looked after and solid.
I have talked with the alarm company that monitor the site while the system is being serviced. We have also taken advice from the Club's insurance company.	I have not had any problems, as of yet (touch wood), our present signage and security measures must be working. If we do have a problem in the future we will seek advice and adapt to the problem.	Always use the security measures you have to the full, incase the worst happens and something goes missing or there's an accident on site, the insurance company may try avoid paying up due to your negligence.