



Lloyds acquires Hunters

Lloyds of Letchworth has bought established grinding company Hunter Grinders which will now operate as a division of Lloyds

“Like Hunter Grinders Ltd we have been supplying equipment to golf and sports clubs, stadiums and parks departments for many years,” said Lloyds Managing Director, Clive Nottingham.

“Coupled with our knowledge and understanding of relief grinding from using a Hunter precision grinder for many years on our own mowers we consider it a natural synergy for the two companies.”

Existing and new customers of Hunter Grinders will now benefit from the additional support of Lloyds and Co.

Godfreys acquires Palmers Turfcare

Kent-based John Deere dealer Godfreys of Sevenoaks has bought another John Deere dealership, Palmers Turfcare.

The Palmer’s business will initially continue to operate under the same name, with all existing staff, from its premises in East Sussex.

It will also continue to be the sole supplier of John Deere’s turf equipment range in East and West Sussex.

“Both our companies have been associated with sales and service of grounds care machinery in Sussex and Kent, and with John Deere, for many years,” said Godfreys dealer principal Peter Bateman

The acquisition has the full approval of John Deere and means that Godfrey’s now offer the company’s full range of professional grounds care and domestic lawn and garden

equipment across the whole of Kent, Sussex and south-east London”

“This deal strengthens our dealership presence in the south-east of England,” said David Hart, John Deere’s Turf Equipment Division Manager.

“Both Godfreys and Palmers are established businesses with a strong focus on first class customer and product support.”

MAPLE LEAF GOLF BUYS HORTON PARK

Paul Williams, Joint Administrator and Partner at MCR, has announced the sale of Horton Park Golf & Country Club to Maple Leaf Golf, owner of both the Chichester and Hill Barn Golf Clubs in Sussex.

Maple Leaf Golf acquired Horton Park, which went into Administration in December 2008.

Peter Townson, who has been running the site on behalf of the Administrators, said: “We are delighted with the outcome.

Maple Leaf Golf is an established golf operator with an excellent track record, it was just what this business needs.”

Maple Leaf Golf acquired Chichester Golf Club, which has two 18 hole courses, a driving range and a Par 3 course, in 1999. In 2003 it acquired Hill Barn Golf Club, the 1930’s built Hawtree designed course from Worthing Borough Council.

Richard Haygarth, who will be running

the new site, said: “We are very excited about Horton Park. It is one of the best courses in the area and fits perfectly with our existing businesses.”

Plans for Horton Park include a new irrigation system for the Par 3 course, a new fleet of greenkeeping machinery, the return of buggies and a day one purchase of 20,000 range balls.

Haygarth added: “It’s a great business with excellent staff that just needs the proper investment.”



A-PLANT LAUNCHES NEW TRENCHLESS TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT GUIDE



NORTHERN AREA SALES APPOINTMENT

Crocodile Golf has appointed Jim Fox as Northern Area Sales Manager. Responsible for the North of England as well as The Midlands and Wales, Jim joins with over 22 years experience in the amenity and grass care sector and has an enviable and extensive knowledge of outdoor products and machinery.

"It is extremely refreshing to join an enthusiastic Company with such an extensive range of desirable and quality products. Everyone who has bought their replacement mower bottom blades and cylinders has been delighted with the improved performance they have brought to the golf course greens. Manufactured entirely in the United Kingdom from hot-rolled, high carbon, hardened and tempered steel, Crocodile is definitely a brand to watch out for," said Jim.

A-Plant has published a new guide to the fleet of trenchless technology equipment and services available from the company. The Guide describes the choice and applications for trenchless technology equipment available nationally from A-Plant for use in the utilities markets, covering water, gas, power and communications throughout Great Britain.

"The Guide is a valuable new information source for the trenchless technology solutions we offer nationally and will stand the test of time. Packed with full colour pictures and diagrams of products and their applications, the Guide is an authoritative and

comprehensive brochure for A-Plant trenchless technology equipment," said Ian Johnson, A-Plant's new National Business Development Manager for Trenchless Technology.

Using A-Plant's trenchless technology equipment, customers have the benefit of the most up-to-date products from the leading manufacturers for use when they need it with no downtime, supported by experienced and fully trained, specialist trenchless technology staff at A-Plant. If training is required to operate the equipment, then A-Plant can offer customers full training at the time of equipment handover.



New Sales Manager Appointed

Wiedenmann UK has appointed Paul McIldoon as Regional Sales Manager covering Ireland and Wales. Paul (36) from Portadown, Co Armagh, has an extensive and varied background in turf care including lecturing and running an organic farm.

"I've been involved selling Wiedenmann products from the dealership side for the last seven years and it seemed like a natural progression for me.

"I'll be covering both the north and south of Ireland for Wiedenmann as well as Wales - so as well as getting to know the dealers, I'll be making regular acquaintance with the ferry crossing between Holyhead and Dun Laoghaire," he said.

David Rae, Wiedenmann UK's Managing Director said, "Paul is joining at a good time for us. We've new machines in the pipeline and steady interest across the Wiedenmann fleet in aerators, mowers and collectors so he has much to keep him busy.

"With Paul's arrival we've taken the opportunity to amend the Wiedenmann UK sales territories a little - Chas Ayres will still be covering the south east and south west up as far as Lincolnshire while Michael James will cover northern England and Scotland from Lincolnshire up," continues David Rae.

In his spare time Paul is a youth leader, enjoys landscaping, collecting die-cast models and spending time with his two young daughters.