

First for Clandeboye

Clandeboye Golf Club, is the first club in Ireland to purchase the Jacobsen Eclipse 322 hybrid ride-on greens mower.

Course Manager is Terry Crawford and he is particularly impressed with the array of new features built into the mower. Commenting just after Captain's Day he said:



"I purchased this mower because of all the new features it possesses and, most of all, because it is free of hydraulic oil.

"All my staff have now experienced using the mower and are very impressed by its comfort and just how user friendly it is. It has an on board computer which allows the user to change almost anything to do with set-up; for example clip rates, cut speeds, travel speeds etc, the list goes on. This allows us greater control of how the greens can be presented according to the prevailing conditions.

"Overall the Eclipse 322 has proved to be an important asset for the golf club and is a very important piece of kit to the greenkeeping team. I would highly recommend it to anyone who is thinking of purchasing one."

Appointment

Countrywide has appointed David Howells as a member of its team of turf and amenity specialists. David will be working with greenkeepers and groundstaff throughout West Midlands, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Cheshire.

With more than 20 years experience in the industry, David started his career as a greenkeeper at Harrogate Golf Club before becoming Course Manager at The Shropshire Golf Centre in Telford. A move into sales followed, with ET Breakwell's initially and then Headland Amenity as a Technical Manager, a role David developed over 10 years.

Turf and Amenity Manager, Martin Townsend is delighted with the new appointment..

"David's in depth knowledge of the industry will be of a huge benefit to our customers, He joins a growing team of dedicated and likeminded turf professionals focused on delivering first class results for greenkeepers, course managers and groundstaff throughout the UK."



SANLI PUTS ELECTRICAL POWER ON TAP

As the nights draw in, the thoughts of many amenity and grounds care professionals as well as home and estate owners invariably turn to the irritation and nuisance of power cuts caused by winter gales, ice and snow.

One way of ensuring light and warmth on the darkest of days, or nights, is by means of a portable stand-by generator

that can be moved quickly and easily to wherever emergency or back-up electrical power might be needed.

Outdoor power equipment and engine specialist, SANLI, has introduced two such generators known as the GS720 and GS2400, producing 720 watts and 2,400 watts of electrical output respectively. The GS720 model is shown left.



New Form of Turf Protection from Grassform

According to the Met Office, last winter, the UK received an average rainfall of 255mm. In addition, significant snowfall from mid-December until the end of February resulted in the ground becoming waterlogged and unstable. This year is set to be no different, with another 'white-out' predicted.

In response to this, Grassform has developed PortaPath, a temporary outdoor flooring product which protects turf and prevents soil compaction, while also benefitting from a slip resistant surface.

Mark Dunning, Company Director at Grassform, said: "PortaPath is a leading ground protection product which is particularly suitable for the winter months. It offers a reliable and cost-efficient method to providing outdoor flooring and walkways, with the advantage of being installed quickly, meaning our customers will save time and money."

For further information on the equipment and services on offer from Grassform please visit its recently launched new website www.grassform.co.uk



MESSAGE FROM MOSCOW

Golf Technology Ltd, Ransomes Jacobsen's Russian distributor based in Moscow, held a four-day greenkeeping seminar recently to showcase the latest products from the Ipswich-based manufacturer including the Jacobsen Eclipse hybrid greens mowers. Ransomes Jacobsen is a Textron Inc (NYSE: TXT) company.

Thirty-five greenkeeping staff from golf courses across Russia, Byelorussia, Kazakhstan and Ukraine attended the event which was held at Moscow's Agricultural University and Pirogovo Golf Club. As well as product demonstrations, the seminar included presentations from renowned agronomist Dr Richard Hurley, of Rutgers University, and Jon Scott, Head of Agronomy at Nicklaus Design.

What's your number?

Our regular and random profile of an industry figure continues with this month's lucky number...

Come in No 12!
It's Campey Turf Care's MD...

Name: Richard Campey
Company: Campey Turf Care Systems

Position: Managing Director



How long have you been in the industry?

35 years and counting. We're preparing to celebrate our company's 25th anniversary in 2011.

How did you get into it?

I responded to an advertisement that SISIS placed in our local newspaper. They were looking for a service engineer but I ended up being a sales demonstrator.

What other jobs have you done?

I worked in agriculture, milking cows, and did a short stint in pharmaceutical research.

What do you like about your current job?

The variety – every day's different. It has given me the opportunity to travel the world, meet interesting people and learn as I go along.

What changes have you seen in the industry?

The quality of playing surfaces, and UK turf professionals have led the way. With regard to turf care machinery, the build quality and engineering has come on in leaps and bounds, and there's so much more to come. We're going to see manual operation giving way to electronics and remote-control. Machinery will be able to multi-task

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to take my Morgan out for a run in the countryside, and do a spot of clay pigeon shooting.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

Running the North West branch of the 'Victims of VOSA' Support Group, signing copies of my published works 'Tachographs for Dummies', and joining other 'silver surfers' at night school on a 'Computers for Beginners' course, trying to type with more than my forefingers. I'm still convinced there's one button that does it all - I just haven't found it yet!

Who do you consider best friends in the industry?

All our customers and fellow turf professionals while I'm very fortunate to have worked with some brilliant individuals. Ko Rodenberg, inventor of the Koro TopMaker, stands out as a great man.

What do you consider to be your lucky number?

With our anniversary next year, it has to be 25. It's a major milestone for me, my family and my staff.

Richard has picked David Golding of the GTC