

## Joint Tour a Success

Attention to driver comfort is paying dividends for New Holland as the company completed a successful nationwide groundcare demonstration tour.

In partnership with Ransomes Jacobsen, New Holland toured many local councils across the UK with a T5050 tractor and Ransomes Mk4 5/7 mower, spread over several months.

New Holland T5000 series Product Specialist, Alan Hawes, said that the company has received a lot of positive feedback from the tour, which has resulted in firm orders with more in the pipeline.



## New Distributor

Limagrain UK has appointed Blade Amenity Ltd as a new distributor for their range of MM sport turf mixtures and also the Designer range grass seed mixtures for landscaping.

Blade Amenity's appointment will allow Limagrain to expand their customer base in the south east.

Limagrain UK's Craig Spooner said, "We are pleased and excited with the appointment of Blade Amenity as one of our MM grass seed distributors as more end users will now have access to mixtures like MM60 and MM25 for winter sports surfaces. Blade has built up a good customer base and we believe that by working together, we can help their customers make further improvements to their sports surfaces."

Mark Wilton, Managing Director of Blade Amenity, added, "Since 2007, Blade Amenity have been offering a wide range of turf care products to our customers, making us well established in both the golf and sports sector. Now we are distributors for the popular Limagrain MM grass seed range we've increased the options for our customers."

## New Fleet for Desert



Desert Turfcare has delivered a fleet of E-Z-GO golf cars and shuttle vehicles to the newly renovated Abu Dhabi City Golf Club, which re-opened last December.

The Abu Dhabi City Golf Club began life as the Abu Dhabi Golf & Equestrian

Club in 1976. For 22 years it was an 18-hole sand course – 9 holes, but approached from two alternative tee positions - but in 1998, it was transformed into Abu Dhabi's first all grass course.

Its nine holes were designed by British golf course designer

Ian Scott Taylor.

However, it is not just the course that has been upgraded.

The club has purchased a fleet of 25 new E-Z-GO RXV golf cars, all with GPS, and three Six Shuttles for use by members and guests.



## GRAHAM BALMOND RETIRES

Graham Balmond, latterly with Simon Tullet Machinery, has retired having forged a career spanning 43 years in the outdoor power equipment industry. Well known to many throughout the trade, Graham attended his first IOG Show at Motspur Park in 1968 and since then has only missed two exhibitions.

Perhaps best known for his time with Industrial Power Units, Graham was instrumental in establishing a dealer network for Dori and Ferris machines, having originally joined the company as Sales Manager for Acme and JLO engines.

In 1994, his wealth of sales experience led him to join Simon Tullet Machinery as Area Sales Manager covering Ireland, Wales and the south of England.

"I still intend to visit the odd exhibition and would welcome calls from friends old and new on 07502087008 or g.balmond@btinternet.com"

## New Irrigation System for Hoylake



MJ Abbott has begun the installation of a new irrigation system for the Royal Liverpool GC, at Hoylake, which has just been announced as venue for the 2014 Open.

Working with the club's irrigation consultant, Adrian Mortram from RHA/STRI Irrigation Services, they'll install new mainlines, a 550m<sup>3</sup> water storage tank, a 85m<sup>3</sup> per hour pump station, an upgraded electricity supply and borehole transfer pipework which will provide water to the greens, approaches, greens surrounds, fairways, tees, rough, walkways, practice putting greens and to the four Open Championship tented village areas.

The irrigation will be operated using the Rain Bird ICS System and will feature a Rain Bird weather station and radio remote control.



## The Challenge of Change

Andy Wood is in his first year as Course Manager of Robin Hood Golf Club in Solihull, having had the same role at Cosby Golf club, near Leicester, for seven years.

He has initiated an ambitious five year plan for the Robin Hood, and ordered a new fleet of course maintenance and service equipment worth over £300,000;

this was bought on a John Deere Credit five year finance package, following a review of his requirements with John Deere and Birmingham based dealer Turner Groundscare of Erdington.

"Basically we're aiming to become an Open qualifying venue," said Andy.

"If we can succeed in what we

want to create, it will be a fantastic golf course – and we won't need to worry about attracting new members and societies, because people will want to play here."

Photograph shows Robin Hood Golf Club Course Manager Andy Wood (left) with Russell Tomlinson, of John Deere dealer, Turner Groundscare, of Erdington.

## SPRING INTO ACTION

SISIS will be holding bowling green seminar / demonstration days during March. Register contacting the SISIS on 01625 503030 ext 232 or Email [publicity@sisis.com](mailto:publicity@sisis.com)