



Boom to the Future

Castle Stuart Golf Links, in Inverness, is using a New Holland Boomer 3050 compact tractor to help shape the future of golf in the Highlands of Scotland.

Supplied by Elgin-based New Holland Groundcare dealer Ravenhill, the four wheel drive (4WD) Boomer 3050 is one of the first to enter operation in the UK featuring continuously variable transmission

Chris Haspell, Course Manager at Castle Stuart, which opened in July 2009, said:

"We selected the Boomer as it's the most versatile compact tractor in its class"

All Boomer 3000 series models feature New Holland's factory-fitted cab, with its slim pillars and 360-degree visibility.

Chris added: "In addition to the cab, one of the most popular features on the Boomer is the EasyDrive transmission.

"The greenkeepers absolutely love it."

In addition to working around the current 18-hole championship course, the Boomer's workload is set to increase as Castle Stuart Golf Links progresses with the next stage of its development which will see a nine-hole par three course added later this year.



GREENCAST MOBILE PHONE SCREENS

Greenkeepers, students and agronomists now have the chance to win an iPod Touch, by visiting the GreenCast

Mobile website and completing a short questionnaire.

The GreenCast Mobile initiative, which is currently in a pilot phase, is looking to make some of the information from the website - www.greencast.co.uk - more accessible and easier to use as part of everyday turf management activities. The service is designed to work with iPhone, BlackBerry and web-enabled smart phones.

To take part in the project, log on to the GreenCast website and enter a mobile phone number on a designated webpage. An automated text message will be sent direct to the phone, giving a one-click link to the mobile website.

Services already available on the mobile website include a popular quick reference five-day weather summary, detailed illustrated local weather information and disease identification guides, along with links for the products that provide a solution and advice on how to use them.

All participants will be entered into the free prize draw with the chance to win an iPod Touch. The survey can be accessed direct at:

www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22B7WGL6VSA

What's your number?

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

Carol Borthwick of Elmwood College

Name: Carol Borthwick
Company: Elmwood College
Position: Director of International, Golf and Student Services



How long in the industry?
28 years with Elmwood College.

How did you get into it?

Started in the horticultural Department of Elmwood when greenkeepers were taught the same curriculum as the horti students. Worked with other Colleges to help set up greenkeeper specific qualifications (late 80s.) We ran the first Full time NC Greenkeeping course in 1990.

What other jobs have you done?

I worked in a garden centre, a wholesale plant nursery. At Elmwood I worked at Ladybank GC and Gleneagles, and as a lecturer and then management of the greenkeeping, golf curriculum areas, and the Colleges 18 hole Golf Course Facility.

What do you like about your current job?

Never a dull moment! Working directly in the student support area across the College is great as I feel I can begin to make a contribution to the student experience.

What changes have you seen in the industry?

The main area which has been a real pleasure to see and be involved in is the professionalising of the Greenkeeping Industry. Elmwood was a key driver in the development of the Greenkeeping profession with a range of courses being developed full and part time including the Higher National Diploma in Golf Course Management. I was also part of the original work group that wrote the black book and more recently the development of the European Greenkeeping Education Standards.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

When I get any (!) I try to keep up my golf although over the years that has suffered particularly. I also love walking the dog and doing a bit of running and cycling. I also enjoy some nice meals out with my partner.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

I will be in the latter years of full time employment (recession and public spending review allowing!) Hopefully, however, I will still be of use to the education and/or golf industry in some way!

Who do you consider best friends in the industry?

I have made a huge number of friends across the whole golf industry not only in the UK but also internationally, but it is always the Greenkeeping Industry friendships that I remember most affectionately.

What do you consider to be your lucky number?

12

Carol has picked Richard Campey