



## Lone Britannia

Ecosol Turfcare was the only British exhibitor at GreenExpo, held in Bordeaux in November 2011.

Operator of the Drill n Fill/Deep Drill aerators and sportsturf maintenance and renovation systems, Ecosol has just returned from a highly successful visit to the French Greenkeepers' Association exhibition, taking place over three days at the city's lakeside venue. Ecosol MD, Bretton King was impressed by the quality of the visitors. "We've seen increasing numbers of European golf clubs booking us for Drill n Fill contract work and machine sales over the past few years," he said, "so a personal presence on the Continent was a no-brainer."

"We had a lot of informed interest in Drill n Fill from the major clubs, some of whom made definite bookings and there was evidence that smaller clubs were co-operating to book the system between them. In addition it was great to meet several satisfied customers, from management to greenkeeping staff."

## TURFCO iPad WINNER

Graeme Lorimer, Course Manager at Bishopsbrigg Golf Club on the north eastern outskirts of Glasgow, has won one of the six Apple iPads offered as prizes in Turfco's promotional campaign celebrating 50 years of topdressing.

Turfco, the Minnesota-based manufacturer and inventor of the first mechanised topdresser, have been running the competition since the February 2011.

At the end of the year, a Grand Prize Draw will be held with the winner receiving a Turfco WideSpin 1540 EC topdresser.

Graeme was presented with his prize by John Quinton, Ransomes Jacobsen's UK and Ireland sales manager,



during a visit to IOG Scotsturf early in November.

"I can't believe it, I'm not normally very lucky when I enter competitions, so when I was notified that I'd won, I was absolutely astounded," said Graeme.

## What's your number?

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

**Name:** John Coleman

**Company:** Advanced Turf Technology

**Position:** Owner

**How long have you been in the industry?** 24 Years

**How did you get into it?**

I was a fairly keen golfer as a junior and thought that getting a job as a greenkeeper, because of the early starts, would allow me to play golf after work. After the first week however I thought my legs were about to fall off with all the walking I was doing! You could say Frank Scullion, my first boss saved me the ignominy of many a frustrating Saturday medal. Thanks Frank!

**What other jobs have you done?**

At the moment I'm almost exclusively working at ATT but in the past I've spent a lot of time with golf course construction, primarily with RTJ II in Scandinavia, although I still do some advisory work.

**What do you like about your current job?**

I enjoy the challenge of bringing new concepts through to actual usable products.

**What changes have you seen in the industry?**

In many ways the fundamentals of decent greenkeeping have stayed pretty much the same. There have been some significant improvements in the arsenal of chemicals that are now available such as PGR's.. The biggest change that I can see is golf itself. It appears that there are significantly fewer golfers and too many courses vying for the same business. I believe, it will end up with more management companies running multiple courses to lessen overheads.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I try and take part in a few triathlons in a season and also a few open water swimming events of about a couple of miles in length. I enjoy a nice bottle of wine of course so it's not all nut case stuff!

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?**

That's an interesting question in these times of uncertainty. I'd like to have a sound solvent business obviously. I'm also hoping my knees hold out so I can keep on with the nut case stuff!

**Who do you consider best friends in the industry?**

With 24 Years in the business I'm lucky to have a lot of good friends. For fear of leaving anybody out I'll limit my list to one very good friend, Iain MacPherson

**What's your lucky number?** 8

