

Keeping the greens in play

A drainage and sand banding combination keeps the greens in play at Robin Hood Golf course.

Three years after joining Robin Hood GC, Course Manager Andy Wood is delighted with significant improvements that have been made in that time.

When he first joined the team, he was concerned with the poor drainage on the course that kept it out of play.

With development funds at his disposal, Andy was able to make several improvements.

Previously, the greens staff had employed various aeration techniques to improve the flow of moisture through the root zone, but none have been as effective as using the AFT 45 at installing drainage lines at 1.5metre centres, followed by diagonal adjoining lines with the Sandbander, to provide even greater opportunity for the water to flow into the main drainage system.

"The AFT 45 is an excellent, easy to operate trencher. Coupled with the Sandbander, it is a perfect combination of equipment to keep our course in play all year round," said Andy.



Shelton Super Trencher

It is just over a year since sportsturf drainage specialists Shelton SDS launched what has become a worldwide bestselling machine; the Shelton Supertrencher+ 760.

This trenching machine was built as a result of customer feedback. Drainage specifications in some countries called for deeper and wider trenches for the pipe work, so the team enlarged the design of the Supertrencher+ 675 by using a CAD program to create the Supertrencher+ 760.

According to Sheltons customers, the success of the Supertrencher+ 760 is largely down to its versatility. It is ideal for installing both primary and secondary drainage systems on any amenity grass. The machine has digging capabilities of up to 760mm deep and 155mm wide, so a chain trencher may not even be required for the primary system and it can also dig a trench as narrow as 50mm. For more information please visit: www.sheltonsdrainage.com

What's your number?

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

Van is the man, as this month What's your number goes Dutch

Name: Peter van Mispelaar.

Company: Vanmac/Trilo.

Position: Owner/director of Vanmac (50% shares).

How long have you been in the industry? 23 years.

How did you get into it? After practicing from school.

What other jobs have you done?

I worked with dairy, I was born on a dairy farm and I still like this industry.

What do you like about your current job?

Selling the equipment and managing people, so things go as they're supposed to go.

What changes have you seen during your time in the industry?

The market forces us to build cheaper machines because the budget is smaller. Also we don't see new machines, but existing machines that are fine-tuned and made in a wider range.

What do you like to do in your spare time? I like to mountain bike in the forest.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time? I see myself as director of the company still, but at a different scale.

Who do you consider to be your best friends in the industry?

My best friend in the industry is Leo van Loen, my partner in the business.

What do you consider to be your lucky number? I don't really have a lucky number but, 44 is a nice number.



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