

Excellence in golf awards at Gleneagles



The Gleneagles Excellence in Golf certificates and bursary awards have been presented to seven Higher National Diploma golf management students following their one year placement at Gleneagles.

Peter Lederer, Gleneagles' Managing Director, and Andrew Sunaway, Sales and Marketing Director of Ransomes the scheme's sponsors, presented the awards in the company of David

McInroy, Scottish Grass Machinery, and Robert McLaren, Chairman of co-sponsor the Greenkeepers Training Committee.

Stuart Green, Reaseheath College, was top student following practical, theoretical and project assessments by a panel consisting of James Kidd, Gleneagles Golf Developments, Martyn Jones, Myerscough College, Dennis Mortram, Reaseheath College, Tracey Samways, Gleneagles' training

officer, and Scott Fenwick, head greenkeeper on the King's course.

Stuart received a cheque to include a trip to the Golf Course Superintendents Association conference and show in Orlando, Florida, next year.

Other recipients of Certificates of Excellence and bursary awards were Jeff Hardcastle, John Kelsey, Keith Ratcliff, Lisa Gifford, Margeir Vilhjalmsson and Simon Crawford.

The 1995/96 scheme is to be extended with students representing nine UK colleges and one from Brisbane, Australia, who for the past year has been seconded to Shoal Creek Golf Club, Alabama.

The sponsors are committed to a three year bursary award and financing a research library at Gleneagles for the benefit of students and existing golf course operational staff.

Go-Karting is sponsorship for greenkeepers with a difference

New for 1995 is a Greenkeepers' sponsorship with a difference. This month, a six-man karting team, competing in the 250cc class for national honours, will carry the Barenbrug colours.

The Barenbrug/Grass Roots Go-Kart team are getting ready for a winter of competition on their recently-acquired pro-karts, in preparation for a summer of higher profile championship racing.

The upcoming competition events won't be quite as glamorous as the summer championships but they will provide the team with invaluable, practical experience.

The six-man team, pictured, comprises of four golf club Course Managers - Cameron McMillan, Stockley Park; Gavin Kyle, Sutton Green; Phil Chiverton, The Buckinghamshire and Stuart McMillan, Leatherhead; one Managing Director - Jamie Bennett, of Grass Roots, and one Head



Greenkeeper - Tony Kyle, Stockley Park. It is Cameron who has assumed the duties of managing the team and developing it into a cohesive and unbeatable unit!

Selection for the team was determined strictly on racing merit. Those who were fastest

on the single-engine karts were allowed to progress to double-engine, pro-kart trials. All six team members are now holders of pro-kart licences and are currently practising on the two pro-kart machines which the team took delivery of at the end of August.



If you're not already a member

...it must be because you're not aware of the many benefits of membership.

If you want to know what they are, you need to get hold of a copy of November's issue of *Greenkeeper International*. If you can't wait until then, ring Janet on 01347 838581 for more information.

BIGGA - IT'S ABOUT YOU

MEETING



HAYTER CHALLENGE

RESULTS

Regional Team Prize

1. Scottish 899; 2. Midland 909.5

Overall Winner

William Banks (South East) 102

Best Gross - 27 holes

Derek McJannett (Northern) 107

Category 1 (Handicap 0-9)

1. Alexander Reid (Scottish) 105.5; 2. Derek McJannett (Northern) 107; 3. George Brown (Scottish) 108.

Category 2 (Handicap 10-18)

1. Ray Hayden (Eire) 107; 2. Paul Harley (Northern) 107.5; 3. Alan Roberts (Midland) 112.5.

Category 3 (Handicap 19-28)

1. William Banks (South East) 102; 2. Ian Dunmore (Midland) 111; 3. David Mowatt (Scottish) 111.5

Over 55s

George Brown (Scottish) 108

Under 21s

Alexander Reid (Scottish) 105.5

Nearest the Pin

Charlie MacDonald (Midland)

Longest Drive

Ian Dunmore (Midland)

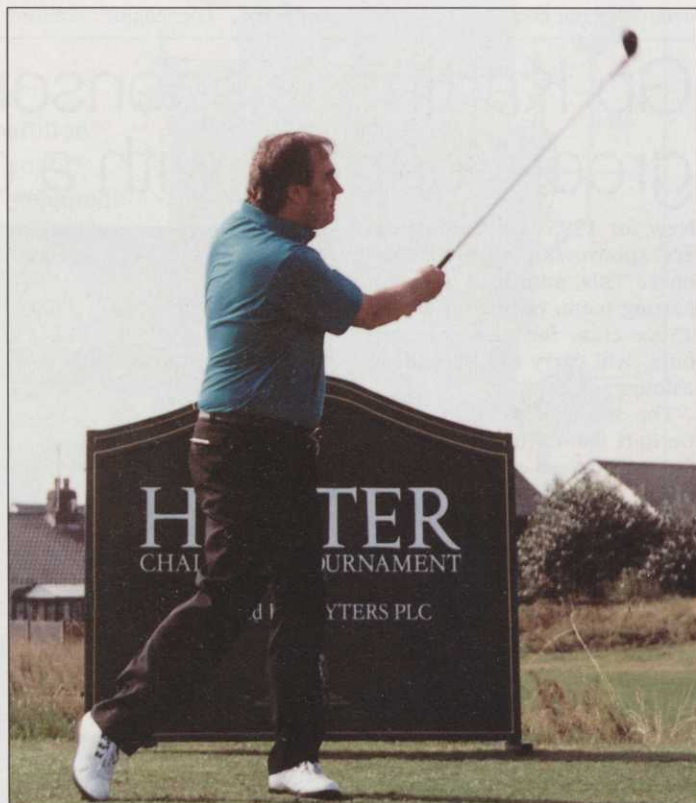
Perfect conditions greeted the 63 Hayter finalists and, as Scott MacCallum witnessed, they produced golf to match the occasion.

The Hayter Challenge has a reputation for across the board excellence. The sectional and regional qualifying events bring out the best in those attempting to progress further; the courses used are among the best in the country while the magnificent sponsorship support at every Hayter day is second to none.

All those elements were to the fore at West Lancashire Golf Club for the 1995 Hayter Challenge Final.

The quality of the golf play was superb in all three categories, the course was one of the finest links in the country presented in excellent order and Kim Macfie and his Hayter colleagues were at their hospitable best.

There are some links courses which really do require a bit of wind to add steel to their defences and sharpen their teeth. The most famous links of them all, the Old Course at St Andrews can demand the power of Hercules and the touch of a safe cracker to break 80 if the wind blows but caught on a calm day



The Palmeresque Kim Macfie swing

in October by Curtis Strange a few years ago even it gave up a 10 under-par 62.

West Lancashire isn't like that. It's a beast even on a calm day and the finalists should know

because they benefitted from a perfect day practice round and an equally calm competition day, a situation rare – if not unknown – on the north west coast in mid-September. Even at its most



Northern



Midland

THE CHALLENGE



John Muir, centre, and his West Lincs greenkeeping team

benign birdies were as rare as copies of *The Sun* in nearby Liverpool – it's still banned in much of the city following its coverage of the Hillsborough Disaster.

As always, for every set of unlucky losers there is a multi talented victor and on this occasion it was the team from the Home of Golf which prevailed and broke its duck in the event.

Scotland, captained by BIGGA's answer to Bernard Gallacher, Elliott Small, romped home by over 10 shots with an eight out of nine scores counting 27 hole total of 899. The Midland region edged home second just ahead of

the Northern region.

It was a magnificent effort by the boys in blue whose spirit was epitomised by the performance of the "old man of the team", and adopted Scot, George Brown. Turnberry's finest was "nobbled" the night before the competition and forced to drink vast quantities of the aforementioned spirit by a former colleague. He came out the following morning somewhat sluggishly but by the afternoon was back to his best posting a gross sub-par total for the final nine holes. It was good enough to carry him to the over 55s prize with a score of 108.



Scottish



Eire



Northern Ireland



South West and South Wales



South East

'West Lancs tests every club in the bag'

His presence, and ability to come back from an excessively hard night, inspired the younger members of the team, particularly Alexander Reid of Letham Grange who shot a best of the morning nett 68 on his way to clinching the under 21 prize with a score of 105.5.

The quality of the golfer mustered by the teams was exceptionally high with many Category one players headed by Derek McJanett of Sherwood Forest GC who posted a gross one under par total of 107 off a scratch handicap. It brought him the best gross prize six shots ahead of Shaun Richards, the one handicapper who was the gross winner at the National Tournament at St Annes Old Links the previous month.

The top individual prize was



Hayters MD Tony Bourke, back left, with Barry Heaney and category winners William Banks, Alexander Reid and Ray Hayden

claimed by Willie Banks of Herne Bay GC and the South East Region. Willie, who has only recently returned to the game after a lay-off, posted a nett 72 in the morning but struck a purple patch in the afternoon nine holes completing them in a nett 30 shots.

Before a shot was played in anger there was a surprise for Bert Cross, the long time starter of the Finals whose work was recognised with the presentation of a magnificent Starter's Jacket to add a touch of sartorial elegance to the stylish way in which he has always sent players on their way.

Praise for the course was universal and a credit to Head Greenkeeper John Muir and his

team. John has been at West Lancs for 11 years and is reaping the rewards for his hard work.

Working together with his deputy, Mike Norman and the rest of his team of six John recently improved the dog leg left 13th 100% by building mounding to prevent the dog leg being carried from the elevated tee. The area from which the soil used to build the mounding was utilised by a new turf nursery.

An Open qualifying course West Lancs tests every club in the bag and the quality of the condition and presentation is matched only by the layout itself. While links courses in Scotland can have heather protecting their honour and snaring errant shots West Lancs has brambles which are just as effective as their Scottish equivalents at wrapping themselves round a clubhead.

The gala dinner in the spacious

West Lancs' dining room was a splendid affair with an excellent speaker in former Guards Sergeant John Welsh regaling tales from his past and a selection of his finest jokes – some of them repeatable. It was also an opportunity for Kim Macfie to reinforce Hayter's sponsorship of the event and announce a new "Ryder Cup" style event to be launched next year involving greenkeepers from around the world.

The Hayter Challenge Final was an ideal opportunity to display the qualities of the new FM514 Fairway Unit Mower to the assembled greenkeepers.

The midweight machine has five floating heads, a Kubota 35 hp diesel engine, power on-demand four wheel drive, seven or 11 blade cutter 26 inch heads. Cost of the FM514, which was launched in prototype form at Harrogate earlier this year and is now in full time production, is £23,995.

Already it has attracted much interest, including in the USA and Japan and the West Lancashire practice range was the ideal place for finalists to put the new machine through its paces.



George Brown, Course Manager, Turnberry:

"It's extremely manoeuvrable and very fast if required to be so. The steering and traction are also very positive and the fact that it is British is a big plus. I also like the fact that the machine is extremely simple to operate. I'm also pleased to learn that there are grass buckets because it's sometimes important to be able to present your course at its Sunday best."

Ian Holoran, Foreman, Middlesbrough Municipal Golf Centre:

"An impressive machine. It has a good turning circle which is great for going around bunkers and winter greens and it certainly scores over gang mowers because of its ability to present the course so well. You sit high up which means visibility is good. I do think the cab should be standard in this country (cab comes as an optional extra at £2,500). It has plenty of power and a good Kubota engine. It's also a UK company so parts back-up should be good and I particularly like the lever to drop the cutting blades which I much prefer to a pedal."

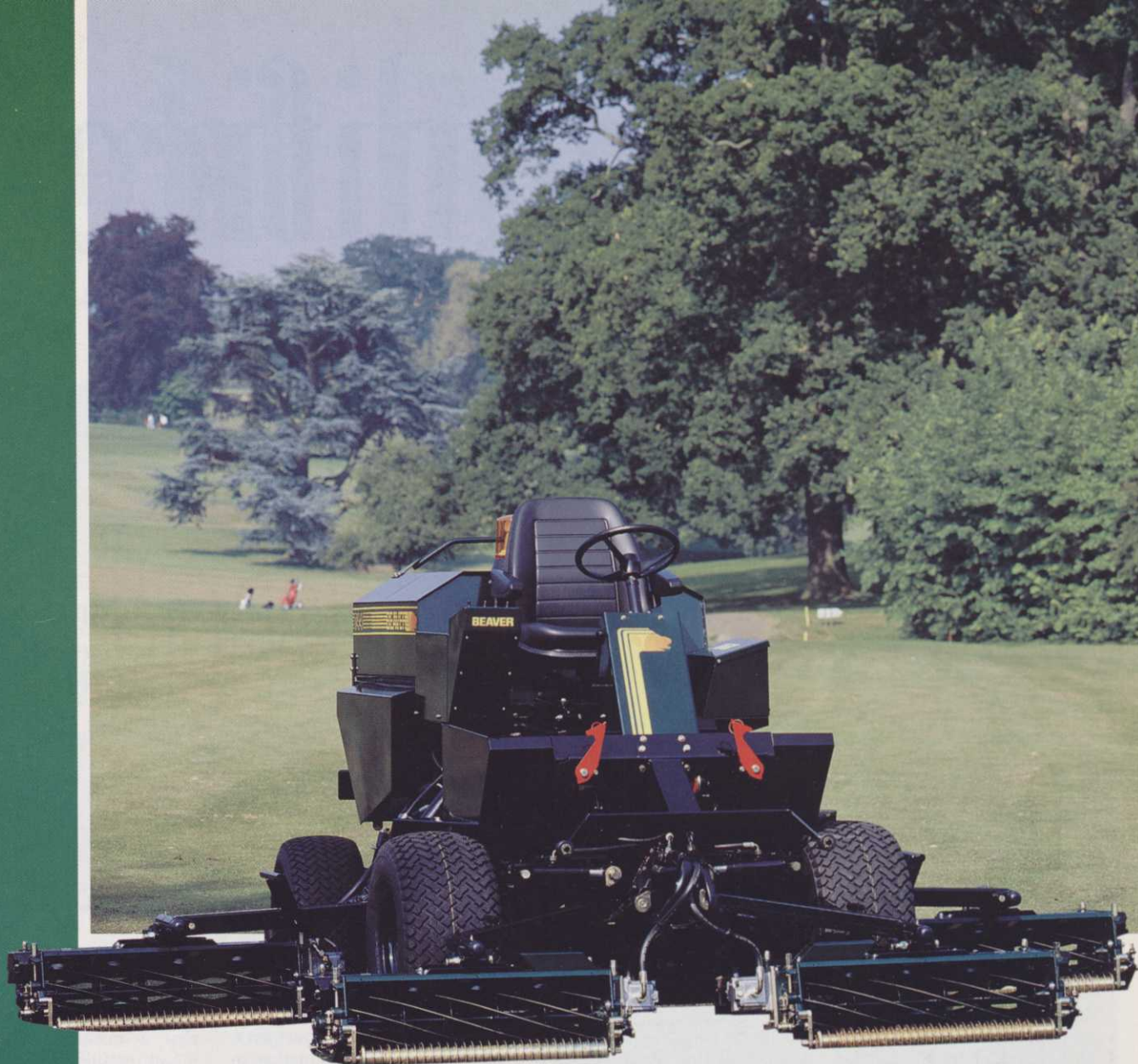


Buster Lewer, Course Manager, Dainton Park GC:

"It's a super machine. The weight is right and it feels good. It's the lightest machine on the market. The visibility is great and overall I can't really fault the machine."



If there is anything it's that you've got to get out of the machine to move the cutting units up to their vertical position but that only takes a couple of seconds. Using this machine the presentation of the course would be excellent."



Our greenkeeper.

Truly way out in front, the T44 is the self-propelled gang mower. The only choice you need to make is 10" fixed or 8" floating heads with 6,8 or 10 knives.

Ample power, advanced controls, weight transfer, four-wheel drive and differential lock combine to make this machine your perfect greenkeeper.

To proceed further in your quest for perfection, call us today for full details and to arrange a demonstration.



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LETTERS

Sensible way to tackle winter greens

In reply to September issue's article on winter greens I write in support of Richard Barker's views on the subject.

My experience of heavy land and annual meadow grass greens is to protect them for as long as possible in winter. Theoretically in January, February and March you should play winter greens but a very wet autumn can force greenkeepers onto winter greens earlier. A mild spell can allow full greens back in play but in winter drying out is slow.

Our programme is to go on to winter greens when forced to in December and stay on until mid-March. Any faults must be agreed on at the February green committee meeting and acted on in the last two weeks in March. This is to help plan for next winter.

I agree with the large hole cups and also on the good tee mats. Golfers never agree on anything and have to be led through skilled leadership to winter greens. When the decision is between closure and winter greens they prefer winter greens. Richard is right. He is not too cautious and I fully support him. April can also be a wintry month while May can be cold and dry.

The aim must be for better surfaces in the spring when we return to main greens.

Richard's approach is correct and sensible. Well done and keep it up.

Bruce Burnell
Head Greenkeeper
Eaglescliffe GC, Co Durham.

Open thanks

On behalf of St Andrews Links Trust I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all BIGGA members involved with the tournament for their invaluable assistance which was greatly appreciated. Their contribution combined with the efforts of our own greenkeeping staff played no small part in the resounding success of this major event.

Ian A. Forbes
Links Manager
St Andrews Links Trust

Magnificent

Eight finalists have been chosen for the final of the Toro/PGA European Tour Student of the year.

The interview panel has returned from its far reaching travels and as Loyd Grossman says "deliberated, cogitated and consulted" – or I think that's what he says – and come up with eight finalists for the 1995 edition Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year.

Such was the standard discovered within the 33 entries interviewed over five arduous days that Pete Mansfield, General Manager of Toro Lely UK, Dean Cleaver, Chairman of BIGGA's education sub-committee and Ken Richardson, BIGGA's Education Officer decided to activate the three wild cards they had their disposal to bring the final total up to a maximum of eight.

The finalists will gather at Aldwark Manor on October 8 and 9 where they will again be put under the microscope with the aim of determining the man, for they are all men, who will succeed Euan Grant the 1994 winner.

As is usually the case with something which requires more than the conventional level of effort the rewards for the winner, and indeed the runners-up, more than compensate.

The 1995 Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year will win the Toro Scholarship which includes a six week residential turf management study course at the University of Massachusetts in January/February '96. There will also be visits to the Toro Company headquarters in Minneapolis and the Toro Irrigation Division in California and possibly a visit to the GCSAA Show in Orlando. All expenses will be met by the sponsors.

The two runners-up will join the PGA European Tour at two Volvo Tour venues just prior to and during a tournament and they will be invited to the PGA European Tour's Greenkeeping Conference, held every two years.

The overall winner's senior greenkeeping tutor will also be offered a place on the BIGGA trip to the GCSAA Conference and Show in Orlando, Florida.



MARTIN BOND

Representing: Scotland
Age: 35 College: Elmwood.

A major career change saw Martin move from the stock market to greenkeeping in 1993, when he became 1st assistant at the prestigious London Golf Club where he was involved from the construction, seeding and growing in period right through to the grand opening. It was while at the London Club that he first attended Elmwood when he completed a Scotvec National Certificate in Greenkeeping on block release. He has now decided to return to college full time to study the HND in Golf Course Management.

A keen interest in sport sees Martin, who is married with two children, playing off an impressive 7 handicap and enjoying such other pursuits as skiing, fishing and rugby.

RICHARD MILLS

Representing: Northern
Age: 23 College: Askham Bryan

A 3 handicap golfer who has represented the East Riding of Yorkshire Richard is also a member at the club at which he is an assistant, Ganstead Park. At Ganstead Richard has been involved in the major work which has gone along with extending the course from 9 to 18 holes including planting

3,000 trees and building four large lakes.

Away from the golf course he is also a talented rugby league player playing for Skirlaugh ARLFC and representing Hull Schools.

CHAS CAMPEN

Representing: Midland
Age: 28 College: Cambridge
College of Agriculture and Horticulture

Chas has been learning at the feet of the master since he began greenkeeping three years ago as his boss, at Orton Meadows in Peterborough, David Walden, is the current Miracle (Zeneca) Greenkeeper of the Year. David is heavily involved in the training of greenkeepers and he can point to Chas as a star pupil.

Married with two children Chas also has national honours to his name as the 1980 National Junior Model Flying Radio Controlled Plane Champion.

Before entering greenkeeping he worked for a landscaping company for nine years reaching the position of foreman and experience from that career has helped him in his greenkeeping studies.

He also did a year's diesel fitting course at college and learned skills useful in the maintenance of greenkeeping machinery.

eight head for Aldwark Manor

STUART ADAMS

Representing: South West and Wales

Age: 19 College: Hartbury

Stuart has been an assistant at the Forest of Dean GC since '93 having worked on a holiday or part-time basis at the golf club since '87. He has completed Level 2 and 3 NVQ Amenity Horticulture/Turf and he is a qualified assessor.

His active sporting interests do not include golf but he is captain of his local darts team, both a Blue belt in judo and a Green belt in karate, and plays for the local football team. He also helps coach the local school team.

DAVID RAY

Representing: South East

Age: 28 College: Plumpton

The gamble of a career change looks like working out for David who listed on his application form that his achievement was to secure a full time job in a year with no prior experience. That job, at Piltdown GC, Uckfield, helps fund his Level 2 Day Release studies at Plumpton College. Married with two children David has received the full support of his wife in his new career and his full time post comes after a seasonal job at East Sussex National.

Away from work he is a keen golfer and swimmer and also enjoys DIY and reading.

STEPHEN GRANSBY

Representing: South East

Age: 36 College: Oaklands

Another who has made a career change Stephen worked in the building industry for 15 years but having been made redundant realised "with 30 years of work ahead of me" that he needed a job he looked forward to going to.

Since joining the profession he has worked at Hanbury Manor in Hertfordshire and is currently at Mill Green GC in Welwyn Garden City.

Off the course he is a keen swimmer and interested in the outdoor pursuits of walking and shooting. He is the proud holder of a bravery award, presented to him by Prince Charles, for chasing, catching and holding down a bank robber in North London.

GERARD McCARTNEY

Representing: Ireland

Age: 33 College: Greenmount

Another late entrant to the profession Gerard has made up for lost time working at Colin Valley GC in Belfast for the last two years before being employed by Greenmount College as a greenkeeper. Married with seven children, stopping after the arrival of a second son, Gerard worked hard on the day to day running and renovation of Colin Valley and now the maintenance of the college sports turf teaching and training areas as well as maintenance of the fleet of machinery.

Off the course he is a voluntary conservation worker and interested in gardening and walking. He is also the current Donegal Celtic Golfing Society Player of the Year off his 14 handicap.

JAMES BRAITHWAITE

Representing: Northern

Age: 29 College: Askham Bryan

Another who has found his way into greenkeeping via another profession James spent the first seven years of his working life in an Iron Foundry in Darlington achieving the position of Casting Department Superintendent.

When the foundry closed in 1992 he began working as a labourer/greenkeeper on the new course at Hallgarth Hotel and pushed to be sent to college.

James, who is married with two children, played Derbyshire Schools and County cricket until he was 19 and is also interested in golf, football, squash and photography.



Martin Bond



Richard Mills



Chas Campen



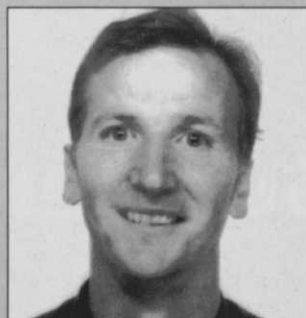
Stuart Adams



David Ray



Stephen Gransby



Gerard McCartney



James Braithwaite

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HIGH QUALITY LOW BUDGET MAINTENANCE FOR ALL TYPES OF GRASS MOWERS.



STANDARD FEATURES

- 1 0.37kw fully rated motor.
- 2 Variable lapping speed 100rpm up to 200rpm
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- 6 Universal cylinder drive sleeve.
- 7 12.7mm universal joint.
- 8 1/2kg drum backlapping compound.

S U P R E M E
M O W I N G

AD REF 57

FRESH FROM SALTEX

Saltex '95 provided many of the major companies in the industry with an opportunity to unveil new products.



Ransomes Bob-Cat

Ransomes launched four new products including a portable machine designed to restore keen edges to cutting cylinders from Ransomes company, **Supreme Mowing Ltd.**

The Ransomes T-Plex 213 is an economically priced lighter-duty triplex mower designed for high output cutting or regularly maintained areas. It produces a seven foot cut from three 30 in wide cutting cylinders and being four wheeled it has superb balance and stability. Boasting front wheel drive and rear wheel hydrostatic power steering with the drive to the wheels also fully hydrostatic and a single foot pedal giving infinitely-variable

forward speeds up to 10.6mph.

The Bob-Cat is Ransomes first hydrostatic drive walk-behind rotary mower. A principle feature is the hydrostatic transmission which allows the user to select the ideal ground speed up to 6mph. Two fingertip levers control the drive independently to each wheel for instantaneous forward and reverse, steering and braking. The power-turning facility gives a zero turning radius..

The Cushman Hawk is a four-wheeled, two seater vehicle which comes with the option of electric motor or petrol engine drive. It features a heavy-duty steel frame, all-round suspension and hydraulic brakes.



The Supreme Superlap provides a portable drive for mower cutting units

The Supreme Superlap, introduced by Supreme Mowing Ltd is ideal for those wishing to backlap cylinders from mowers which do not have a reverse drive facility on their cutting units and will give a restore a keen edge quickly to blades between major regrinds. The Superlap's electric motor also has a reversible drive to enable left or right hand cutting cylinders to be backlapped.



Jacobsen's Greens King V

Jacobsen launched its Greens King V which is an up-dated version of its successful original version. The new machine is fitted with a Kubota 19HP engine and new "FlashAttach" reels which can be changed in seconds without the aid of tools and each is left hand drive making them interchangeable. There is also power steering and tilt wheel feature.

John Deere unveiled a series of new products at the show.

Among them were Europro



John Deere's Howard Storey demonstrates the Turfchek I Tool on a golf green

mid-price lawn tractors, a diesel-engined Gator utility vehicle, 55 HP to 85 HP tractors equipped with turf tyres, 48in rear-discharge mower deck and front loader from lawn and garden tractors, precision tools for checking mower performance and quality of cut and the first public



Lindum Turf launched its latest new product Lindum Squayrs.

Made from BAyr Root Washed Turf grown into a Netlon Advanced Turf Rootzone the Squayr can be lifted using a specialist grab and placed accurately into badly worn areas.

The product is the latest to come from the association between Lindum and the Australian company, StrathAyr which has patented both the BAyr Root Washed Turf and the SquAyr systems

top GRADES

Full marks to Lindum for their ever expanding range of turf grades and specialist services.

Top quality turf for all uses, in standard size or big rolls. And now available - washed turf by the patented StrathAyr BAyr Root washing process. Also expert turf laying and professional agronomic services.

When it comes to innovation, new technology and a red carpet service - Lindum are in a class of their own.

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advancing turf technology

FRESH FROM SALTEX

showing of the 2653A diesel-engined utility mower.

One of these, Turfchek is used to measure the height of cut in grass as an aid to checking

mower performance and quality of cut. It is placed on the grass and measures from 0.05 in up to 2.5 in using a prism for high levels of accuracy.

SISIS launched the Eroll fine turf roller at the show.

Electrically powered to forward and reverse drive the Eroll has its own in-built battery charger

Also launched was the SISIS Rolaspik 180, a tractor mounted sarell type roller with two independently floating hearts to follow ground contours and the SISIS sportsturf drainage machinery comprising a range of specialised compact machines, ideal for in-house operation.

Amenity Technology Ltd

unveiled its second generation formulation Roots2 concentrate which promotes rapid root growth and regeneration for seedlings and which in US tests has shown a 53% improvement. Among the related new products were NoburN natural wetting agent and soil penetrant which is guaranteed not to scorch and AGRIplex micro-mix which is declared ideal for sand-based greens.

Etesia's Diagnostic Unit for the Bahia MBHE ride-on mower scooped the Best New Product Award at the show.

The unit was selected for its ability to save valuable downtime in speedily and easily locating electrical faults.

"Etesia is a very innovative company and this award gives recognition to our advanced and practical approach when developing new mowers," said Patrick Vives, Managing Director of Etesia UK Ltd.

Renault Agriculture

unveiled its Groundsman range. Available in either two or four wheel drive the new range comprises the three cylinder 52HP Renault 55-12 (2WD) and the 55-14 Groundsman (4WD) and the higher powered four cylinder 67HP Renault 70-12 (2WD) and 70-14 (4WD) Groundsman.

Although small in size both models have an impressive life capacity ranging from 2.5 tonnes for the shorter 55-12/14



Charterhouse launched its new Turf Tidy which de-thatches dead and deteriorating turf, helps to bring new life to soil and grass while thatch clippings and sweepings are hoovered up into its 2.5 cubic metre hopper.

INTRODUCING THE NEW GREENSMASER 3200-D

