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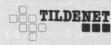
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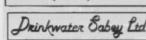
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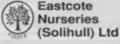
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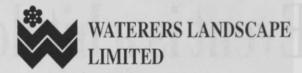
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Event is a hit despite the weather

Although the weather was very unkind to us at this year's Westurf it did stop raining on occasions, giving the steady flow of visitors time to look around the stands and watch several demonstrations taking place throughout the day.

On entering the show there was some very fine British outdoor furniture on display from Britannic Teak, beautifully made and attracting a great deal of genuine interest. I am assured that you will certainly see them again next year.

The Huxley Soil Reliever on a Kubota 360 Tractor from the MST stand started off the demonstrations, along with the Shelton single leg gravel band drainer coupled to a compact tractor.

Unfortunately Gannon UK couldn't demonstrate its Aeravator on the soft ground but nevertheless were pleased with the interest shown.

The change of layout, and putting the demonstration area



in the central position proved to be very popular as the latest machinery could be seen by everyone, with information given over the loud speakers and we have discovered an exciting new commentator in David Merhagh from Groundsman Industries.

The entry for the £200 holiday

voucher on the BIGGA stand was drawn by Eva Graham from Golf West and was won by Bob Greenshields, Head Groundsman at Kings Hall School, Taunton.

All aspects of fine turf were catered for, and comments were made on the attractive stand displays this year – in spite of the weather. Our thanks go to all traders and visitors alike who were considerate in preserving the ground conditions, and special thanks to Long Ashton GC for hosting the eighth Westurf.

We hope to see you all next year.

Marion Child

Open day success is a lesson for us all

Ramsdale Park Golf Centre played host to a Greenkeeping Open Day organised and managed by Course Manager Martin Smith with the help of his wife Mandy and the full support of the club.

The day was split into two very different parts with the same aim of communicating what the job of the greenkeeper was all about.

The first part began by welcoming golfing membership, visiting fellow greenkeepers, visiting golfers and even general public.

There was good support from the trade with indoor and outdoor stands ranging from golf course accessory suppliers to major equipment suppliers who were on hand to answer questions and give action demonstrations.

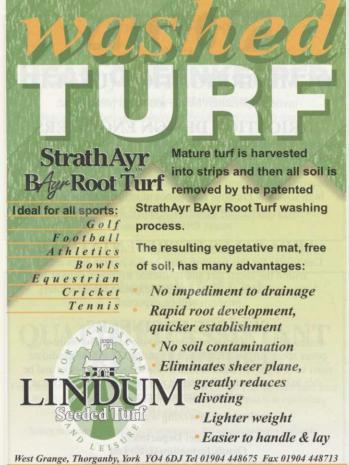
A great deal of interest was generated from many areas not least the BBC whose television cameras recorded Martin explaining the various jobs of the greenkeeper as well as getting over the important etiquette of the game which was shown on local TV that evening.

The second part of the day took the form of an Evening Seminar and included very interesting talks by Martin himself and Neil Hayward of the English Golf Union.

Support from Martin's golf club came in the form of his Captain, Tom King, who chaired the evening seminar which also featured Steven Dando of Brackenhurst College, Alistair Fraser an independent consultant and Mike Shepherd of Vitax.

Many Course Managers are looking to put on similar events and Martin's experiences will help everyone in this vital part of the job.

Duncan McGilvray



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