

## Tigarake removes thatch with a real roar

The new Sisis Tigarake, hydraulic scarifier, has been designed for fast, effective thatch removal on bowling greens, lawn tennis courts, cricket squares, golf greens/tees/approaches, football pitches. The twin scarifying units have a working width of just over a metre.

The entire machine floats on a front roller, and each individual unit floats independently across the width of the machine. It therefore follows undulations maintaining depth of cut and eliminating scalping.

The Tigarake incorporates the Sisis Rotorake contra-rotation principle, whereby the blades rotate at high speed in the opposite direction to that of the conventional cylinder mower. The blades therefore cut upwards, continuously taking fibre away from the



surface and leaving a clean finish.

There is a high speed hydraulic motor on each unit while there are four interchangeable reels available: thatch removal reel; verticutting reel comprising close-pitched triangular blades

for light scarification during the growing season; brush reel to remove light surface debris and lift grasses prior to mowing; combined reel with thatch removal blades interspersed with brushes to remove thatch.

## New Toro innovations revealed at Saltex

The new Groundsmaster 3500-D Sidewinder unveiled by Toro at SALTEX is an innovative rotary mower with cutting units that can be shifted to either side of the machine to provide an overhang for trimming grass edges such as bunker rims and fringes.



The GM 3500-D is designed to appeal to greenkeepers, grounds managers and landscape contractors. In golf, its use is primarily for surround mowing, trim work in roughs and striping around the clubhouse and other desirable areas.

The GM 3500-Ds innovative cutting system comprises three individual, 27in floating rotary decks with front and rear rollers which follow ground contours to virtually eliminate scalping. The deck overlap configuration prevents grass streaks in turns and on banks.

Versatility is provided by an adjustable width of cut, which allows the machine to be set up for three different cutting widths - 68in, 70in and 72in - by simply changing a bolted assembly.

The Sidewinder system enables the decks to slide 12in left and right of centre. This provides a 12in overhang on either side of the mower at a 68in width of cut.

The Toro GM 3500-D is fitted with a Kubota 35hp turbo diesel engine and has permanent three-wheel drive for both mowing and transport. Mowing speed is factory set at 6mph, but is adjustable, and the unit can travel at up to 9mph in transport.

The Toro Groundsmaster 4000-D is a lift rotary mower that is manoeuvrable and produces a high-quality cut.

On cutting performance, the focus is on the quality of cut, mowing capacity, ground following and after-cut dispersion of the clippings. Rear discharge decks are fitted for even dispersion of cuttings for a clean after-cut finish.

For cleaner cutting management and added safety, these can be converted by customers to Toro's Guardian Recycler design simply by bolting on baffles and kickers.

Excellent manoeuvrability has been achieved by Toro engineers through a combination of wheel tread width, wheel base and the positioning of the two wing decks.

Finally, to meet today's requirements for high operator comfort, ease of use and safety, the lift rotary utilises much of the driver's platform and controls of Toro's Groundsmaster 3000. This provides workers with excellent visibility for both cutting and transport operations.

The Toro Groundsmaster 4000-D is expected to be available in the UK next spring.

## Richard Campey shows latest Koro developments

The latest developments from the Koro Design and Manufacturing Centre in Holland were shown for the first time, on the Richard Campey stand.

The Field Top Maker has given birth to a 'Mini' version for specific surface management work in tight areas. The Koro 120 FTM is a 1.2mtr version of the original FTM for use with compact tractors.

The working depth is easily adjusted by four micro screw jacks, enabling the machine to fraise mow, removing surface irregularities. Thatch layer and weak shallow rooted grasses can also be removed by further adjustment, leaving the roots of any good grass cultivars to quickly re-establish.

Material is removed by specially designed blades, direct onto a cross conveyor and elevator into a trailer running alongside the machine. The result is a level playing surface.

## Home-grown success for BSH

A new UK-bred perennial ryegrass - the second home-produced cultivar to emerge from the British Seed Houses' turfgrass breeding programme at the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research (IGER) - tops the 2001 STRI ryegrass listings for fine turf situations.

AberImp is a sister variety to AberElf - the first IGER-bred perennial ryegrass that still heads the STRI listings for winter sports pitches two years after its launch. AberElf has since become a firm favourite with UK turf producers and groundsmen and is firmly established on many pitches in the Carling Premiership. AberElf also forms part of the sward at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff and at Murrayfield.

Described by British Seed Houses as the ideal, low maintenance dual-purpose ryegrass, AberImp shares the wear tolerance attributes of AberElf with the added benefits of unrivalled shoot density and exceptional slow re-growth characteristics under regular mowing.

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## Tough jobs are no problem for E-Z-GO

Appearing for the first time at SALTEX the Workhorse LX series from Textron is a range of dependable, multi-purpose E-Z-GO utility vehicles designed to handle the toughest jobs.

Each vehicle in the range includes an array of standard features including heavy duty bed liner with tailgate cover, differential protection guard, engine skid plate, fuel gauge or state of charge meter, halogen headlights, hour meter, trailer hitch and tubular steel bumpers. The Workhorse 800 LX features a 9hp, 295cc twin cylinder, air cooled overhead cam, petrol engine with automatic, continuous variable transmission forward and reverse and a payload of 363.2kg. The Workhorse 1000 LX is an electrically driven derivative with a 36-volt, DC high efficiency series motor with the capability to carry a payload of 454kg. Topping the range is the powerful Workhorse 1200 LX featuring an 11 hp, 350cc, air cooled overhead cam petrol engine and a payload of 544.8kg. The E-Z-GO Workhorse LX series provides the versatility required for a host of applications on golf courses, parks, leisure complexes, smallholdings, farms, woodland and amenity areas.

## New Knife Rite from Bernhard & Co

The latest addition to Bernhard & Co's professional range of precision grinding equipment, is the Knife Rite 1000 bottom blade grinder with powerful 1 hp motor.

This bench-mounted grind machine is highly accurate and sharpens with speed, safety and simplicity. Capable of grinding bottom blades up to 40 inches long, the machine has a unique angle indicator device. Extremely easy to operate, it provides the convenience of an in-house grinding facility at a very affordable price.

Golf and sports clubs, local authorities, landscape contractors and schools with restricted resources can now undertake a regular programme of blade sharpening using Knife Rite 1000.

Used in tandem with the Express Dual 1000 cylinder grinder, turf can be maintained to higher standards with a cleaner cut.

## Rolawn expansion

Rolawn Screened Topsoil is now available in full motor loads for delivery direct to site. Also available in 600 litre boxes, containing approximately one tonne of topsoil, from selected depots. The soil meets ICRCCL specification, is safe for use in domestic gardens and playing fields. Rolawn Soil Conditioner is 100% peat free, screened wood chip compost. Available in full 60 cubic metre loads.

It is light and easy to use, excellent for incorporation into soil when planting shrubs and trees. Both products join Rolawn's GroRight pre turfing/seeding fertiliser which came on to the market last year and has proved to be very successful.

## John Deere range gets new additions

John Deere's F1145 front mower is now available with a 1.8m articulating rotary mower deck.

The new deck comprises three 63cm front rotary mowers. Wheels under each section ensure a constant deck weight. Cutting height is adjustable from 25 to 127mm in 6mm stages, and the mower can be set to side discharge or mulch as required.

The traction unit retains its heavy duty 27hp diesel engine and hydrostatic transmission, which are similar to those used in John Deere's compact utility tractor range. Dual pedal foot controls and power steering are standard, with cruise control available as an option.

In addition, a choice of two four wheel drive functions offers the operator increased traction for improved mowing performance. The new F1145 front mower with articulating deck costs £17,289.

The new John Deere 4700 compact tractor also had its UK launch at SALTEX 2000. Powered by a 48 gross hp diesel engine, the 4700 compact tractor provides the highest horsepower with hydrostatic transmission in its class. In addition to this transmission, developing 40hp at the pto, there is a standard hydraulic PowrReverser transmission with 24 forward and reverse gears, including creeper speeds, which develops 41.5 pto hp.

The reverser transmission allows the operator to change direction by flipping a lever without using the clutch, speeding up repetitive loader and front blade work for increased productivity. Twin Touch foot pedals on the hydrostatic version provide simple forward and reverse operation.

With the new John Deere 1620 wide area mower, large areas of grass with inclines, dips and other hard to reach places can be tackled.

It is based on the same traction unit as its stablemate, the 1600 wide area mower launched at BTME 2000. The 1620 has a 2.4m articulating rotary mower deck with 76cm wings that can mow undulating areas at a consistent height of cut. Operating at a speed of 6.5mph, the 1620 can easily cover over six acres per hour.



## Envirosafe a boom for Gambetti UK

Keeping the spray away from the environment and all on the target was Gambetti UK's aim this year. The launch of the new ENVIROSAFE covered boom, with many extra safety features added as standard proved very successful not just for the UK but around Europe too.

Calibration and maintenance is made easy with the addition of a hydraulic ram which enables the entire boom to be tilted forward in order to provide open access to the nozzles. The operator can work safely on the underpart of the boom. This ram also allows the boom to be reversed up into tight corners and up

sloping ground without risk of damage to the canopies.

Triple jet nozzle bodies allow safe and quick changing of application rates. Underneath the canopy there are no wheels or bracing bars that could interfere with the spray pattern or become rusted with chemical or liquid fertiliser contamination.

The extra height in the canopy allows 110 deg fan angle jets to be used which give a more even coverage and eliminates the risk of striping. Billericay bubble jets can be fitted which carry the LERAP 3 star rating.

Gambetti hopes to have full production available in November.





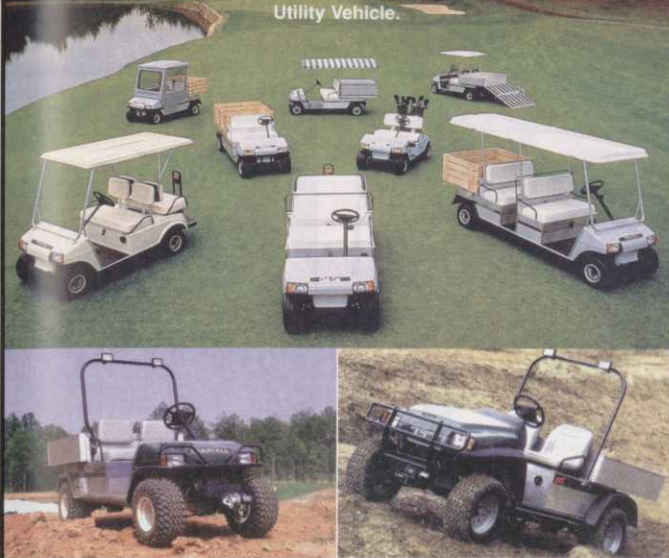
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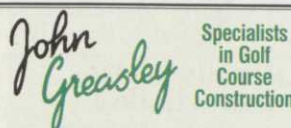
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Please contact us at the address below for further details and an application form.

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HORTON PARK GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

REQUIRES AN

## ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Horton Park Golf and Country Club is a 27 hole golf complex with driving range. The facilities include an 18 hole 6,300 yard course and a 9 hole academy course.

The Club is currently planning to undertake a phased plan of golf course alterations which include the rebuilding and relocation of tees and greens.

Applicants should be qualified to PA1 or 2 level and be able to demonstrate experience of course construction or upgrade.

A competitive salary will be offered.

To apply, send your CV to:

Matthew Staveley, General Manager, Horton Park Golf and Country Club,  
Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey KT19 8QG

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Gloucester Golf Club has two vacancies for enthusiastic individuals looking to develop their skills and further their careers.

Experience and relevant qualifications would be an advantage but we can offer training to NVQ level 3 and you will have a paid day off every week to attend the training course.

You will also benefit from membership of our excellent health club, including indoor pool, gym, sauna, dry ski slopes, squash & tennis courts.



Please write, enclosing your CV to include salary expectations, to Jonathan Squire, General Manager, Jarvis Gloucester Hotel & Country Club, Matson Lane, Robinswood Hill, Gloucester GL4 6EA.

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## KNIGHTON HEATH GOLF CLUB

Are seeking to appoint a

# COURSE MANAGER

This is a hands on position with full responsibility for the day to day running of this well established 18 hole heathland course, reporting to the club manager and green committee.

The successful applicant must possess all relevant qualifications and have the ability to motivate staff and promote their interest in a career.

Applications in writing enclosing CV to;

Club Manager, Knighton Heath Golf Club,  
Francis Avenue, Bournemouth BH11 8NX

## LEYLAND GOLF CLUB

requires an

## ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be ambitious, enthusiastic, hard working and reliable.

The successful candidate will be qualified to at least NVQ Level 2 standard or equivalent.

PA1, PA2 and PA6 would be an advantage.

No accommodation.

Apply in writing with full CV to;

The Manager, Leyland Golf Club, Wigan Road, Leyland, Lancs PR5 2JD

## GILLINGHAM GOLF COURSE

## QUALIFIED GREENKEEPER

Due to retirement the club are now looking for a qualified greenkeeper to join a team of five. This position would suit a newly qualified applicant (NVQ II) who wishes to gain experience and knowledge on a busy golf course.

The applicant will be self motivated and able to work as part of a team.

Salary will be negotiable according to qualifications.

Please submit your application and CV in writing to:

The Club Secretary, Mrs M Scott, Gillingham Golf Course,  
Woodlands Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 2AP

*Applications by 27 October 2000*





WELWYN GARDEN CITY GOLF CLUB LIMITED  
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## WELWYN GARDEN CITY GOLF CLUB

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To work closely with the course manager in managing and motivating staff as well as training.

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Apply in writing with current CV to:-

Mr B Cox, Course Manager, Mannicotts,  
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## GOLF DE JOYENVAL

PARIS - FRANCE

Invites applications for the position of

### HEAD GREENKEEPER

Joyenval opened in 1992 and is the mistrecond R Trent Jones Snr course in the Paris area.

With a maximum of 675 members for 36 holes, Joyenval is one of the most prestigious private clubs in France.

We are seeking a top quality Head Greenkeeper who has all the necessary qualifications and can show a track record in golf course management at a senior level. Highest standards of course maintenance and presentation are expected.

He will report to the Club General Manager, with regular contacts with the Greens Committee.

He will be responsible for all aspects of man management and recruitment, must have sound knowledge of irrigation systems (Rainbird Maxi V) and course machinery.

Working knowledge of French will be necessary.

The remuneration package will be attractive and competitive.

Please send your applications in writing, together with full CV and salary expectations to:

Mr Antoine Ferran, General Manager, Golf de Joyenval,  
Chemin de la Tuilerie, 78240 Chambourcy, France



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## HEAD GREENKEEPER

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- experience in budgeting, irrigation and machinery maintenance
- a previous senior position at a recognised quality course is preferred

A good remuneration package is available and the real potential to develop and expand a career within an innovative and developing company. Accommodation is not provided.

Start date: 2 January 2001

Applications in writing with full CV and references to:-

The Managing Director, Open Golf Centres Ltd,  
Gordon House, Littlemead, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8ND

We are also inviting applications for:-

ASSISTANT HEAD GREENKEEPER

5 FULL TIME GREENKEEPERS



**Sandy McDivot examines the issue of quality, and finds that one man's quality can be the epitome of bad taste to another...**

# Quality assured?

Quality is a highly subjective issue. What is it, who decides it, what factors determine it? One man's quality can be the epitome of bad taste to someone else. To illustrate, let me describe an experience I had recently with my nearest and dearest when we were invited to take over her mother's bed and breakfast establishment for a week while she sunned herself on some remote Caribbean island.

An initial briefing session was set up whereby she indoctrinated us on the ways of the landlady. Breakfast, which consisted of fried bacon-flavoured grease with a bake bean garnish was at 7am to 8am and the "guests" were to be out by 9 o'clock.

I kid you not when I say that hot water was unavailable to one side of the house unless a fire was lit in the living room. Needless to say the decadent practice of fire lighting was all but abolished due to the prohibitive cost of wood and this resulted in the guests having to boil a kettle to carry out their morning ablutions. The central heating I later found out was programmed to come on for about five minutes at night and a slightly shorter duration in the morning. This particular extravagance was I concluded, essential due to it being just sufficient to thaw out the ice that would form inside the toilet during periods of inclement weather. The taking of a shower in the morning would have contravened international laws on human rights.

Having turned on the bathroom light (I never knew you could buy 10 watt bulbs), removed the dozens of articles of clothing (essential if one was to keep the body core temperature from slipping below the critical level at night) one was faced with a shower that looked to be some sort of Victorian prototype. Turning on the tap would result in an immediate and prolonged wailing noise accompanied by a violent shuddering of the entire house. About a minute later and some brown liquid would slowly ooze from the showerhead. The water temperature would then randomly and instantaneously fluctuate between that which is found beneath polar ice caps and something akin to

super heated steam capable of removing several layers of skin tissue. It was just as well so little water was exuded from this ghastly contraption as the shower door was falling off its hinges anyway.

The entire establishment which appeared to be modelled on one of Joseph Stalin's 1950's Siberian political correction institutions, would have made 17th century puritans recoil in horror. The only organisms that felt at home in this place were the thermophilic bacteria that lived in among the 20-year-old layer of encrusted gunge on the frying pans.

Yet despite all this, the punters were queuing up to get in. To me, it was reminiscent of the hostelry found in a certain Hitchcock movie, yet to them it was the height of luxury, a home from home that they were desperate to sample on a regular basis. Pitiful cries of anguish would be emitted when late arrivals were summarily refused entry. To them the word "quality" had a different derivation. To this day I cannot understand it, yet who am I to say they are wrong and I am right.

I have often felt many art critics have a perception of quality that is to be found in a different part of the solar system to the rest of us. To me, an unmade bed, a crude reworking of a Buster Keaton sketch or half a pickled cow does not even constitute art, yet to them they are worthy of prolonged and gushing praise followed by an international award or two. Call me cynical but I feel sure that had I included one of the above in my CSE art efforts all those years ago it would not have significantly improved my resultant grade 5.

But then who am I to argue. I have not spent years studying the subject; I have not the keen intellect or the expert analytical eye that they have at their disposal. I readily acknowledge their superiority on the subject and if these representations can give genuine pleasure to the onlooker then I accept the conviction of the art critic unconditionally and embrace them as great works of art.

But being a greenkeeper I do have authoritative knowledge on one issue. I am, I believe, eminently qual-

ified to give an expert opinion on one particular composition produced by the skilled artisan. In fact at the risk of conceit, I believe my qualifications for in depth analysis of a particular topic is equalled only by a tiny minority of people on this planet. That subject I am sure you have surmised, is the quality of a golf green and the tiny minority I referred to are other greenkeepers.

It is only greenkeepers who can look at a golf green and from the outward appearance at the surface can tell exactly what is going on underneath. Only a greenkeeper can look at a green in the summer and predict with extreme accuracy what condition it will be in during the winter. Only a greenkeeper can tell what the root development is like, how much and what kind of disease is suffered, even the quantities and type of fertiliser that has been applied.

Personally speaking, and in common with many of my colleagues, I have a strong preference for the more traditional style of green. My particular version of Da Vinci's Mona Lisa is a surface that is pale green with a hint of brown in the summer, while in the winter it is pale green with a hint of brown. At all times it is firm with minimal thatch and a tight sward composed principally of bent and fescue grasses. Fertiliser input would be negligible, disease practically non-existent, rooting deep and it would have a wear resistance capable of withstanding all out nuclear attack. That is not to say I have achieved this particular masterpiece myself but I live in hope.

The problem is, my interpretation of the word "quality" when applied to a golf green does not always coincide with that of golfers. I once remember asking a golfing friend of mine what he thought of the quality of the greens at a highly prestigious golf course he had recently played. "Oh, they were quite superb" he informed me. "They were lush and green and when you walked on them your shoes would sink in leaving water filled footprints that would slowly spring back up." Now to me I would find such greens to be physically repulsive but in this case, due