

# Registration Document

**THATCHAM**  
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**Thiefbeaters**

## REGISTERED OWNER

Name **Thiefbeaters Ltd**

Address **PO Box 5789**  
Town **Towcester**  
County **Northants**  
Postcode **NN12 8ZJ**

Tel **0870 794 0111**

## DETAILS OF PROPERTY

Manufacturer **JOHN DEERE**  
Model/Type **LTR. 166**  
Year **2001**  
Colour **GREEN**  
Reg No **N/A**  
Serial No **E092224**  
Vin No **N/A**  
Engine No **GH47-1984536**  
Est Value **£3160.00**  
Other



**UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: TBA89TIF**

MARK	LOCATION	INSTALLED
ETCHED	REAR PANEL	23/05/99
ETCHED	REAR MUDGUARD	23/05/99
ETCHED	INSIDE ENGINE COVER	23/05/99
ENGRAVED	RH REAR CHASSIS	23/05/99
ENGRAVED	TOP LHS RADIATOR	23/05/99
ETCHED	LHS ENGINE BLOCK	23/05/99
ENGRAVED	FRONT AXLE RHS	23/05/99
ENGRAVED	ALL WHEELS	23/05/99
ETCHED	DRIVER SEAT REAR	23/05/99
ENGRAVED	REAR AXLE BACK RHS	23/05/99

DEVICE	CODE	INSTALLED
ID100A	DC00058Y90	23/05/99
MD0001	ID00006328	23/05/99

**EMERGENCY  
PHONE NO:**

**0870 606 4725**

**Thiefbeaters Limited**

**PO Box 5789  
Towcester  
Northants  
NN12 8ZJ**

**Tel: 0870 794 0111  
Email: info@thiefbeaters.co.uk  
Web site: www.thiefbeaters.co.uk**

### ▲ Thiefbeaters Passport

machine is recovered it can be quickly matched to its rightful owners.

Plenty of signage displayed around the storage areas and on the machinery warns that they are security marked and registered. This system is definitely proving a deterrent in the thieving fraternity. There is little point in nicking it if you cannot sell it on. When a piece of marked machinery is legitimately sold then the registered information passes to the new owner.

### STAFF

Personal possessions left in view are vulnerable. For example, it is a warm hot day and a member of staff is out on the course cutting greens, he takes off his coat and leaves on the grass.

He then moves on to another green. On returning to pick up the coat he finds his mobile phone or wallet are missing.

Another example is that the rest room door is left unlocked; when the team breaks for lunch they find personal items missing. These are just two situations that could occur if staff are not vigilant.

If strangers are seen wandering about in areas where they are not supposed to be or a vehicle is parked in an unusual spot then these incidents need to be reported. In most cases they will probably be harmless, but someone maybe reconnoitring the course and its buildings.

One human error could undo everything a security system, costing several thousands of pounds, was designed to achieve. Staff awareness is essential. It is easy to forget to close and lock doors, leave tools in the open or keys in an ignition.

As far as security is concerned if something is amiss communicating with other local greenkeepers is a good idea. In rural locations it is also worthwhile being in regular contact with the members of the local Farm Watch Scheme. Having a good rapport with the local police is important.

Their Crime Prevention Officer is a mine of information and can outline the best possible security for your establishment.

Robberies will continue to happen, but by seeking the best advice and correctly securing your equipment you will reduce the odds, that your course will be targeted.

To contact Security Companies see Security in the Buyers' Guide.



▲ HD Hitchlok and HD Security Chain



# GRADEN

DISTRIBUTED BY

**TURFMASTERS**

CONTACT

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• USED BY MOST OF THE WORLDS TOP GOLF COURSES

• SMOOTHS AND FIRMS THE PLAYING SURFACE

• ALLOWS FOR INCREASED AIR EXCHANGE

• CAUSES MINIMAL DISRUPTION TO PLAY

ISN'T IT TIME YOU **GRADEN'ED?**

## Your Letters...

### Missing Thanks

I have just read Greenkeeper International and the Cleveland Section notes written by Terry Charlton.

Terry missed out thanking Turfcare, of Leadgat, for providing the bus to take greenkeepers and IOG members down to Harrogate. Without this free transport for greenkeepers etc a lot of members would not be able to go.

It's not just the ride down to Harrogate, it's the breakfast Turfcare provide, the free quiz, not to mention the video.

I know there are always things to put in the Section news, but this type of thanks should not be missed – even if Mr Charlton does own Turfcare, it should still get a thank you.

Kevin Heslop, Head Greenkeeper  
Brancepeth Castle GC, Durham

### Thanks for the Opportunity

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Mansfield, and his team, at Lely/TORO and John Pemberton, Acting Executive Director at BIGGA, for their support in enabling both Keith Scruton and myself to attend the GCSAA show and Conference in San Diego, as part of the TORO Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award.

I know that Keith has found the whole experience to be invaluable and it has been a whirlwind tour of study and visits while in America. I am sure he will have many stories and experiences to share with us upon his return.

The TORO Greenkeeper of The Year awards are an excellent example of strengthening links that will continue to support the development of BIGGA, the industry and education and training, which Myerscough College is keen to support and will continue to do for many years to come.

Our thanks, support and congratulations must also be extended to Andy Campbell, the new BIGGA Chairman, who worked tirelessly during the event to increase and raise the presence, not only of BIGGA, but the British Sports Turf Industry as a whole. Well done Andy!

If any Student or Greenkeeper is considering applying for this year's award, then do it without hesitating, it could be you.

Wayne Roberts, Team Leader,

Sports Turf and Mechanisation, Myerscough College





## Bernhard Delegation to San Diego

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved in making this year's delegation to the GCSAA Show such a memorable experience.*

*I would like to thank Stephen Bernhard for again supporting the trip and all the Bernhard's staff, but particularly Sam and Kim, for their hard work in making the trip a success. I would also like to thank John and Sami for their support.*

*I would encourage all BIGGA members to support this annual trip. The experience is defiantly one not to miss. Finally, I would like to say a big thanks to the other nine delegates who made the trip such an enjoyable one. I hope to meet up with you all soon.*

*Peter W. Cross, Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Woolton Golf Club*

## It's not only the weather we greenkeepers are up against...

*The popular perception of the golf course greenkeeper – that of the laid back gentle countryman who is responsible for both the long and short term condition of the golf course – has changed, and not for the better.*

*Many of these individuals, who are highly qualified, are now of a frame of mind that given the opportunity to change career direction, they would gladly do so.*

*One main reason, for this can be identified – “television” is responsible for the ultra high expectations of the ordinary member summer and winter – the use of frost holes or temporary greens is seen by many as what kind of mood the greenkeepers is in rather than the conditions that prevail on the day.*

*There is also the aggression of some members who believe their opinion is unchallengeable. These bullies dominate today's committees to the extent that the committed individuals who once filled the main positions within the structure are becoming fewer and fewer resulting in “mob rule OK”.*

*Working for a committee which has very little or no continuity, can be very frustrating. All too often there are serious clashes of personalities, often caused by strong willed, misinformed, yet well-intentioned individuals, who believe they know better than the professionals – unfortunately this is sometimes true – and expect Loch Lomond standards for a fraction of the cost.*

*All too often they instigate serious mistakes and very seldom are they around to answer for them when the errors come to the surface.*

*This can only result in a downward spiral of morale and attitude that will affect all staff and which may lead to poorer performance. Ultimately it is the course that suffers.*

*What can be done to rectify the situation? The problem is too complex for individual committees to solve! I believe the governing bodies (the R&A, BIGGA and the home golf unions) need to address and stipulate the roles and thresholds of personnel who have been trained as well as those who are elected.*

*We also need direction for clubs on the changes required to their constitution to allow the business of a golf club to be run on a more professional basis.*

*How can club staff be expected to have respect for their employers if every year we have to answer to a different Captain, Vice Captain, Greens Convenor etc, who are often elected for their social standing rather than for their business credentials?*

*Indeed, in many cases the Secretary or the Club Manager has no idea of the complexity of the position. Often after two or three years, of jumping through hoops to please those who will never be pleased they vacate their position, only for a different committee to employ someone else who will again need to be replaced within a relatively short period of time.*

*So the same negative circle starts again. Allowing interested, caring man managers to remain in position longer can only improve the situation.*

*I also believe that the tiny percentage of members who are not happy, and will never be, and who cause constant major disharmony, should be invited to attend a committee meeting and asked to explain their reasoning or actions.*

*If rational explanations are not accepted and the same scenario continues, some kind of discipline should be imposed. I believe only this type of positive management can address the growing problem of dissent amongst the rank and file.*

*Strong and positively directed committees instructed by a professional administrator who consults with the relative line managers of the club to make knowledgeable and common sense decisions could achieve this.*

*In this day and age, a Golf Course Manager must be a golfer, self-motivated, trainer, scientist, agronomist, economist, diplomat, administrator, book-keeper, mechanic, communicator, environmentalist, and a good man manager with a proven track record.*

*If you put all this together with the love for his course, nature and the game, then you have a good Golf Course Manager, worthy of an employer's concern. The best wages and conditions of employment should be made available to them.*

*It is heartening that the R&A now recognises the problem and through their new Best Practice website have set about offering solutions to golf clubs who might not be operating in the most effective manner. Interested parties should check out the R&A Course Management Best Practices, website on, [www.bestcourseforgolf.org](http://www.bestcourseforgolf.org)*

*Name and Address withheld*



## Two Qualifications - One Set of Study

Mark Zealander has been taking a Certificate of Higher Education and BSc at Cannington College.



It's coming up to the halfway point in my qualification, so I thought it is a good time to report on my progress under the BIGGA and Ransomes Jacobsen Ltd sponsorship scheme.

First I will explain the route I am taking in the search for a BSc Hons. My original route was to study a Foundation Degree in Soil Science and Technology at Cannington College as a year part-time course. I was advised by my tutor to study the first two years at Certificate of

Higher Education (C of HE) level and bridge to the third year of the foundation degree. This way I would achieve two qualifications without extra study. So from September 2002 I started the C of HE part-time. The Certificate of Higher Education breaks down into the following modules:

### Year One - Golf Course Construction

- Grass Establishment and Sward Maintenance
- Foundation Science
- Statistics

### Year Two - Ecology

- Plant Protection
- Machinery

Each module comprises of two written assignments and one end of module exam. The overall grade breaks down as follows:

- Assignment 1 = 30%
- Assignment 2 = 30%
- Module exam = 40%

### GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION

This module is self-explanatory and covers the history and background of construction methods, site and soil surveying, aspects of golf course design and construction of golf course features.

The first assignment required me to research the methods of greens construction and produce a report for a committee, recommending a suitable method and display the costing.

The second assignment involved assessing the layout of two golf holes and redesign them to test the modern high and low handicap club golfer.

### GRASS ESTABLISHMENT AND SWARD MAINTENANCE

This module covers the science behind the daily course maintenance, such as aeration, top-dressing and nutrition.

Assignment One was aimed at the definition and meaning of many greenkeeping terms, allowing me to thoroughly research each one.

Assignment Two was based around:

- Understanding the causes of wear and tear.
- Ways of reducing the problems.
- Design and layout assessments.
- Compaction problems.

### FOUNDATION SCIENCE

This was the more intense module as I looked at elements and atomic structures, chemical bonding and analysis, organic chemistry and biology.

The first assignment required me to analyse soil macro nutrients and why they are important to healthy plant growth. I also researched into the damaging effects of soluble fertilisers when over used.

In the second assignment we researched the structure of a plant cell and the role of each organ.

### STATISTICS

This module is included for progression reasons and is needed when going on to do a BSc. It includes distribution, regression, and general data processing.

### ECOLOGY

In ecology I have been looking at woodland and hedge management and planting, techniques of grassland and heathland maintenance for habitat management.

I am currently working on the first assignment, which requires me to assess a golf course for new tree planting and recommend a suitable design. Including a maintenance plan and any problems over the next 50 years.

### PLANT PROTECTION

This looks at Integrated Pest Management (IPM), the use of pesticides on the golf course and the health and safety implications.

In the first assignment I researched into pest and disease management and cultural, chemical and biological methods of management.

### MACHINERY

As I have been in greenkeeping for over eight years I was able to get full credit for this module and not have to study it. The module includes all aspects of machinery management and health and safety.

I have received good grades throughout the modules, and I am on target to complete the C of HE this summer. I am now considering the option of completing the Foundation degree online as distance learning. Once this is complete I can start the BSc qualification. I would like to take this opportunity to thank BIGGA and Ransomes Jacobsen Ltd for the sponsorship, which has helped me with the tuition fees. I am also fits grateful to my former tutor Mr Phil Sharpies for his help and support and wish him success in his new post.



# My Experiences on the MSc in Sports Surface Technology Course

Barry Dore has been taking a MSc at Cranfield University.



I have been involved in the greenkeeping industry for the last 10 years. Four years were spent in full time education. I worked at the Hertfordshire Golf and Country Club for five years where I gained valuable practical experience of golf course maintenance.

I enjoyed my time at The Hertfordshire and learned a lot from the Course Superintendent Richard Sheppard, and American Golf who managed the club. However, I reached a point

where I felt I needed to improve my technical knowledge of turf management. I wanted to learn about the management of other sports surfaces such as cricket pitches, grass tennis courts, football pitches etc. I also wanted to widen my career options within the sportsturf industry.

As a result of a conversation with Andy Pledger, who was assistant greenkeeper at the Hertfordshire at the time, I discovered that Cranfield University had just begun a degree course in sports turf agronomy. I made some enquiries and found out that the course was in fact a Masters degree and not a Bachelors degree as I first suspected. Suddenly the challenge seemed to increase dramatically, however, following an interview with Alex Vickers, the Course Director, I felt more reassured that I would be capable of completing the course.

The next issue I had to address was raising the finance required to complete the course. The university was able to provide a bursary to cover part of the course fees. I then discovered that Ransomes Jacobsen were providing a Higher Education Scholarship for those wishing to further their education. I subsequently applied to BIGGA for the award, and was very pleased to find out that my application was successful. The award that I received paid for a substantial amount of the tuition fees.

Students have the option of completing the MSc course full time over a one year period or part time over a two to five year period. I chose to leave my position at the Hertfordshire and study for the course full time from October 2002 to September 2003.

There are four major components to the MSc course:

a) Taught Modules – This section took place between October and March. It involved going to lectures, doing assignments and undertaking tests set by the university. Each of the ten modules were completed over a two week period. I found this period of the course quite intensive and realised that I had to improve my time management skills especially to complete the assignments on time. Modules included subjects such as Human Resources Management, Soil Science, Sports Surface Playability and Irrigation Management and Optimisation. Taught modules are worth 30% of the total mark on the course.

b) Written examinations – At the end of April, I was required to complete two written examinations which were worth 20% of the total mark for the course. These exams were designed to test our general knowledge of sports turf management.

c) Sportsturf Construction module – By May, I had completed half of the coursework and was feeling relieved to have finished the written examinations. The last taught module was the Sportsturf Construction module. Coming from a predominantly golf background this module was very informative, as I learned about the construction of natural and artificial sports surfaces, such as football, tennis and cricket. The assignment for this module was worth 10% of the total mark.

d) Thesis – As part of the course you are required to undertake a research project on a given topic or on one of your own choosing. The aim of my project was to find the optimum level of nitrogen application for a grass tennis court, that would minimise slip on a grass tennis court while still allowing for good growth and presentation. I carried out an experiment on the cricket square at Cranfield University using four different amounts of nitrogen. I conducted a number of assessments such as slip measurement, grass coverage, surface hardness, colour and tissue analysis on each of the twelve plots of turf. With the data obtained from these assessments I had to statistically analyse the results in order to draw out objective conclusions to include in the report. The research project took about three months to complete and was worth 40% of the total mark of the course. This was a completely new experience for me as I had never had the opportunity to do any research in the past. It gave me an insight into the processes involved in developing new ideas and theories which aim to make improvements in the sportsturf industry.

## Benefits from the course;

- It improved my IT and report writing skills.
- It improved my technical knowledge of sportsturf science.
- I feel more equipped to do whatever job I will involved with in the future.
- It gave me the opportunity to meet new people in the industry.
- The course has given me new options as to what type of career I could pursue both in golf and in other sports.
- It gave me a rewarding sense of achievement at having successfully passed a course that I never thought I would be in a position to do.

## Some difficulties experienced during the course

- I found the period of time during the taught modules very intense, with assignments to complete, lectures to attend and tests to sit.
- Some of the modules highlighted the need to improve my knowledge of mathematics, particularly the modules on soil science and the thesis.
- I found that I needed to be self motivated, as it can be quite isolating at times when you live off campus as I did.

I am glad to say that I successfully passed the course in September 2003. I would without any hesitation, recommend the MSc in Sports Surface Technology to anyone in the sportsturf industry who is considering developing their knowledge and wishing to widen their career prospects. I believe the course is a real breakthrough for education in sportsturf science, and will help to raise the profile and the standard of professionalism within the sports turf industry as a whole. I will be starting a new job as a Grounds Supervisor at the Hurlingham Club in London in the near future, which I am really looking forward to. The Hurlingham Club is a highly prestigious sports club situated in west London. The club has a number of fine turf surfaces including tennis, bowls, croquet and cricket.

I would like to thank Ransomes Jacobsen for giving me a Higher Education Scholarship which was a great help in financing the course. In particular, I would like to thank David Withers, the Sales and Marketing Director of Ransomes Jacobsen, who send me letters of support throughout the year. I am also grateful to Ken Richardson, the Education and Training Manager at BIGGA, who recommended me for the award and also kept in contact with me throughout the year. Finally, I would like to thank Alex Vickers for his encouragement and his enthusiasm throughout the year.





# Sandy McDivot

## It's Tough on Tour

Sandy McDivot relives the occasions when he came into contact with Tournament golf.

Last year I briefly sampled the delights of what has become a commonplace activity in the land of the influential. We are talking, corporate hospitality. My transitory visit to this world took place in a hospitality suite at a European Tour event, where as an interlude between the *consomme truffe* and the *saumon et langoustine au sauce champagne*, I was granted the high honour of being introduced to the host club's Superintendent, a man who is regarded as famous within our industry. My only defence for getting his name entirely wrong was that apart from this introduction taking place during the gastronomic enchantments of the day, it also came midway between a 1988 Cotes du Roussillon and a 1999 Saint-Nicolas de Bourgueil, a wine that our hosts - all of whom were present during my foot insertion moment- described as being an especially lively young thing, whose impertinence they found amusing.

All I can say is, I don't think the assembled entourage were too amused by my insane blunder, especially as I mistook this unfortunate person as one of his shall we say, more illustrious peers. It's kind of like Tony Blair referring to that Bush bloke as my old friend Bill Clinton. Either way, at that instant it felt like a diplomatic catastrophe of global proportions that brought with it the consideration that my instant departure from this world would be an altogether more desirable alternative to existence.

But tournament golf can be the source of so many examples of psychological trauma.

Despite my best efforts I have total recall of an incident at a European Tour event that resulted in myself experiencing the collective derision of thousands. I was watching a group tee off from the adjacent 17th tee while perched in the upper reaches of a grandstand around the 18th green. I was forced to stand up for a more advantageous view because the person next to me was also standing. It became clear as to why he was adopting a vertical attitude when he took a quick snap shot of the players on the 17th tee with the noisiest camera 1970's Britain could produce. He then displayed an amazing piece of swiftness and dexterity by sitting down and concealing the camera and all within the time span of a micro second. This resulted in Bernard Gallagher taking his own quick snap shot out of bounds down the left. Bernard then immediately turned his attention to the direction of the noise that had cost him the average man's annual salary and set eyes on who else but moi, the only person standing and high above him and directly next to a prominent sign stating, "No Cameras".

I remember that sickening feeling of terror as I turned to my left to see the sign, then below me to engage a scowling Bernard, then to my right to witness about 4000 spectators all collectively identifying myself as the half-wit from Hades.

One of my favourite stories involving shame and tournament golf was the classic Arnold Palmer and the 'Portolet' incident. To explain, let me transport you back to the mid 60s when Arnie was the greatest name in global sport and where he commanded a following rarely witnessed before or since. The victim of this incident was innocently watching a golf

tournament when he was overcome with the desire to spend a penny, or cent as it would have been. He looked down the fairway and could see the advanced guard of Arnie's Army making their way up the fairway. Our friend spotted one of those awful portable conveniences called a 'Portolet' behind him and calculated that he just had time to nip in before Arnie was due. So he popped inside and did what he had to do. Having done that and being in a hurry to witness the great man, he somewhat regrettably opened the door in a rather flamboyantly theatrical manner only to find that to his sheer horror he had in the interim become encircled by a mass of TV camera's, overexcited spectators and Arnie, who had tweaked one off the tee and was about to do one of his Howitzer jobs from a mere ten feet distant. So what did our friend do? He immediately closed the door to the piercing accompaniment of squeaking rusty hinges and sat inside to contemplate the unfolding nightmare. He then waited for the sound of persimmon on balata only for there instead to be silence, followed by an eerie murmuring sound. Then there was the dreaded knock on the door. It was Arnie who asked, "Excuse me but I am finding it real tough to play my shot with you in there, could you please come out?" "Err no, Mr Palmer," replied our friend. "You just go right ahead, I'm ok here". Of course that was not an option and so after a minute or so of negotiation our poor comrade of agony was forced to face the bright sunlight, the TV cameras, the sniggering spectators and Arnie himself.

I must now describe the exploits of a friend of mine who follows the vocation of professional golfer. I thought I was a connoisseur of the cock-up but this man is a walking 'foot in mouth' epidemic. There was the unforgettable one where he was attempting to sell a second hand, slightly iffy electric trolley to the Lady Captain when he heard himself utter the line, "If you get a bit vigorous with this knob, it will jerk off."

Then there was the time when he arrived a tad late for a pro-am, hurried to the tee, met his team who had all invested £100 to play with this elite golfer and promptly proceeded to completely miss the ball with his first effort. His rather lame excuse was that he had just come out of a three month teaching stint where the only club he had swung had been a 5-iron and the shock of swinging 45 inches of driver had resulted in the



ground being struck approximately one foot ahead of schedule.

But I got involved as a caddie when he managed to get an invitation to a Tour event that was being staged within his PGA Region. St Mellion to be precise. This he achieved by the combination of a good run of form, aggressive networking and some serious wool pulling exercises. It all started to go wrong when a week before the event he got a bout of what true golfers refer to as 'the Lucy Locket's', 'the J Arthur's (and I don't mean Jim)', 'the laterals', 'the unmentionables', anything in fact to avoid the dreaded word "shank". Practice day arrived and we made our way to the range where he found a quiet spot at the far end well away from the masses. No problem until Seve and Nick Faldo decided to surround him. Several shanks followed, interspersed with the odd total duff for effect. Confidence now at an all time low, he shuffled off to the 1st tee for a practice round where he made up a three with Paul Broadhurst and another Ryder Cupper of the day. On the 4th fairway he stood at an approximate eight over par and proceeded to shank a vicious wedge that had Mr Broadhurst diving for cover.

Nine holes were enough before we made our way home. The next day and with several thousand spectators already enjoying the glorious weather, my friend got an early start on the 10th tee with a couple of monster hitting Swedes. A ghastly 1st tee shot off a previously undiscovered spot on the club face played in a state of advanced paranoid schizophrenia was followed by a chop with a 4-iron well short of the green. However, a scabby chip hit the pin and a tap in par managed to hoodwink the spectators into believing that there was some sort of control to his game. There then followed a half respectable par three followed by a birdie on the par-5 12th that was only achieved through a thinned second that managed to bound merrily over the stream fronting the green. Another couple of scrambled pars were interspersed with the odd stroke of merit that managed to get my friend to the entirely unplanned predicament of being joint leader when he stood on the 18th tee, which was his ninth. But of course, to those aficionado's among us that have taken the relentless pursuit of accidental disaster to the higher levels, the occasional moment of triumph has only been attained so as

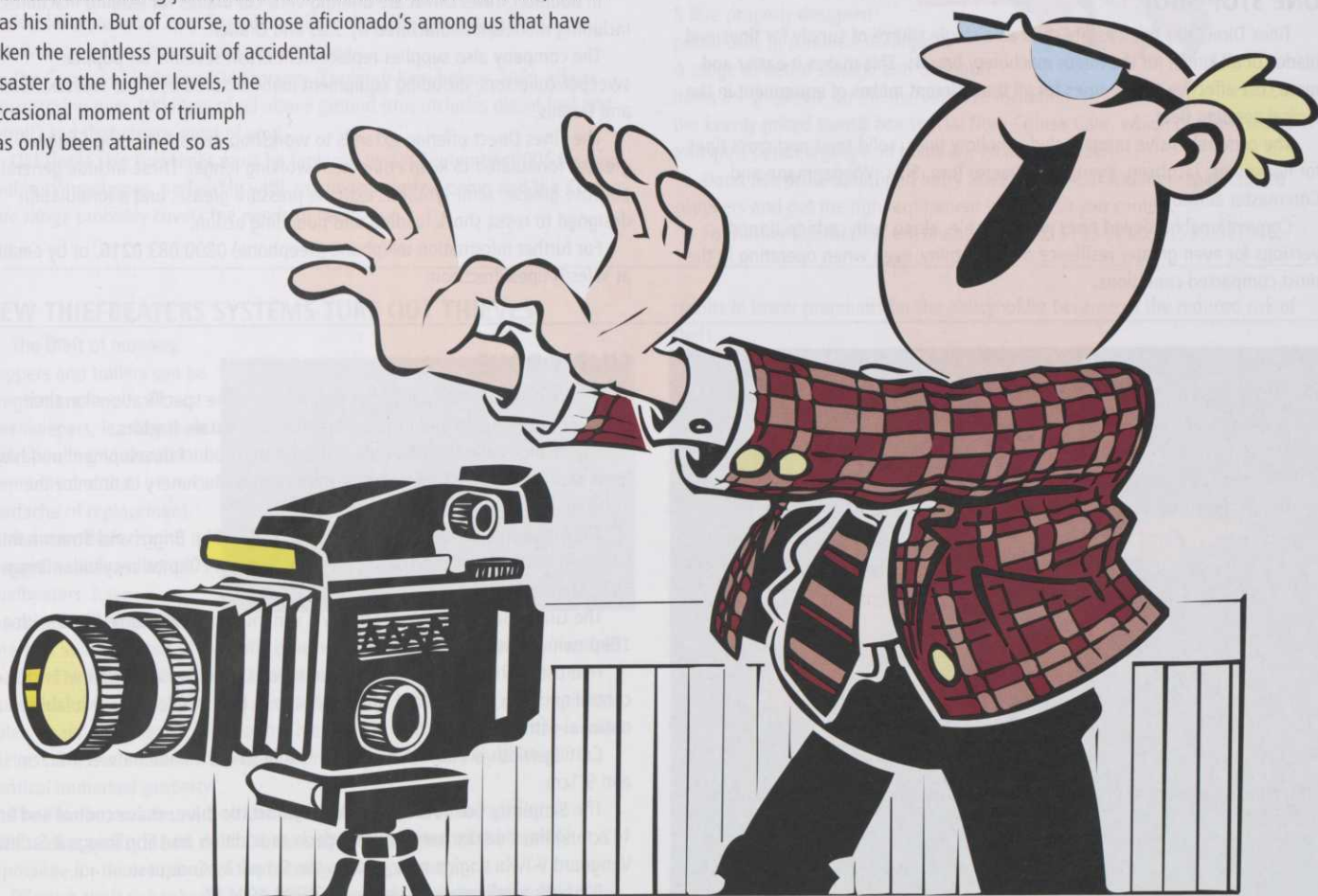
to make the downfall all the more calamitous. And so it proved to be. A 'God Bothered or 'Gladice' as it is sometimes known, got him 160 yards off the tee and about 150 yards short of his Swedish companions. He then necked a 3-wood to a position right and well short of the green and in the perfect position to exhibit to the waiting world the full beauty of the well-executed shank into the crowd, a shot that according to the record books had never been pulled off by a tournament leader.

We have often discussed the moment when we were deciding how the shot would be played. As we watched the cameras pan across and zoom in on us, our main focus of attention was not on how we would attack the pin or the subtle intricacies of Mr Nicklaus' slopes but on how we could actually safeguard against spectator loss of life. In the end a lunge with a 7-iron, even though we were only 70 yards from the green, seemed the best way out as a hastily executed risk assessment reasoned that the shattering of a spectators knee cap would be preferable to permanent brain damage or worse. But to his eternal credit the shank was averted and the utter joy of a double bogey was enough to get my friend back to the sanctuary of total obscurity.

But enough of my negativity, a golf course is a place to enjoy oneself, unless of course you are like myself of Scottish descent, in which case a golf course is a place where a man must suffer. Still, coming from a race that believes that pleasure is epitomised by a brisk walk through sub arctic winds dressed in little more than a mini skirt and whose idea of haute cuisine is a boiled concoction of animal waste and oatmeal stuffed into a sheep's bladder, I shouldn't take such sentiments too seriously.

### **Sandy McDivot**

Head Greenkeeper  
Sludgecombe Pay & Play





# NEW PRODUCTS

## NEW TURF TENDER FROM CAMPEY

Campey Turf Care Systems, the specialist distributors of grounds care machinery, have added a new model to their popular line-up of Dakota Turf Tenders in the form of the Dakota 412. Like its counterparts, the high work-rate unit allows grounds professionals to move materials, apply top-dressing, spread fertiliser and sow grass seed.

With a 2 cu yd (1.6 cu m) hopper capacity and a spread pattern that is variable between 3.5m – 9m (10 – 30 ft), the tractor-trailed 412 shares the same dimensions as the established Dakota 420.

It also benefits from having twin sets of floating wheels which further reduces the risk of ground compaction and allows contours to be followed accurately.

The Dakotas have proved highly successful owing to their efficiency and ease of use. Powered by a tractor of 30 hp or more, the 412 has an optional vibrating mechanism which agitates material in the hopper for even flow. Wide turf tyres are fitted to the unit as standard.

Using a Dakota Turf Tender, grounds care professionals can undertake several tasks with the one machine and boost productivity. This is an important feature for local authorities, contractors and large golf courses where considerable areas have to be treated quickly and efficiently.

For further information telephone 01260 224568.



## ONE STOP SHOP

Tines Direct has been established as a single source of supply for tines and blades of all kinds, for the major machinery brands. This makes it easier and more cost-effective to buy tines for all the different makes of equipment in the typical aeration fleet.

The comprehensive range includes hollow tines, solid tines and cross tines for Ransomes, Jacobsen, Ryan, John Deere, Toro, Sisis, Wiedenmann and Coremaster aerators.

Conventional hardened tines are available, along with carbide-tipped versions for even greater resilience and durability, even when operating in the most compacted conditions.

In addition, Tines Direct are offering verti-cut blades for leading machines, including models manufactured by Sisis and Graden.

The company also supplies replacement brush sections for popular sweeper/collectors, including equipment manufactured by Sisis, Wessex, Tomlin and Dennis.

The Tines Direct offering extends to workshop items, including Cougar greases formulated to keep equipment working longer. These include general-purpose grease, semi-synthetic extreme pressure grease, and a formulation designed to resist shock loading and pounding action.

For further information telephone (freephone) 0800 083 0216, or by email at [sales@tinesdirect.com](mailto:sales@tinesdirect.com)



## SIMPLY DONE

US manufacturer Simplicity has upgraded engine specifications on their range of Grand Baron and Conquest garden and estate tractors.

The changes are part of a policy of constant product development and have been announced by UK importer Claymore Grass Machinery in time for the 2004 season.

The Simplicity Baron has been upgraded to a 17hp Briggs and Stratton Intek OHV engine and the Grand Baron 18/40 now has a 20hp twin-cylinder Briggs & Stratton power pack.

The Grand Baron 16H/40 tractor will continue to be available fitted with a 16hp twin-cylinder Honda engine.

Hydrostatic transmission is standard on all Grand Baron models as is cruise control and 325 litre capacity grass collector. A grass deflector is available as an optional extra.

Cutting width is 102cm (40in) with height of cut infinite between 2.5cm and 9.1cm.

The Simplicity Conquest tractor has hydrostatic drive, cruise control and an 112cm (44in) side discharge cutting deck. In addition an 18hp Briggs & Stratton Vanguard V-Twin engine now powers the Simplicity Conquest.

For further information telephone 01789 490177.



## NEW MODELS FROM LLOYDS

Lloyds has increased its range of pedestrian operated self propelled Rotary Mowers, with the addition of two new models, the RL1480 and the one metre Twin Deck RL Samson.

These machines give an excellent finish but have the ability to cut high grass and brushwood. They are ideal to cut large areas, available in several formats and cutting widths from 533mm (21") to 1 Metre (40"), with forward single, 2, 3 or 4 speed models and options of reverse operation with parking brake, making the mowers suitable for all conditions.

Fitted with powerful engines, ranging from 5 to 15 hp, a perfect job is guaranteed even in tough places. Fully adjustable handles are mounted with controls and easy differential lock operation.

The machines give perfect stability and the best traction for any working condition (wet grass, slopes etc.). Engineered to withstand the rigours of today's demanding conditions, these machines give an uncompromising performance.

For more information telephone 01462-683031.



▲ RL 1480 Rotary

▲ Twin Deck RL Samson

## COURSE CARE'S CLEARWATER SYSTEM

Much has been said recently about the Groundwater Regulations and many clubs are now bringing their wash-down facilities up to specification with the installation of closed loop water recycling facilities incorporating micro-organisms.

While these systems are the ideal solution (and, many believe, will be the only one when legislation is tightened!) oil separators (interceptors) can be installed.

As the law stands at present, you may discharge into a foul sewer via a standard full retention separator. If washings are to go to a soakaway or watercourse, however, then a Class 1 separator must be installed.

Course Care has been installing separators and sewage plants for over 15 years now, so have considerable experience in this field. They progressed into water recycling plants in 2003 when demand became apparent and are now installing systems up and down the country.

Unlike other systems, Course Care's ClearWater systems are unique in that they are below ground, out of sight, silent and, with prices starting below £6,000 for a standard recycling plant, affordable. The company offers installation and wash-pad build services too.

The Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001 affects those storing over 200 litres of oil above ground (this includes diesel fuel and petrol!) and that means most of you!

Old single skin fuel tanks must be replaced by 1st September 2005 by new double skinned ones, preferably with an integral electric pump and the Course Care range probably covers the needs of most.

Of course, if your tank is 10 metres from a watercourse or 50 metres from a borehole or well, you should have replaced it by 1st September 2003! All other oil containers (bottles, drums and barrels) should stand on sump pallets also to avoid the possibility of pollution and likely prosecution.

The carriage and storage of petrol is the third concern. Many greenkeepers and groundsman are often, unwittingly, breaking the law and risking prosecution by collecting petrol from local garages in unauthorised containers.

Carrying more than 2 x 5 litre properly designed petrol cans in a vehicle is illegal.

A range of petrol storage and transport items are available on the market now, including the keenly priced transit box special from Course Care, which can be used to transport petrol legally and holds 4 x 20 litre jerrycans.

Don't risk prosecution and hefty fines, check your facilities, speak to the suppliers and get the right equipment in place so you comply.

For further information telephone 01535 611103 or fax 01535 611546.



## NEW THIEFBEATERS SYSTEMS TURF OUT THIEVES

The theft of mowers, chippers and trailers can be a nightmare for greenkeepers, leaving them with spiralling insurance premiums and the headache of replacement.

But now theft risk management consultants, Thiefbeaters, have developed a range of theft deterrent solutions that are literally causing thieves to walk off empty handed.

"The Thiefbeaters Permanent Identification System has been applied to thousands of high risk items and to date less than 1% has ever been reported stolen", said Andy James, Director of Thiefbeaters. "We have had cases where thieves have even moved 'Thiefbeater' property out of the way to steal identical unmarked property".

The Thiefbeaters Permanent Identification System is at the core of all Thiefbeaters products and deters thieves by alerting them to the fact that it is impossible for them to conceal the identity of the property.

Effective theft risk management is fundamental to any business and being able to identify recovered property is a key consideration for insurers and often



results in lower premiums for the policyholder because of the reduced risk of theft.

For enhanced protection, the Thiefbeaters Gold System combines permanent identification with physical immobilisation, which provides an additional visual deterrent.

Where greenkeepers want an even higher level of protection, the Thiefbeaters Platinum System combines permanent identification with a new tamper-proof tracking and recovery solution that alerts the owner to any unauthorised movements.

The Thiefbeaters systems are well worth the investment, costing as little as £179 (inc. VAT) to protect a trailer and only £234 (inc. VAT) to protect a professional ride-on mower; a small price to pay for lifetime protection.

For further information about Thiefbeaters or your nearest supplier visit the company's web site at [www.thiefbeaters.co.uk](http://www.thiefbeaters.co.uk) or contact the sales team on 0800 083 3066.





# Take a closer look...

Heritage moves outwards and upwards within the leaf blade.

Heritage stops the spread of disease that exists prior to spraying.

Lasting residual activity keeps Heritage working longer.

Heritage is absorbed readily into the leaf and moves both systemically and translaminarily.

Heritage protects against fungi invasion by inhibiting spore germination, disease penetration and sporulation.

Heritage moves into emerging leaves that were not present during the initial application.

Turf roots absorb Heritage and move it throughout the plant.

## ...only Heritage protects from the inside, so your turf looks good on the outside.

### The turf fungicide that will control Take-All patch and Fusarium.

- Proven and unparalleled preventative and early curative action
- Protects each and every blade of grass including the roots and new growth
- Enters turfgrass through the leaf, stem and root system
- Low risk environmental and toxicological profile
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