



**RIGHT:** Jim McKenzie of Celtic Manor conducting a very popular session on last year's Ryder Cup  
**ABOVE RIGHT:** Volunteers' workshop  
**BELOW:** John Pemberton with some of the BIGGA team

worthwhile. The Continue to Learn Education Programme in the Queen's Suite provided a catalogue of informative, educational seminars and workshops throughout the entire week, while the exhibition halls bustled throughout.

With the success of this year's show still ringing in their ears, the BIGGA team has already begun preparing for Harrogate Week 2012, which will undoubtedly prove once again to be the ultimate turf management exhibition in Europe.



# GI NEW PRODUCTS

The latest products on show at Harrogate Week 2011



## BLINDER BUNKER LINING SYSTEM LAUNCHED AT BTME

Blinder Bunker Liner Ltd launched a new patented bunker lining system, Blinder, at BTME.

The new system is environmentally sound and uses rubber crumb made from recycled tyres mixed with a binding agent to produce a bunker lining that provides a solution to many of the problems associated with maintaining bunkers.

Blinder was developed by Course Manager, Murray Long, who was looking for a viable option to reduce bunker maintenance hours.

Rubber crumb is mixed with a binding agent and then spread onto a sub-base at a depth of 25mm. It is then smoothed by hand to provide the perfect base for the bunker sand. It can then be sprayed to match the colour of the sand, if required.

The liner is resistant to club strikes and burrowing animals and drains at a rate up to 2,400 ml per hour. It also minimises contamination to the sand, which can create

substantial savings in sand replacement and reduces the possibility of stones on the fine turf areas surrounding the bunkers. It also offers protection to the drainage system, extending the timeframe for drainage replacement programmes.

The new system can be easily installed when renovating existing bunkers or constructing new ones.

Technical Director, Murray Long, added: "Blinder is suited to all types of bunkers and can be extremely useful in areas of heavy wear such as practice bunkers. It is also very effective in chalk and flint soils, especially stopping contamination of stones and other particles into the sand. Bunker maintenance is an issue I've been battling with for many years, and I'm confident that I've found a solution, not only for me, but also for my peers."

01344 621654  
www.theblinder.com



## PRO-PRUNER

The PRO-Pruner range developed in New Zealand by Lakewood Products, offers simple, robust, well engineered pruning tools capable of pruning branches up to 65mm in diameter. The advanced design features of the PRO-Pruner include:

- A unique curved blade: the shape of the curved blade pulls the pruner onto the branch and holds it tight, helping to avoid collar damage, blade crossover and slip; the ability to hold bigger branches and easier scarring are major benefits.

- PRO-Lock threading: threaded handles, fitted with specially designed PRO-Lock bolts, has eliminated nut and bolt failure. The easy adjust PRO-Lock bolts prevent lifting when the lock-nut is tightened. This system reduces the number of working parts ensuring the pruners perform better.

- Strength and durability; reducing the bolt holes in the handles to 7mm and riveting the tube to the high strength steel arms further strengthens the handles.

- Operator comfort; ergonomically designed grips and the offset bolts on the handle to head have helped in reducing shock to the operator's arms and elbows.

Lakewood Products has now made the PRO-Pruner available in the UK through Baxter Bay Limited.

[www.propruner.co.uk](http://www.propruner.co.uk)

**MORE NEW PRODUCTS NEXT MONTH...**



## NEW SCOTTS LAUNCH

Greenmaster Topdress Z is a fine particle-sized topdressing based on Scotts' Pro-Lite zeolite technology. This gives a particle count of 1,100-2,000 granules per gram. It has an open caged structure with a very high nutrient holding capacity, making it ideal for use as an amendment to new rootzones or in topdressing. The high Cation Exchange Capacity of Topdress Z helps turf managers with their nutrient management by enabling the soil to hold onto more nutrients.

Stuart Staples, International Technical Manager, said that turf managers can save time and money while improving the health of their turf by using controlled-release fertilisers.

"Controlled-release fertilisers deliver their nutrients over a specified period in a consistent and reliable way, so losses are minimised and nutrient use efficiency is greatly improved. While the price per kilogram is greater than conventional fertilisers, the long lasting effects of the product, reduced nutrient losses and the saving in labour costs compared to repeated applications of a conventional fertiliser, means that multiple savings can be made over the course of a season."

"In addition, providing a steady supply of nutrients rather than a 'feast or famine' approach has been proven to improve turf health and resilience," he added.

[www.scottspromotional.co.uk](http://www.scottspromotional.co.uk)



## EUROFLOR INTRODUCED BY RIGBY TAYLOR

Following extensive trials at golf clubs in the UK, Rigby Taylor, in partnership with seed breeder Top Green, launched EUROFLOR urban flower seed mixtures at BTME.

Brightening up the golf course, natural floral cultivars are mixed with wild flower species to provide horticultural excellence.

These mixes help to provide areas which will give back to nature what has often been taken away by the destruction of natural habitats.

Attracting wildlife throughout their long-flowering period from late spring well into the autumn they offer animals and insects cover and an extended food source.

Through trials and tests at 18 UK sites Euroflor has been found to be highly successful on varying 'normal' soil types - including loam, sand, clay, stoney and slightly acidic to alkaline soils with a pH of 6 to 8. These colourful mixtures have also performed well on steep slopes but here the sowing rate needs to be increased to 5g per square metre to allow for run-off.

Virtually no maintenance is required on the 14 hand-selected mixtures being introduced which can include mixtures which replicate a club's corporate image.

[www.rigbytaylor.com](http://www.rigbytaylor.com)

## NEW BLEC MULTIVATOR

A unique chassis design with quick hook-up rear attachment system turns the Multivator into a multi-use machine carrying out a wide range of tasks achieved with only one drive unit.

Decompacting, soil recycling and topdressing all in one pass, the Multivator has quick hook-on rear attachments, easy change blade system and heavy duty reversible drive system.

There are five models available in different widths - three for mid-range tractors and two heavy duty for higher HP tractors. All units are equipped with overload cam clutch and the heavy duty models also feature long-life side gear drive with forward and reverse rotation.

The heavy duty units also feature a heavy duty gearbox with four shafts to give two-speed drive and reverse rotation - mounted on a swivel base for easy drive change. On the heavy duty models a PTO shaft drive is fitted for rear attachments and an extreme duty overload clutch (pre-set).



[www.blec.co.uk](http://www.blec.co.uk)



**Harrogate week**

# The ultimate turf management exhibition in Europe

**TUESDAY 18 JANUARY 2011 9AM - 5PM**  
**WEDNESDAY 19 JANUARY 2011 9AM - 5PM**  
**THURSDAY 20 JANUARY 2011 9AM - 4PM**

BTME ClubHouse Continue to learn!



# Breaker BioLinks



It's Evolution .....

..... **not revolution!**

The 'Breaker' family of turf water management products continues to evolve!



Confirmed in independent trials, Breaker BioLinks is the proven solution specially developed to solve Dry Patch and water related problems on all turf surfaces. Particularly effective on Links golf courses and other sand based rootzones.

Integrated source of plant growth hormones provides natural moisture retention and stimulates root recovery.



- **Prevents and cures Dry Patch**
- **Stimulates root regeneration**
- **Balances soil moisture content**
- **Improves turf health and colour**

*Preventative & Curative effectiveness confirmed independently by STRI*

**RT**  
rigby taylor

FREEPHONE 0800 424 919 [www.rigbytaylor.com](http://www.rigbytaylor.com)

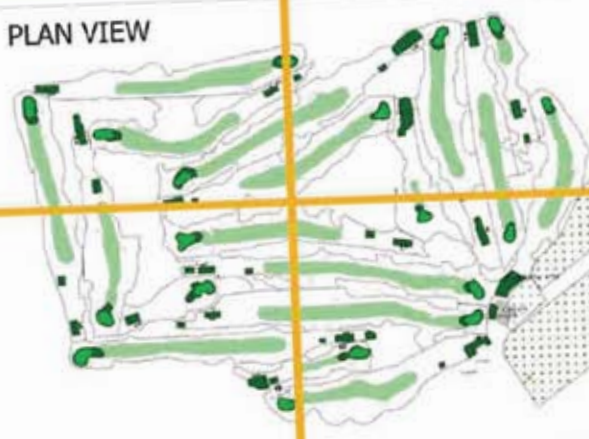
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Flying the flag for British manufactured products and environmentally responsible transportation and packaging.



PLAN VIEW



# GIS for you

Ian Phythian looks at the benefits that can be derived from turning to your computer for assistance

## Many of us now have access to the internet and have at some time downloaded applications for our own use.

As a golf course GIS analyst my mission is to inform and educate golf club personnel the latest technology available as a freeware. Most of us now are computer literate to some degree and also we are all aware of downloadable content from the internet.

There are many downloadable programmes available for the public and there are specific ones that could directly benefit golf clubs and I would like to show you how free downloadable GIS technology can be harnessed and applied to your working lives at the golf club and your careers. Indeed many golf club personnel are simply unaware of GIS and the immediate benefit it can bring!

## WHAT IS GIS?

GIS stands for (Geographic Information System). Apply this technology and you can view your golf course in great detail.

GIS is based on showing many layers of golf course features.

### Measurements

Area measurements to all individual greens, tees, fairways or any other areas.

Accurate length measurements for planning new drainage.

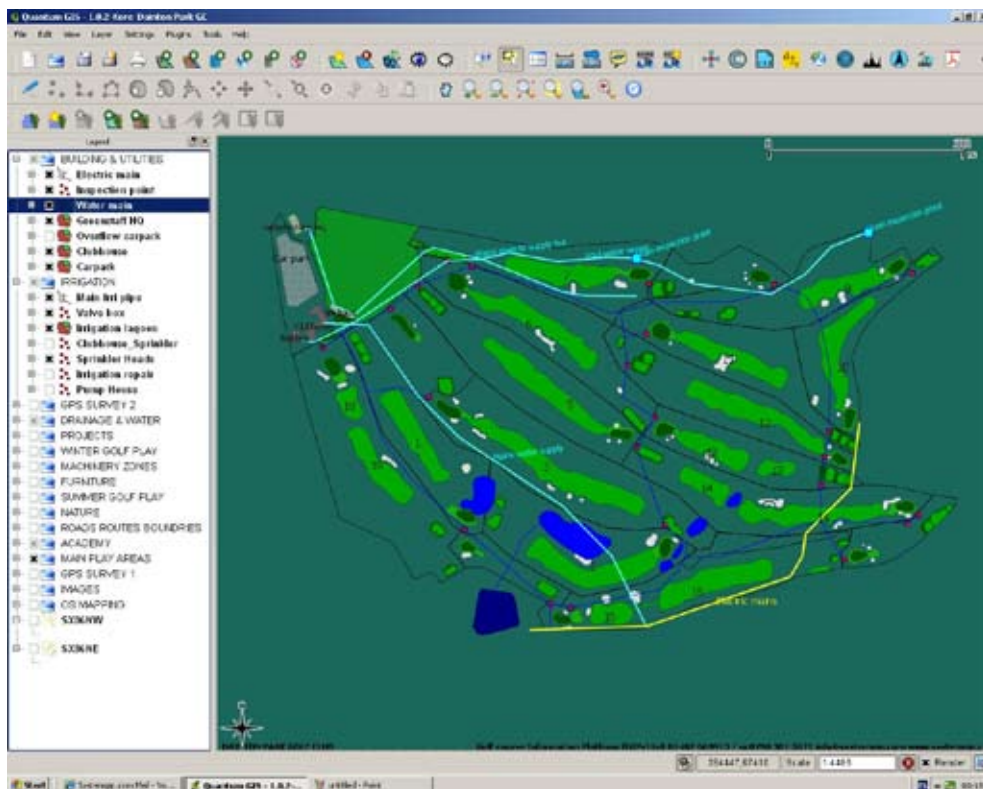
### Print outs/Job Sheets

Ideal for those extra summer staff! It's an excellent communication/discussion tool for general maintenance tasks as well as "the" on going working document for the golf club infrastructure.

### Set up for any golf course

GIS can be set up for 9, 18, 27, 36, 45 holes and in addition cater for leisure and hotel groups with any number of courses worldwide with their correct geo location coordinates.

In addition it can be set up to specific named courses within the golf club if desired.



### Languages

As freeware GIS is developed for the international community many languages are available.

## GIS GOLF COURSE FEATURES

### Main play surfaces

This is all the main golf playing sports surfaces that make up your golf course. All greens, aprons, tees, tee banks, fairways, semi-rough, rough stage-1, rough stage-2, bunkers, banks and mounds, tee group banks, and hole zones.

### Drainage and water

Start to document your drain information into the GIS. Main drain, sand slit drain, waterfall feature, old clay drain, inspection, carrier drain, stream, rodding eye, gully pots, vermin traps locations and repair history.

### Irrigation

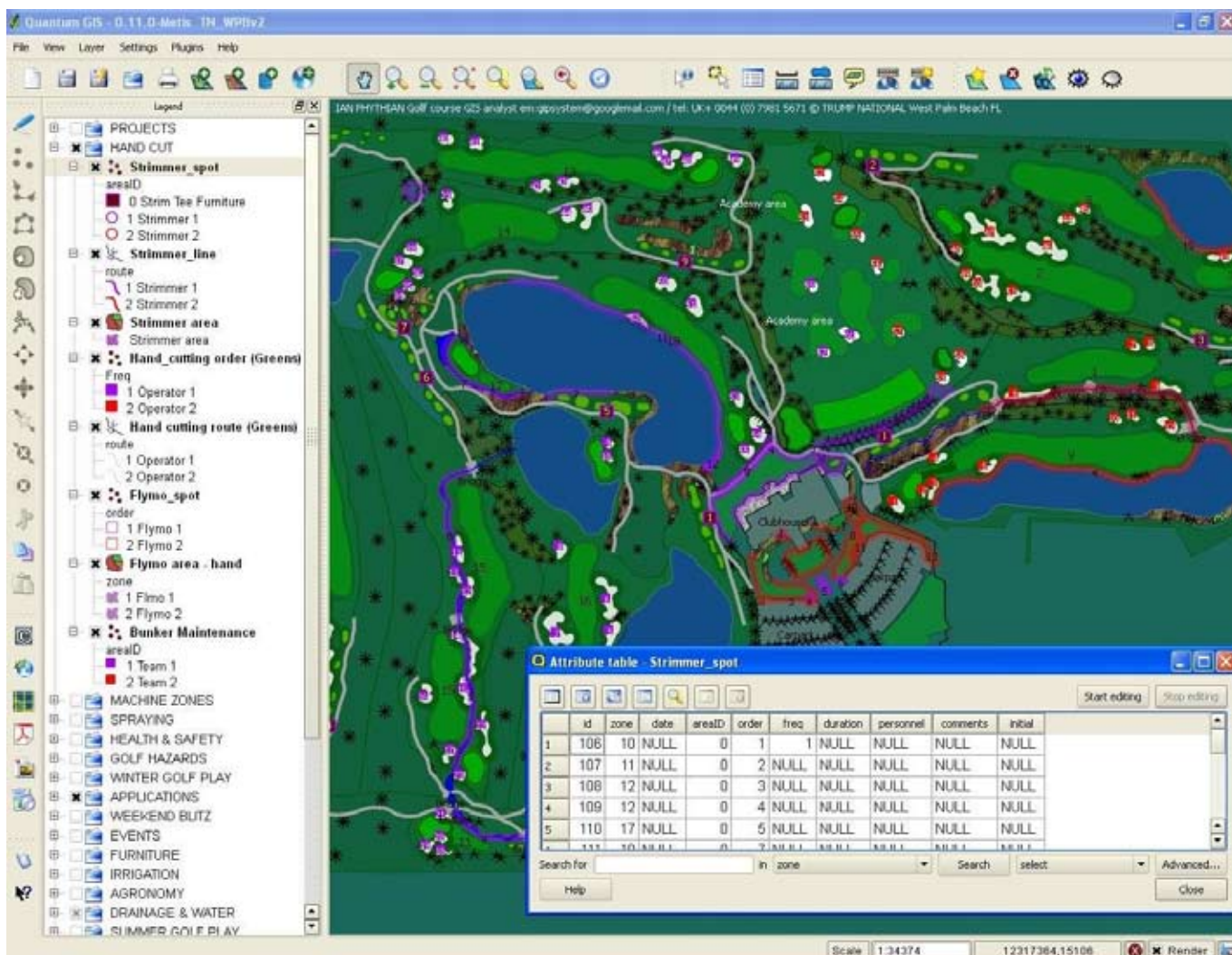
The main artery of your course, the main armoury against draught, no detail is enough! Each sprinkler

with its own unique ID, print out or email give to your irrigation specialist includes greens, tees, aprons, fairways, ornamental, academy, air release valve, pump house, filter, main pipe, valve box, location, span (cast) and repair history.

ABOVE: Example (fig 1) with golf course layers (left) with a comprehensive toolbox (top) to enable measuring, editing, printing to the golf course map (centre).

BELOW: Example (fig 2) we actually see a number of layers switched on including the irrigation with numbered irrigation heads.





ABOVE: Example (fig 3) showing spraying spot treatment (purple). Hand cut flymo & strimming (red).

**Projects**

This could be any new or proposed feature however large or small, proposed features such as location of new tee and bunker etc. Hand cutting - All those labour intensive jobs that compliment the main cutting programme, which is very labour and time consuming.

**Plan and work smarter.**

For example, strimming, flymo, bunker maintenance location, frequency, and duration.

**Roads, routes and boundaries**

Shows all the clubs assets, this could also be split to show land owned by the club ready for a future project as well as the existing established golf course boundary.

For example traffic flow, trolley line, track, footpath, perimeter fence line, cattle grid, electric fence, green staff track, bridge, buggy path, boundary fence and location.

**Buildings and utilities**

Different clubs have many different facilities and utility connections, it is good practice to know where they are.

For example electric transformer,

electric main, telephone line, miscellaneous, gas main, water main, pylon, sub station, club signpost, green staff HQ, clubhouse building, proshop location, repair history and locations.

**Furniture**

This highlights all your course extras. For example, course signage, bins, bench, practice net, toilet, ball washer and drinking water locations

**Clubhouse**

Covers your entire clubhouse and buildings infrastructure. For example, security lodge, building and out buildings, sport area (eg: tennis courts), buggy park, lawn, patio area, proshop and locations.

**Academy**

However big or small shows your academy area. Includes green, tee, fairway, bunker perimeter area and locations.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES**

**Spraying**

Intensive spraying record archive to keep up to date. For example, loca-

tion, frequency, zone, treatment, buffer zone and maintenance.

**Health and safety**

Be up to date with your staff's safety. Includes flash flood, water, risk assessment area and spot location.

**Agronomy**

Document your course health, follow your agronomist advice update your report view with your consultant. For example, Ph test, agronomy report, turf nursery and locations.

**Applications**

Document your feeding and top dress programme show/print to the proshop to view any course delays excellent customer service. For example, machine setting, comments, initial, product applied, date, ingredient, application rate for top dressing, fertiliser (liquid and granular) and over seeding.

**Nature**

Highlights all the natural features that compliment your course. Plan your next tree/shrub planting project with GIPs.

**Contact**

info@systemgip.com  
www.systemgip.com

Ian R Phythian  
Golf Course GIS Analyst  
UK 0044 (0)798 381 5671





TN\_WestPlanBeach\_GCv2.0\Events\Public gallery.shp

For example, perma frost, perma shade, site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or (Triple S) areas, protected wildlife area, heather area, flowerbed, evergreen tree and group, broadleaf tree and group, palm tree, protected tree, mature tree, hedge and rushes, coppice area, shrubs location, comments and initial database.

#### Machine zones

Tag a machine type to a specific area. This is also useful for any risk assessment analysis.

### GOLF PLAY

#### Golf hazards

Highlight all your course specific play rules and boundaries includes ground under repair (GUR), out of bounds (OOB), lateral water hazard, drop zone locations, comments and initials database.

#### Summer golf play

Shows all your playing information inc: the play lines from specific tees or planned tee projects and much more.

Includes tee yard markers, green centre, practice green, yard marker post or plate, regular pin, weekend position, 50,100,150, 200yrd markers or plates, tee markers (all colours), all play lines and custom colours (eg: red tee = red play lines) location and comments.

#### Winter golf play

Often forgotten not now, you can switch on/off at a click winter course prepared, compared to your summer course and viewed by all. For example, play lines, stroke index, par, yardage, and sponsor.

#### Weekend preparation

Highlights the time critical course preparation undertaken by

the green staff for most weekends throughout the season very labour and time critical operation get it right, plan it, work smarter, print out for your staff then they know what, when and where they are working ideal for extra summer staff.

#### Events

Plan your event however big or small features, planning is everything.

For example, public gallery, advertisement, press HQ, marshals, extra green staff, overflow car parks.

#### Base maps

Choice of ortho-rectified images in colour, black and white.

Contour and topographic mapping can also be added.

ABOVE: Example (fig 4) Public gallery areas, walkways, tee colour, play lines, greenkeepers bunker position, overflow carpark, advert banner position.

James de Havilland takes a closer look at the intricacies of current machinery

# The anatomy of...

## Battery powered kit

These days there seems to be a rush to adopt any green technology. Nothing wrong in that. But sometimes there is a great deal more to 'green' options than just cutting down on your carbon footprint.



Unlike its 'hybrid' small diesel or petrol powered siblings, the all-electric version of the Jacobsen Eclipse 322 relies solely on six 8-volt deep cycle lead acid batteries for its power. Modern CAN bus digital control improves efficiency and operating costs should be considerably lower than a fossil fuel burning alternative.