

TOP DRESSINGS

Banks Amenity Products Ltd.

FOR ALL YOUR BULK SUPPLIES
NATIONWIDE DELIVERIES

01858 464346 / 433003
www.banksamenity.co.uk

Shirley Aldred & Co. Ltd

Suppliers of high quality
granular charcoal for over 200 years

- Use one of the oldest products known to man to treat black layer
- Prevent thatch build up
- Improve drainage and rootzone
- Totally organic product
- Large stock levels of all grades
- Delivery anywhere in mainland UK within 3-4 days

Tel: 01433 620003
Fax: 01433 620388



TURF

Lindum
taking grass a step further

20 years of golf turf experience
5 golf grades including high bent Greens on USGA rootzone, RTF for stabilisation/drought tolerance, Wildflower Turf, and new Low Maintenance turf

Tel: 01904 448675
www.turf.co.uk

Tillers Turf
growers of fine turf

Specialist Growers of Turf for Golf Courses

Rootzone Turf for Greens
Grown on USGA rootzone, top-dressed throughout the year, and mown at 6mm.
Predominantly bent sward

Turf for Tees, Surrounds, Approaches and Fairways
Various mixtures including ryegrass/fescue, 100% fescue, and bent/fescue grown on sandy loam topsoil.

NEW for 2010/2011
Turf for bunker revetting and bunker lining.
Tees supplied and laid, with optional laser grading.

Tel: 01652 678 000
www.tillersturf.co.uk

VERTIDRAINING HIRE

NATIONWIDE VERTIDRAIN HIRE

SELF OPERATED
OR WITH OPERATOR

TRACTOR WITH 1.6m
£500 PER WEEK

TRACTOR WITH 2m
£700 PER WEEK

TEL: 01522 869100

www.countygrass.co.uk

WORTH DRAINING

VERTI-DRAIN HIRE 2.5 & 1.6M
2M & 1.5M GROUNDBREAKER FOR HIRE
SAND SPREADING & OVERSEEDING
TOP DRESSING • SPRAYING
Distance no object

Tel/Fax: 01476 550266
Mobile: 07855 431120

Email: worthdraining@talktalk.net
www.worthdraining.com

WASTE/WASHWATER TREATMENT

Hydrotech Solutions

- Golf Machinery Wash Water Treatment
- Positive Filtration – Non-Biological
- 200 + Systems Installed Worldwide
- Simple, Low Cost Installation
- Low Running Costs

Tel: 01925 758099

Fax: 01925 757519

www.grassgrabber.com

Email: info@hydrotechsolutionsltd.co.uk

Waste2Water

BIOLOGICAL VEHICLE &
EQUIPMENT WASH-OFF SYSTEMS

ESD Waste2Water Europe Ltd.

Tel: 01782 373 878

Fax: 01782 373 763

E-mail: info@waste2water.com

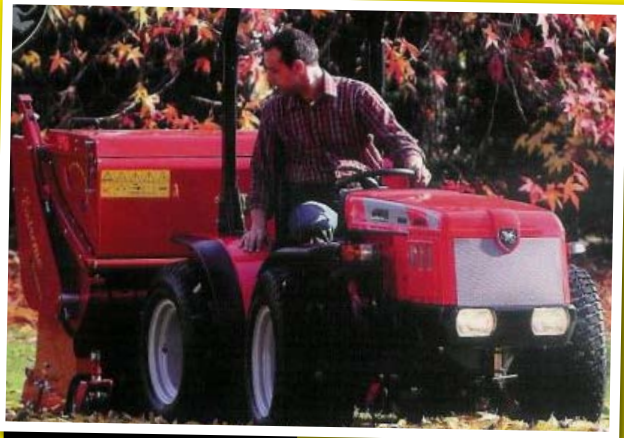
Web: www.waste2water.com

USED MACHINERY

Visit the Classified section of the new BIGGA website for full details of machinery for sale...

www.bigga.org.uk/classified

Here's a selection...



Carraro Tigre 3200 Tractor

X show model, like new.
26hp Yanmar engine,
Selectable 2-4wd.
Power steering, 540 &
Ground speed PTO.
3 point linkage, Turf
tyres, folding roll bar.

4 wheel drive tractor
Four Cylinder 43 Horse
Power Engine
Low Ground Pressure
Turf tyres worn more but
still good
Serviced regularly

Wiedenmann Finishing Mower - £5,990 + VAT

16ft Triplex Finishing
Mower
As New

Trilo SU40 vacuum unit £2,500

Near new Trilo vacuum
unit. Attached to a rigid
trailer. 11hp honda engine
Excellent condition

Forklift For Tractor 3 point, New

Brand New linkage
mounted fork lift. Lift
height 2300cm. 1200Kg
capacity. Hydraulic
top link. Fold up tines.
Category 2. Brand New
& Unused.

Kuhn BKE250

2.5m Flail Mower
Fixed Headstock
NEW

Kubota L4200

1998 Kubota L4200
Used on a Golf Course
4940 Hours

Imants Shockwave 1.55mtr - ex demo - £8950 + VAT

Ex demo Shockwave
1.5mtr. Used for our own
demos / shows.

Recruitment



Deputy Head Greenkeeper
Leamington & County Golf Club
18 hole private members club



Golf Lane, Whitnash, Leamington Spa. CV31 2QA

Apply to- Jason Cooper, Head Greenkeeper

- Qualified to N/SVQ level 3
- Current spraying certificates PA1/PA2 & PA6
- Chainsaw certificate
- Experienced in course machinery maintenance and irrigation systems

Please include C.V and covering letter

Salary- Good salary package available in line with qualifications

LOOKING TO RECRUIT?

LOOK NO FURTHER THAN...
www.bigga.org.uk/careers

ADVERTISE IN GREENKEEPER
INTERNATIONAL FOR A MONTH
FROM £480+VAT FOR AN 1/8 PAGE
ADVERT, OR GO DIRECTLY ONLINE
FROM £300+VAT FOR A PART MONTH
& £500+VAT FOR A FULL MONTH

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT KIRSTIN BLACK
ON 01347 833 832
OR EMAIL kirstin@bigga.co.uk

CHELMSFORD GOLF CLUB



Head Greenkeeper

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an experienced Head Greenkeeper at this prestigious club in central Essex. The present Head Greenkeeper will be retiring in October 2011 after 25 year's excellent service.

Chelmsford Golf Club, an original James Braid designed course, with major alterations by Harry Colt in 1925, celebrates the centenary of the course in its present location, this year 2011. It is a mature, undulating, parkland course of around 6000 yards and a par 68.

The successful candidate will

- Hold appropriate greenkeeping qualifications as well as experience in a similar position.
- Have the ability to manage and motivate our experienced greenkeeping team.
- Have knowledge of Health and Safety Regulations.
- Have knowledge of irrigation systems and machinery maintenance.
- Be able to manage an annual budget and capital projects.

A competitive remuneration package is available for the successful candidate.

Closing date for applications is Friday 15th April 2011.

Please apply with full CV to:

The Manager
Chelmsford Golf Club
Widford Road
Chelmsford
Essex CM2 9AP
e-mail: graham@chelmsfordgc.co.uk



Qualified Greenkeeper

The Richmond Golf Club is looking to appoint a qualified & experienced greenkeeper to join their hard working, dedicated team. This 120 year old club is currently enjoying a strong membership position and has a progressive on-going course development programme. This is an excellent opportunity for any ambitious greenkeeper to further their career and work at a high quality private members club located next to the world famous Richmond Park.

Minimum 3 years experience in a similar position and NVQ2 or equivalent. Salary negotiable but in line with CGCS recommendations.

Please apply with full CV to Les Howkins MG,
The Richmond Golf Club, Sudbrook Lane, Richmond,
Surrey, TW10 7AS.

Or via e-mail coursemanager@richmondgolfclub.co.uk

Closing Date March 7th 2011

Tel: 07859 126 286



Safety Management System

The BIGGA/GCMA Safety Management System, sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen, has been developed to:

- Make golf clubs safer
- Introduce best practice
- Standardise Health & Safety throughout golf
- Reduce costs for golf clubs

Why do you need a Safety Management System?

Because:

- It incorporates all your legal requirements to comply with Health & Safety Legislation
- Clubs have responsibilities
- There are penalties for not complying – up to £20,000 fine and/or course closure
- Golf clubs are hazardous places to work

The Safety Management System contains help and guidance to enable golf clubs to:

- Set a Health & Safety Policy
- List hazards and assess risks
- Plan for the future
- Introduce audit and review procedures

The Safety Management System is accessed through the Members area of the BIGGA website (www.bigga.org.uk) and the GCMA website (www.gcma.org.uk)

sponsored by



RJ International Golf Course



intheshed answers

QUICK 'NINE HOLE' QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. 16
2. 15
3. 49
4. 11
5. 39
6. 51
7. 63
8. 766
9. 1111

CROSSWORD

A	H	W	S	O	Z	I			
I	D	E	E	C	U	M	I	N	G
D	G	L	U	I	T	O			
V	I	R	G	I	L	M	A	T	A
S	L	I							
D	A	R	E	N	E	D	S	H	E
B	R	G	I	U					
W	A	G	S	T	A	S	E	R	B
B	O	C	D	A	N				
M	A	R	K	A	N	T	O	N	Y
I									
A	L	C	A	P	O	N	E	U	M
E	O	D	N	R	I	G			
L	A	R	R	Y	D	A	V	I	D
R	A	S	Y	Y	E	R			

MONSTER SUDOKO

8	A	6	B	5	1	9	4	C	2	3	7
4	2	3	5	7	B	A	C	1	6	8	9
9	1	C	7	8	2	3	6	B	A	4	5
1	5	4	A	9	C	2	3	7	8	6	B
3	B	7	C	4	6	5	8	2	1	9	A
6	8	2	9	1	A	7	B	3	C	5	4
7	9	8	6	C	5	1	A	4	B	2	3
5	4	1	3	B	8	6	2	A	9	7	C
B	C	A	2	3	9	4	7	6	5	1	8
A	3	9	8	6	4	C	1	5	7	B	2
C	6	B	4	2	7	8	5	9	3	A	1
2	7	5	1	A	3	B	9	8	4	C	6

SQUIGGLY SUDOKO

4	6	5	9	3	2	1	8	7
2	8	3	7	1	5	4	9	6
7	9	1	4	6	8	3	5	2
5	3	7	6	8	1	2	4	9
8	2	9	5	4	3	6	7	1
6	1	4	2	7	9	8	3	5
1	7	2	8	5	4	9	6	3
3	5	8	1	9	6	7	2	4
9	4	6	3	2	7	5	1	8



On the Soapbox

Colin Callander looks at what is required of the modern day Course Director

There are some jobs that nobody in their right mind would ever touch with a barge pole.

It would be fair to say, for example, that I have never had even the slightest inclination to sign up as a Cat Food Quality Controller, although I assume somebody has to do it, and nor would I have exhibited even a modicum of enthusiasm had it ever been suggested that I should apply for the role of Chief Shoe Cleaner for Imelda Marcos.

I mention this here for the simple reason that eight months ago, when I accepted the invitation to become Greens Director at my local golf club, Welwyn Garden City GC, at least a dozen of my friends told me that I must have lost my marbles.

Long-standing acquaintances were particularly perplexed because they knew that about 20 years ago I had fulfilled a similar role at a previous club in Scotland and so automatically assumed that I should have known better than to agree.

I have numerous golfing acquaintances who would tell you they would rather have all their teeth removed without an anaesthetic than to become the Greens Director or Greens Convenor at their golf club but I'm not one of them and I can confirm nothing has happened over the last eight months to make me change my mind. Indeed, I have enjoyed the role immensely. I'm not sure our excellent Course Manager, Brett Cox, and his hard-working team would be quite as enthusiastic but, hopefully, they would agree I have done my bit and, much more importantly, let them get on with theirs.

A few months ago, Scott MacCallum, the Editor of this magazine and a former colleague of mine, both at The Courier newspaper and Golf Monthly magazine, asked me to pen some thoughts on the role of a Course Director. I have no idea why he chose me rather than, say, Malcolm Peake, an expert of many years standing and the author of the hugely informative and entertaining Confessions of a Chairman of the Green, or for that matter Nick Park, a respected R&A consultant and the co-author of Golf Monthly's highly influential series, The Management of British Golf Courses. But I had no desire to offend him, so somewhat reluctantly I agreed.

My remit was to come up with some thoughts on what made a successful Course Director but, before I get down to that, it might be worth highlighting the biggest mistake any wannabe Course Director can make, namely to believe the job title,

not to mention his reputation for having green fingers in his garden, gives him the right to dictate how the Course Manager maintains and manages the golf course. Unfortunately, that happens, as readers of this magazine will know. In fact, it would be fair to say it happens more frequently than any of us would care to admit.

I am a journalist. Other Course Directors I know are doctors, dentists, businessmen, civil servants, teachers and accountants. We all have our own individual skill sets but, apart from the dentists, the aforementioned Messrs Peake and Park, we have little knowledge about how to manage turf grass, we are not necessarily au fait all with the recent advances in fertilisers and we probably couldn't even tell you the difference between a Nematode and a Common Toad so have absolutely no right whatsoever to dictate to our highly trained greens staff what to do when it comes to presenting the golf course for our members. That would be nonsensical, surely, not to mention dangerous for all concerned

To me, the role of the Greens Director

or Greens Convenor is relatively simple and it is to liaise, on behalf of the Board or Committee, with the Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper on all matters relating to Course management, maintenance and development. Together, the Greens Director and Course Manager will set an annual budget, agree a course maintenance policy and devise a rolling course improvement strategy, all of which then have to be agreed at Board or Committee level. Sometimes, perhaps during spells of inclement weather or, for example, while a concerted effort is being made to rid the greens of meadow grass, the Course Director will have to act as a buffer between the Greenkeeper and irate members. That is inevitable, not to mention uncomfortable. However, for the rest of the time, when the course is deemed to be in good condition, the same Course Director can bask in praise he scarcely deserves.

It is not rocket science, I can assure you, and it can be made even less problematical if every effort is made to tell members in advance when vertidrainage, hollow coring and top dressing and other such work is to be done.

Good communication is vital for any club

that wants to minimise frustration and adverse comments from its members. This winter, we have undertaken a considerable amount of course improvement work, necessitating some holes being out of play for long periods at a time. However, because we intimated in advance what would be done and what disruption would be caused, complaints have been minimal. In contrast, we omitted to publish a coherent policy on when carts and caddie cars could, or could not, be used in adverse weather conditions and this has led to uncertainty and considerable adverse comment.

The ultimate goal is to produce an exhaustive Course Policy Document outlining everything from how the course is to be managed, the expected standards of maintenance, a five-year plan for course improvements right down to information on when the course will be closed in the event of bad weather, when winter greens will be used and when golfers will be allowed out with carry bags only.

That way, the greens staff will have guidelines to work to and the rest of us will also know exactly where we stand.

Nematodes and common toads



Colin Callander is a former Editor of Golf Monthly magazine and is currently Greens Director at Welwyn Garden City GC

Colin Callander

The views expressed within On The Soapbox are not necessarily those of Greenkeeper International

ESP

ENHANCED SEED PERFORMANCE

Liquid Seed Treatment

Gives your seed the best start

- ☀ Enhances germination
- ☀ Improves early establishment
- ☀ Increases tillering
- ☀ Increases sward density



Treated seed mixtures available for a wide range of sporting surfaces



RT

rigby taylor
FREEPHONE 0800 424 919
www.rigbytaylor.com