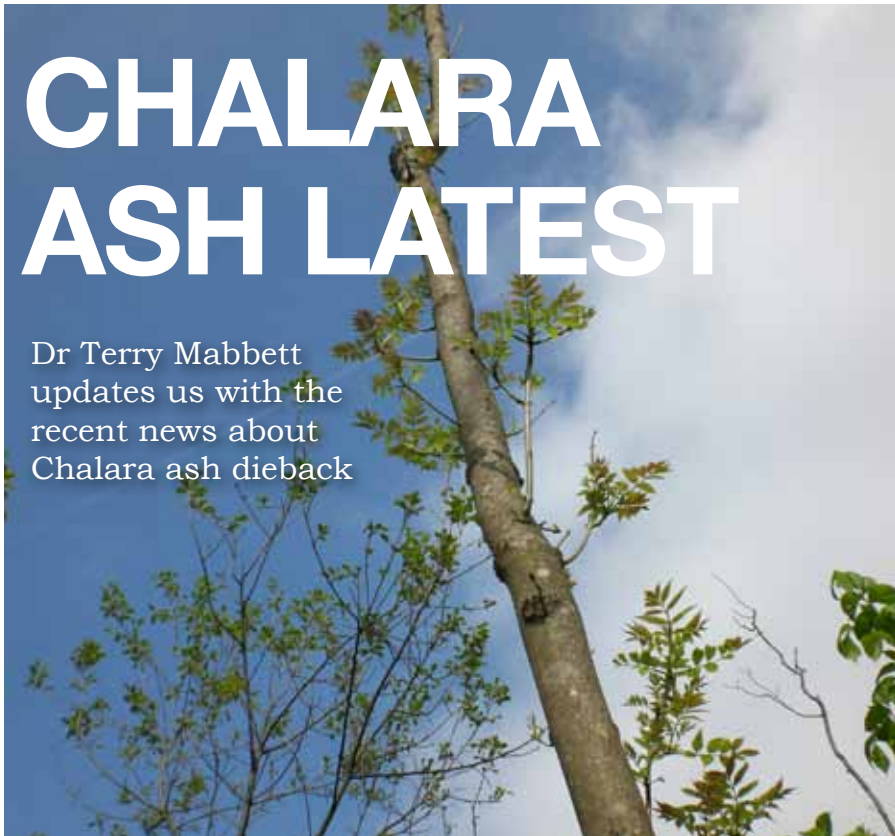


# CHALARA ASH LATEST

Dr Terry Mabbett updates us with the recent news about Chalara ash dieback



Chalara ash dieback has been firing warning shots at the UK government's management plans but the two latest salvos were right on target.

The first shot from Wales hit one of the three main planks of Defra's Chalara Management Plan below the water line, while the salvo from Devon was a top deck direct hit.

First main plank of Defra's Chalara Management Plan (March 2013) is the

creation of a disease free zone of counties along the western edge of England comprising Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Gloucestershire and up through the West Midlands.

Underpinning the programme is assistance to forest and woodland owners of recently planted ash confirmed with chalara.

They will be given grants to dig up and destroy the ash trees and plant with

alternative species. General idea is to slow the westward spread of the disease from current hotbeds in East Anglia and Kent/ East Sussex.

Even if this 'generosity' had been extended to the amenity and landscape sectors including golf courses (Greenkeeper International May 2013), and used to cover all recently planted ash (healthy as well as infected), success was unlikely considering this pathogen is disseminated by airborne spores and the sheer ubiquity and frequency of its common ash host.

Recent events are proving this thinking to be right. In May 2013 Chalara ash dieback was found in the wider Welsh environment at Ferrybridge (south of Carmarthen town) in Carmarthenshire. This leaves the door wide open for spores to be picked up and carried eastwards into western England by strong south westerly prevailing winds.

But that is all 'red herring' thinking since chalara was actually identified in the west of England wider environment in July 2013 in woodland between Exeter and Tiverton in Devon.

Forestry Commission (FC) did not reveal the exact location, although BBC Devon said the outbreak was at Byway Farm near Tiverton. According to the BBC, FC said the disease must have been on these trees when they were planted in 1996/1997.

This is highly unlikely. After 16-17 years the disease would have already spread far and wide. In 1996/1997 Chalara ash dieback disease was still confined to Poland and Lithuania, and unlikely to have arrived that early in the UK on imported planting material. In those 16-17 years it has moved westwards from Poland to reach Pas de Calais in France.

## BLOGGING AT TRENTHAM PARK



This month's featured blog is from Leigh Swann, Head Greenkeeper at Trentham Park Golf Club.

He started the blog using 'blogger' in January and has already had over 7,000 views – plus it's improving the communication between Leigh, his team and the members.

He said: "After improving the club's website the year before I wanted a clear concise way of communicating out to the membership.

"I also wanted to give them a way, and means of asking questions, and for me to answer them honestly and truthfully.

"I often get members stopping me on the course telling me how much they enjoyed reading it, and comment on how easy it is to understand. I think they appreciate the honesty.

"The thing that has worked out

best is the ability for members to comment on the blogposts. So if they don't understand anything they can always ask!

"I think an important thing is not to ignore the complaints that come through. If the greens are bad, then explain why!

"I use 'blogger' which is free and enables you to post pictures and videos to it completely free. It's connected to your Google account so everything blends in well, and is easy to use."

What advice would he give greenkeepers thinking of setting up a blog?

"Take your time deciding on what you want. Try to get it integrated into the club's website, so it's easier for your members to find."

See for yourself at <http://trentthamparkgolfclub.blogspot.co.uk>



# Membership News

The latest news from BIGGA

This month we look at how you can use our new link-up with Arco to kit you and your team out with discount workwear

## BIGGA TEAMS UP WITH ARCO FOR DISCOUNT WORKWEAR

**BIGGA and Arco Limited are pleased to announce a new partnership which will enable BIGGA members to take advantage of special terms agreed against a core range of products covering waterproofs, workwear, safety footwear, personal protective equipment, workplace safety items and Arco's range of landscaping equipment.**

As well as the terms agreed on a core range of items there are range discounts across the rest of Arco's product range showing BIGGA members further savings.

Arco is the UK's leading supplier of personal protective equipment, workwear and workplace safety products offering a world-class range of over 170,000 products. As experts in safety, Arco is widely recognised as a provider of specialist advice through their network of 42 locations across the UK and Ireland and this is further supported by their own Training and Consultancy division, offering tailor-made safety and training packages. Each BIGGA member will have the support of a local Arco Account Manager who

will be able to offer help and advice on product selection, standards and other general health and safety matters.

One BIGGA member who is a long-term supporter of Arco's range is Peter Craig (bottom right) Course Manager at the Hurlingham Club in Fulham, who has 25 full-time staff.

He said: "We get all manner of items from Arco, mostly health and safety equipment from ear protectors to overalls, gloves to chainsaw helmets – you name it, we've sourced it from them and it really is top quality equipment.

"They're very efficient and quick to respond. Delivery is always within two days and they also offer a next-day delivery service which has proved very useful in the past. I genuinely wouldn't hesitate to recommend Arco and their service to any BIGGA member, and I'm currently looking to place even more orders with them."

If you already have a trade account with Arco the terms agreed will now be loaded against your account and you can start to benefit from excellent discounts on a choice of quality safety products. However if you do not have an account with Arco but would like to take advantage



of these terms please complete contact your local Arco and request an account application form to complete and post back. You can find details of your local Arco at [www.arco.co.uk](http://www.arco.co.uk) using the branch locator tool on the homepage.



### Contact Details

Tracey Maddison  
[traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk](mailto:traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk)

Elaine Jones  
[elaine@bigga.co.uk](mailto:elaine@bigga.co.uk)

Tel: 01347 833800  
(option 1 for Membership)

[twitter](#)

You can follow BIGGA on Twitter @BIGGALtd

### BIGGA Regional Offices

#### Scotland & Northern Ireland

John Young  
Mobile: 07776 242120  
[johnyoung@bigga.co.uk](mailto:johnyoung@bigga.co.uk)

#### Northern & Midland

Sandra Raper  
Mobile: 07866 366966  
[sandra@bigga.co.uk](mailto:sandra@bigga.co.uk)

#### South East

Clive Osgood  
Tel: 01737 819343  
Mobile: 07841 948410  
[cliveosgood@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cliveosgood@yahoo.co.uk)

#### South West & Wales

BIGGA House  
Tel: 01347 833800  
(option 1 for Membership)



John Young Sandra Raper



Clive Osgood

### OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

(Full Members only)

Personal Accident Helpline  
0207 2048952

Greenkeepers Legal Assistance  
0800 177 7891

Lifestyle Counselling Helpline  
0844 770 1036  
[www.arclegal.co.uk/carefirst](http://www.arclegal.co.uk/carefirst)

Visit the BIGGA Stand  
at SALTEX - G98

# BIGGA

British and International  
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# L&D News

The latest from the Learning and Development department at BIGGA






**Gold Key Individual Members:**  
Steven Tierney MG, Chris Lomas MG, Andrew Campbell MG CGCS, Ian MacMillan MG, Ian Morrison, Andrew Turnbull, W J Rogers, Sam Langrick, Espen Bergmann, Nick Gray

**Silver Key Individual Members:**  
Steve Dixon, Richard McGlynn, Douglas Duguid, Jaey Goodchild, Graham Wiley, Michael Beaton, Paul Jenkins, David Barker

The funding provided by Gold and Silver Key Sponsors is used to produce training and career aids, DVDs, CD Roms, field guides and provide refunds for training fees and subsidised learning and development courses. The funding also helps support seminars, workshops, courses, the lending library, careers advice, posters and manuals.

## Contact Details

-  Sami Strutt  
L&D Manager  
[sami@bigga.co.uk](mailto:sami@bigga.co.uk)
-  Rachael Duffy  
L&D Executive  
[rachael@bigga.co.uk](mailto:rachael@bigga.co.uk)
-  Stuart Green  
L&D Executive  
[stuart@bigga.co.uk](mailto:stuart@bigga.co.uk)

01347 833800 (option 3)  
[www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

## BIGGA ANNOUNCE OPEN-PANEL DEBATES AT SALTEX 2013

**In addition to the free-to-attend BIGGA day-long series of education presentations at this year's SALTEX (Sports Amenity & Landscape Trade Exhibition) national show at Windsor Racecourse, greenkeepers will find a number of open panel debates of interest as well as a showground packed with useful products, many of them being shown for the first time.**

The free-to-attend BIGGA Golf Education Day (on Wednesday September 4, visit [www.iogsaltex.com](http://www.iogsaltex.com) for details) will appeal to greenkeepers at courses of every size and type and will focus on drainage, bunkers, composts and disease management.

A number of panel debates will also appeal, including the 'Integrated control of pests, weeds and diseases: What does this

mean in practice?' Hosted by John Moverley, chairman of the Amenity Forum, the panellists for the session will include Paul Singleton, chairman of the Forum's Education and Training Committee; Will Kay, managing director of Languard; and Sheffield Council's David Wain.

As John Moverley says: "We are all aware of the need to take a more integrated approach to pest management but there remains many questions as to exactly

what this means or how we can achieve it – including addressing issues of effectiveness, costs and environmental factors."

Visit [www.iogsaltex.com](http://www.iogsaltex.com) for more details of the BIGGA Education Day, the full programme of SALTEX panel debates, exhibitor profiles and to register to attend SALTEX for free.

Don't forget BIGGA has a separate stand - G98 - at SALTEX. Come and see us!

## New BIGGA Education Scholarship supported by Ransomes Jacobsen

George Stephens, Deputy Course Manager at Exeter Golf & Country Club, is starting an NVQ Level 4 Amenity Horticulture Management Course @ Duchy College.

For more information on these fantastic educational opportunities please contact the L&D department at BIGGA House.

## GRADUATION AT MID SURREY

Royal Mid Surrey Deputy Head Greenkeepers Kevin Glazier and Harry Cannon recently visited Myerscough College to attend their Sportsturf foundation degree graduation ceremony.

Kevin and Harry completed the three-year online course in May and received their certificates on July 11.

At work at the 36-hole Royal Mid Surrey Club in south-west London, Harry is Deputy Head Greenkeeper of the Pam Barton course and Kev is the Deputy Head Greenkeeper on the JH Taylor course.

Keen triathlete and recent first-time father Kevin said: "The online foundation degree has helped to swiftly progress my career at Royal Mid-Surrey. With improved analytical and technical awareness I am much better equipped to add value into short-term practical operations, medium-term special projects and long-term greenkeeping strategies."

Former England under-18 karate champion Harry assesses the Myerscough course as a valuable addition to his CV to further his career ambitions.

He said: "This qualification provides me with the comfort and knowledge to be more expansive and dynamic with essential greenkeeping activities. It's also given me an introduction to management which I will serve me well when I progress my career to hopefully



becoming a Head Greenkeeper or Course Manager at some point."

RMS Courses Manager Gavin Kinsella commented: "The Club are very proud of Kevin and Harry. They were identified as bright young things some years ago and have fully embraced the Club's continuing investment in them. Their application to their studies was first-class and they are now an even more important asset to the team here."



## NEW BOOKS ADDED TO THE BIGGA LIBRARY

A series of management books have been added to the BIGGA library. Published by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI), they provide expert guidance on Managing Yourself and Others.

These books would be useful for anyone undertaking a management unit within their qualifications or for who have an interest in improving their management skills and knowledge.

Managing Yourself – this is for anyone who wants to further their career as a manager. Offering information on development and career planning; workplace relationships; managing time effectively; problem solving; decision making; managing your relationship with your boss and networking.

Managing Others: The Organisational Essentials – this focuses on the organisational aspects of managing those people that you are responsible for. Providing information on the

recruitment process; managing staff retention and turnover; 360° feedback; training and learning evaluation; succession planning; organisational culture; managing creativity; redundancy; managing the survivors and enabling a work-life balance.

Managing Others: Teams and Individuals – focusing on selecting and building a successful team. Providing information on getting the right people; using verbal communication effectively; building trust; delegation and empowering your people; SMART objectives; how to motivate the demotivated; coaching and mentoring and how to manage conflict.

The BIGGA Library service is a membership benefit. To borrow any of these books, access the BIGGA library via the Members area of the BIGGA website to place your order. Two books can be loaned for up to six weeks at a time. The books are sent out free of charge, however the borrower is responsible for the cost to return.

## Assistant Profile

*Our monthly look into the life of an assistant greenkeeper...*

**Name:** Steven Morris  
**Age:** 26  
**Club:** Royal Dornoch Golf Club  
**Position:** Assistant Greenkeeper  
**Nickname:** 'big man'



**1. How long have you been greenkeeping?** 9 years

**2. What was it about the career that attracted you?** Working outside, interest in maintaining sports turf areas, using machinery

**3. If you weren't a greenkeeper what do you think you'd be?** snowboard instructor/Work in a ski resort in Austria

**4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why?** Working tractors, changing hole positions as you can decide where it goes!

**5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why?** Cutting greens with a walk-behind mower because it is such a long job!

**6. What one thing would improve the greenkeepers' lot?** More respect from the golfer and general recognition for what we do as greenkeepers.

**7. Hobbies?** Golf, going out for weekends, skiing/snowboarding, cycling, hill walking, camping. Working on cars.

**8. Favourite Band?** Changes but at the moment - Mumford and Sons

**9. Who do you support?** In golf – Paul Lawrie, Darren Clarke

**10. What is your claim to fame?** None as yet.

# TORO®

## Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year 2013

# The final eight

The finalists for the annual Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year competition, held at BIGGA House, have now been chosen. Here's the shortlist...

Here are this year's finalists for the coveted Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year prize, who will all be bidding to walk away with the crown at the final at BIGGA HQ next month

Who will succeed Thomas Flavelle? Thomas has already enjoyed a superb trip to the States and secured another job since he won the award last year – showing what a boost it can be for your career.

Even being nominated is an achievement, so congratulations to the eight finalists.

The final consists of two intense days during which they will be asked to complete a written task focusing on the golf course here at Aldwark Manor and interviewed by a panel of judges from Toro and BIGGA.

The winner and two runners-up will then be selected.

The winner will head to the USA on an all expenses paid trip courtesy of Toro. This will last for eight weeks and include a six-week study course at the University of Massachusetts.

They will also get the opportunity to visit the GCSAA's Golf Industry Show in Orlando (shown right) and explore Toro's base in California.

The runners-up will receive a paid trip to the Continue to Learn education programme at BTME 2014.

To be eligible for the next award, candidates should be a greenkeeping student studying for a qualification up to Level Three. All entrants are nominated by their course tutor.

Thanks to everyone who entered, including those who did not make the shortlist – there's nothing to stop you entering again next year. Good luck to all the finalists – the winner will be announced next month.



**GI GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL**  
Celebrating 25 years of BIGGA

**15 Weeks to BTME 2013**

**Thomas's travels**  
Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Thomas Flavelle took us aboard a life-changing eight weeks in the States, his reward for scooping the coveted prize last September

**Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year 2013 is Thomas Flavelle**

**CLIMATE CONTROL**  
Coping with our unpredictable climate

**A BRUSH WITH FAME**  
Karl Parry's new product

**Featured**  
**TORO BOY**  
Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year 2013 is Thomas Flavelle

**ALSO INSIDE... DRAINAGE : BASIS POINTS : HORSE CHESTNUT**

**UMASS AMHERST**  
"I will never forget the experience that I had at UMASS and the people I met there"

**JOSHUA THORLEY**

Born: 7 February 1985  
 Role: Assistant Greenkeeper  
 Club: The Richmond Golf Club  
 Handicap: 24  
 College: Myerscough



Joshua began his working life as a roofer but found his true calling as a greenkeeper after joining The Richmond in 2010. He is studying for his level 3 qualification, and is looking to work overseas and gain experience at working at a tournament. He would eventually like to progress to Deputy then Course Manager. He enjoys football, golf and runs his own sports clothing website.

**SCOTT ROBERTS**

Born: 15 September 1990  
 Role: Assistant Greenkeeper  
 Club: Hankley Common Golf Club  
 Handicap: 6  
 College: Merrist Wood



Scott grew up at Hankley Common and spent a spell of work experience at Queenwood Golf Club, where he became involved in a project of rebuilding all 21 greens. In 2011 he joined Hanley Common where he works alongside his dad Gareth. He's joined the support teams at a series of tournaments including the BMW PGA at Wentworth and has joined BIGGA's Surrey committee. Ultimately he would like to work abroad. He enjoys golf, football and darts.

**SAM EVANS**

Born: 13 August 1988  
 Role: Deputy Head Greenkeeper  
 Club: Oakland Park Golf Club  
 Handicap: 24  
 College: Myerscough



Sam worked for some time at Heythrop Park where he passed a series of qualifications, before recently moving to Oakland Park. He wants to improve his mechanical knowledge, and ultimately become a Course Manager. He's had a highly eventful few years as he holds a degree in Sports Management & Coaching and got married last year. He enjoys all manner of sports especially cricket, and is also a fan of football, golf and rugby.

**DANIEL HARDY**

Born: 13 December 1984  
 Role: Deputy Course Manager/Mechanic  
 Club: Cams Hall Estate Golf Club  
 Handicap: 14  
 College: Myerscough



Kenn golfer Daniel started his career as an assistant motor mechanic before undertaking a Marine Engineering course. He then took on his current role at Cams Hall Estate and plans to start his Level 3 studies soon, and holds ambitions of not only managing a course but eventually undertaking the Master Greenkeeper qualification. As well as golf sporty Daniel enjoys cycling, football and cricket.

**BEN WATERS**

Born: 23 May 1984  
 Role: Assistant Greenkeeper  
 Club: Shrewsbury Golf Club  
 Handicap: 13  
 College: Reaseheath



Ben began greenkeeping in 2010 after initially working in manufacturing, and after a period of work experience at Shrewsbury Golf Club realised it was the job for him. He has aspirations of becoming a Head Greenkeeper and also would like to work in the USA. He is currently studying a Sports Turf NVQ2.

**JAMES WILKINSON**

Born: 29 April 1981  
 Role: Assistant Greenkeeper  
 Club: Highwoods Golf Club  
 Handicap: No  
 College: Plumpton



James was working for a landscaping firm when he was given the job of returning the tees on a local golf course, and became so interested in the course he secured a job as a greenkeeper. He learned on the job before joining the rolling parkland at Highwoods. He's enjoyed this role hugely and has been supported by the club in his college studies. Outside of work he enjoys fishing, running and watching football.

**LUKE TURNER**

Born: 24 May 1980  
 Role: Greenkeeper  
 Club: Willingdon Golf Club  
 Handicap: 28  
 College: Plumpton



Luke is currently studying for his level 3. He has regularly volunteered to join the team at Devonshire Park which holds tennis tournaments, while continuing to put all his efforts into Willingdon. He would like to gain international experience at some point in his career. He's always been fascinated by links golf courses and is a keen surfer and rugby player.

**PAUL WALSH**

Born: 5 May 1981  
 Role: First Assistant Greenkeeper  
 Club: The Royal Dublin Golf Club  
 Handicap: No  
 College: Teagasc - College of Amenity Horticulture in Dublin



Paul began his career studying Mechanical Engineering but became hugely interested in turfgrass management, and in 2008 began working at Palmerston House Golf Club in County Kildare. He joined The Royal Dublin Golf Club in 2010 and after achieving his FETAC Advanced Certificate in Greenkeeping was promoted to First Assistant. He hopes to progress to Deputy Head Greenkeeper in time.

# GI NEW PRODUCTS

The latest products on the market reviewed

## NEW TYM COMPACT MAKES BIG IMPACT



Chipping Sodbury has become the latest golf club to choose a TYM compact tractor, for work around its 18-hole Cotswold course. It is one of a growing number of clubs that have opted for a TYM tractor from Toro distributor Lely UK when buying new Toro turf equipment and irrigation products.

Models range from 23hp to 100hp to cater to a wide variety of needs, but Lely says the 40hp and 50hp tractors are particularly suited to the turf sector. The 43hp T433 model, with its working speed of almost 20mph making it ideal for general turf maintenance duties, is a particular favourite with turf managers. And this was the model chosen by Chipping Sodbury, whose course manager John Keenaghan says he's been like "a schoolboy in a sweet shop" with his new machine!

"The hydrostatic power-steering gives it a wide turning radius, making it easy to use and ensuring no tyre marks are left on the greens," says John. "We bought the mid-duty 43hp model which is efficient and well suited for golf clubs."

## SISIS TO SHOWCASE THREE NEW PRODUCTS AT SALTEX

Always a popular stop with groundcare professionals at IOG SALTEX, SISIS will be showcasing three new products for the 2013 show.

The company will be launching a new pedestrian scarifier and will be bringing two redesigned products – the SISIS Dart pedestrian aerator and SISIS TM1000 tractor mounted scarifier to join the familiar range of British manufactured favourites on stand B40 from 3-5 September.

Working alongside existing end users, the SISIS Dart and TM1000 have both been redesigned to include ease of operation and functionality with the operator in mind.

The new pedestrian scarifier has been extensively trialled before its official launch at the exhibition and shows the improvement and investment in products that the company continue to make.

Full details of the products are being kept under wraps until the first day of the exhibition.





# BLEC EXPANDS RANGE AT SALTEX



BLEC GLOBAL will use IOG SALTEX at Windsor to show a wider range of products for the groundcare, landscaping and sportsturf marketplace.

Two models of the Multivator, both heavy duty and compact, will be on show – and demonstrated - as well as the new BLEC Power Box Rake powered by the Avant Skid Steer unit.

The Multivator is 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, an easy-change blade system and heavy duty reversible drive system.

Also on the stand will be the laser-guided BLEC Power Box Rake heavy duty version for tractors – cultivating, pulverising, earth moving, grading and stonepicking all in one tough machine for landscapers.

The Disc Seeder (heavy duty), Multi-Seeder, Cultipack Seeder and Star Seeder will all be on show and the contractor's favourite, the BLEC Laser Grader, will also be on display.

BLEC managing director Gary Mumby said: "SALTEX is a very important show for us where we get the chance to demonstrate all our innovations for turf and landscaping professionals."



## NEW FROM THE GRASS GROUP

Saltex 2013 will once again see The Grass Group exhibiting a good array of established machinery - and several new models too!

Pride of place will be ATT's pedestrian mower – the INFiNiSystem™. Recently awarded the Quiet Mark for its low noise output from the battery power capability, The Grass Group will be showing a brand new cutting cassette in the 'Razor Cutter'. This cassette is non-carbide tipped and can be reversed in order to achieve a consistently sharp cut. It will join the line-up of nine other cassettes to create the ultimate in turf maintenance.

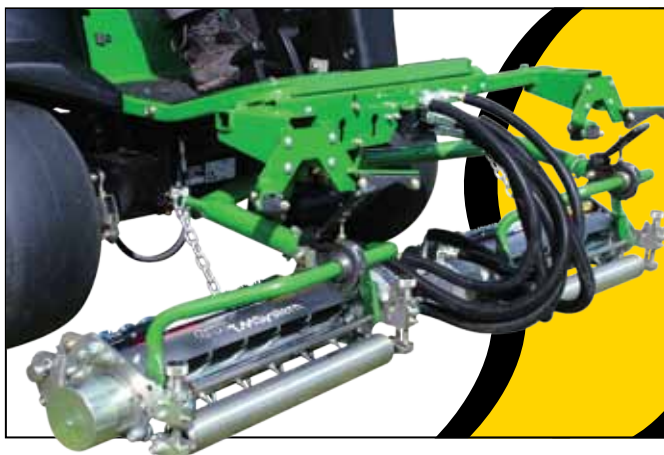
Next up is the updated B7 blower from Netherlands manufacturer, Trilo. This three point hitch blower is your best choice when it comes to blowing leaves, litter, standing water and debris off sports grounds, fields, artificial turf, golf courses, urban and private greens and the like.

For 2013 a new model has been introduced where the standard hydraulic operated 180 degree reverse spout is replaced with a straight spout. This adaptation allows for use by any

compact tractor as hydraulics will not be needed to move the reverse spout. In addition to a reduced purchase price, the unit becomes even more compact and will stay inside the tractor dimensions.

Over in the Progressive corner the Grass Group will be demonstrating how the universal acclaimed Pro-Flex 120B has been re-designed to achieve a lower cost of operation. This contour mower has a 10 feet cutting width and is now equipped with rubber-damped, automatic belt tensioners and maintenance free bushings to increase belt durability and life. This modification also eliminates 25% of the grease points compared to previous models and means that routine servicing is faster and easier - leaving more time for mowing!

As well as lower maintenance costs, the Pro-Flex 120B now has the industry exclusive Pro Lift-N-Turn™ system as standard which allows the operator to temporarily raise the decks slightly off the ground without stopping and with the PTO still engaged. This makes it easier to operate than ever before!



## Lovin' the multi-tasking

The ATT TMSsystem™ is the world's only complete Turf Management solution that's compatible with mainstream Triplex mowers.

The TMSsystem™ is a master of multi-functionality including grain control, soil gas/air exchange, green-speed manipulation, top-dressing integration, organic matter reduction and high quality mowing.

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# Behind the scenes at The Open 2013

The BIGGA Open Support Team tell the inside story of a red-hot Open Championship with their own words and photos from a scorching Muirfield

