

Golf

Management Europe

As HMRC appeal the Bridport and West Dorset VAT test case, the AGCO petition the UK Government to reduce VAT at all golf clubs. **page 22**



new online image for toro

New website reflects Toro's global position as the market-leader in golf and irrigation solutions



UK £6.00
Eur €6.95
US \$9.50

issue 80
september 2011



Odd part-ex on Tyneside

In one of the strangest part-exchange transactions of the past decade, a Ransomes Overgreen triple mower has been used to

help fund the purchase of a Jacobsen Eclipse 322 riding greens mower.

This unique deal was negotiated by David

Common, sales representative at Rickerby, Ransomes Jacobsen's dealer for the northeast of England with Tyneside Golf Club situated just outside Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The Ransomes Overgreen was introduced in 1937 and was the first motorised greens triple to be introduced in the UK.

It was manufactured until 1958 and this particular machine was purchased by the club in 1946. It was last used some 20 years ago when it was fitted with brushes to remove dew from the greens.

Dave Simpson, who has been head greenkeeper at Tyneside Golf Club for the past 15 years and heads a team of five, said: "Some of my team who have been

here longer than me can actually remember using the Overgreen, but it has been consigned to the back of the shed for many years now.

"When I mentioned it to David Common, he contacted Ransomes Jacobsen and they were immediately interested in acquiring the mower. They plan to restore it and display it in the foyer of their headquarters in Ipswich.

"With the purchase of the Eclipse 322 we now have the most modern and up-to-date technology here at Tyneside.

"The fuel economy is fantastic; we were using six litres of fuel to cut our greens, now we only use three, so we're getting a 50% fuel saving."

Colt Mackenzie McNair, golf's executive recruitment specialist, looks set to further enhance the service it offers the EMEA golf industry, following the appointment of Douglas Philip to its growing research team.

Philip will use his knowledge gained from a wide range of sports to pinpoint new business talent from outside the EMEA golf industry.

Richard Wood, director of Colt Mackenzie McNair, said: "There is a definite need for fresh business talent in golf.

"Judging by the results of a recently commissioned CMM customer study, it is clear many industry leaders would welcome candidates with complimentary skills from outside the golf business. By investing in the appointment of Douglas, we have the capability to deliver an even higher calibre of candidate.

"Our highly focused, research-driven approach offers the industry something our competitors can not match and it ensures each assignment we work on shortlists candidates of outstanding quality."

New Koro by Imants Field TopMakers launched at IOG SALTEX

Campey Turf Care Systems is renowned for bringing the very latest innovations in turf management to the fore and at SALTEX recently, the company launched several major new products.

Two new models of the Field TopMaker from Koro by Imants were shown for the first time. The 1200 and 1500 Field TopMaker are heavy duty fraise mowers ideal for removing unwanted surface matter such as poa-annua, thatch, weeds or the entire surface to a depth of 50mm.

The side arm elevator removes debris directly into a trailer running alongside the Koro Field TopMaker, or when fitted with the optional scarifying rotor the Field TopMaker can be supplied with a collector hopper.

The Koro by Imants Field TopMaker 1500 is designed to be used by mid-range tractors with 50 - 65hp and is ideal for sports pitches and golf fairways, whereas the smaller 1200 version is suitable

for compact tractors of 35 - 50 hp and works extremely well on both fine turf golf greens and tees, tennis courts and outfield turf on sports fields and golf course fairways.



Essex course set for possible closure

Council bosses have warned that an Essex golf club could close if they are unable to make it financially viable.

Tony Ball, council leader, confirmed a review of Basildon Golf Course was underway after Basildon Golf Centre - the company given a 99-year lease to run it in 2007 - was forced to surrender it.

Ball said: "I do not want to set any pulses racing, but it is only right that we look at the future of the golf course.

"It must not be forgotten that the reason we went out to tender before, was because it was costing taxpayers £100,000 a year to keep the course open."

Meanwhile, the council has agreed to allow Warehouse Sports UK, which

was brought in by Basildon Golf Centre to run the course in April, to continue running the course for up to three months at a cost of £20,000 a month to the taxpayer.

Ball could not say how long the review would take, or what the future options would be. He would also not rule out the sale of the course.