

# JOHN DEERE 9RX...

THE PERFECT COMBINATION OF POWER,  
PERFORMANCE AND INTELLIGENCE, ALL  
WRAPPED UP IN A 4-TRACK

SPRING 2016

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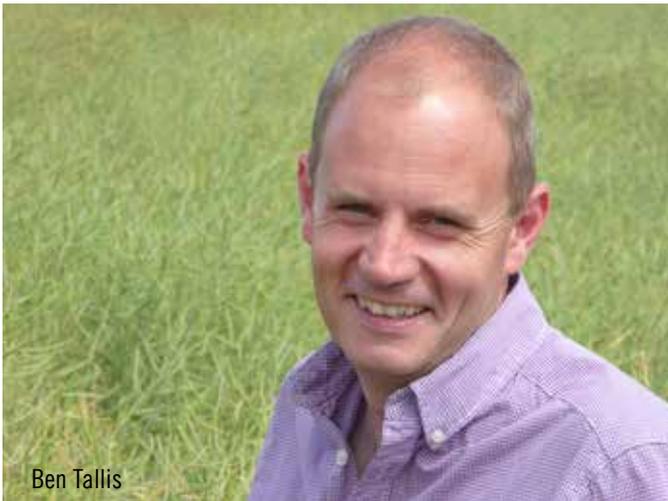
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# HELPING OUR CUSTOMERS BY ENHANCING EFFICIENCY



Ben Tallis

**Cutting back on unnecessary expenditure and focussing on the essentials has to be the right approach when faced with depressed farm commodity prices. In fact it's probably the best approach for any successful business, regardless of trading conditions. So what can TAG offer that will help its customer base to navigate through tough times? The answer not surprisingly, is probably more than you think. Let's take a look at some of the advantages we offer that will help your business to become more cost conscious, both for now and into the future.**

## **Maintenance and Fixed Price Servicing**

Probably one of the most significant activities that has a direct effect on machine performance, fuel consumption, machine running costs and residual value, is that of regular maintenance. It's all too easy during busy periods to forget about an oil and filter change or system check because you don't have time. At TAG, we have a solution. We can utilise JD Link - on specified machines, to automatically feed back to our service departments, reports on hours and maintenance schedules, so you don't have to worry about it. It can also tell us if there is an error code or component issue that needs urgent attention. JD Link can also provide valuable telematic information as illustrated by Overbury Estate - see the editorial on page 4.

We offer a fixed-price servicing schedule covering all the major servicing points on self-propelled machinery so that you know precisely what the

cost of the service will be and can allow for that in your planned cash-flow and expenditure. If you prefer, we can assemble a maintenance plan for any specific piece of machinery and you can leave the rest up to us. Call your local TAG branch and ask your Service Manager for more details and see our offer on page 5.

## **TAG Expert Check on Turf and seasonal machines**

All of our parts and service technicians undergo regular and intense training programmes at John Deere and are certified under strict criteria to offer the ultimate machine servicing capabilities. Expert Check is a John Deere resourced programme that provides a thorough analysis and condition report on your seasonal equipment at a set price, by John Deere certified technicians. It also allows a cross-reference by our technicians with the same models of equipment throughout the world, to measure wear rates and identify replacement needs in advance of any possible component failure. The result, with an end-of-season check-over, your machine can be serviced, cleaned down and stored away through the winter, ready for a turn-key start next season. By scheduling a TAG Expert Check report, you can also take advantage of out-of-season discounts on any parts offers that will be running at the time, to coincide with Expert Check programmes.

## **PowerGard extended warranty**

The sophistication and high-performance capabilities of modern farm equipment today means that there is always a remote chance of component mis-function. By adding John Deere's PowerGard extended warranty and maintenance plan to eligible equipment means you can cover the potential costs and maintenance for up to five years. By adopting an extended warranty programme that can be spread by simple monthly payments over the chosen period of the extended warranty, you can plan specifically for cash flow, throughout the life of the machine. If, in the unlikely event of a major breakdown or component failure, the PowerGard extended warranty plan covers the cost in full. See the editorial on page 12.

Please ask your local TAG service manager for further details on any of the outlined programmes above. We are here to help you steer your way efficiently through these challenging times, so we can all come out the other side.



## **Front Cover 9RX**

Wow! It's been a long time since a new product emerged with so much expectation. Our own test at SJ Philips & Son, Kilkenny Farm, near Bibury in November and it was really impressive. You can take a look at the 9RX in action by visiting this link on our website (<https://youtu.be/9li81cAbQg4>). For more information on the 9RX and all of our products, take a look at our website at [www.tallisamosgroup.co.uk](http://www.tallisamosgroup.co.uk)

# FAMILY IS THE CENTRE OF OUR BUSINESS



Simon Amos

One of our long-time customers commented the other day that the reason he enjoyed doing business with us was because, although we had expanded to five depots, we had never forgotten our family-business roots. Maintaining our local identity is something we always take very seriously. Although we are now a much larger group, each of the five regional depots still maintains its local presence, and individually is part of the local community.

We like to think that our business is a part of local rural life and as a local employer – employing over 130 sales, service, parts, management and administration staff – we help to sustain the local economy. Not only do we provide goods and services to the agricultural sector, we have a growing number of customers in the golf and amenity turf sectors as well as the residential sector. As a main dealer for Isuzu pick-up trucks, our vast and colourful display of vehicles can be viewed at our Leominster and Bibury sites – not only do we supply the vehicles, we are also an approved parts and service outlet.

Regardless of the size of our customer and how much they use us, we always aim to treat each and every customer with the personal and courteous service that they have come to expect over the years. We ensure that our staff have the right level of training in order to meet our customer's expectation – with customer satisfaction being our number one priority.

The growing nature of our group has a number of benefits for our customers. Due to our increased size, we now have much stronger purchasing power in the market place, which means that we can provide the best value for money for our customers. Equally, within the group we have a wealth of capability amongst our staff which means that we can now provide more specialist technical cover between our depots, for the likes of precision-farming; specialist technicians for combine harvesters; self-propelled forage harvesters; sprayers; and of course golf and amenity applications.

Seeing an agricultural machinery dealership would probably not always register with residential customers that in our showrooms and parts facilities, we carry a wide range of 'country store' items, such as; clothing, footwear, mowers, tools, batteries, wellington boots, nuts and bolts, hardware, childrens toys - to name but a few. We like to think that we are competitive on price with all of our products and our staff are always on hand to assist customers in making their purchases.

We are proud to have been in business for more than 100 years and believe that the reason that we have been successful over the years is that we care about our customers and this continues to be our main focus today – so why not come along and see what we have to offer!



## SPECIAL OFFER BALER PROMOTION

### JOHN DEERE F440M ROUND BALER

- 1.25-1.35m bale diameter
- MaxiCut 13 knife
- 2m pickup with roller crop press
- 17 ribbed rollers, great for silage
- 540RPM PTO
- Easy to use BaleTrak monitor

THAT'S A  
GIVE-AWAY  
PRICE!

#### TAG PRICE

**£22,995** RRP £37,054

## WHILE STOCKS LAST

### JOHN DEERE 960 ROUND BALER

- Variable bale diameter, 0.8 – 1.55m
- MaxiCut 13 knife
- Auto Greaser for trouble free maintenance
- 2.2m Heavy Duty pickup with castor gauge wheels
- Hydraulic brakes
- ISOBUS ready with 1800 GreenStar display

UNBELIEVABLE

#### TAG PRICE

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**FINANCE OFFER (ON NEW ORDERS ONLY)**  
2+22 0% FINANCE\*

\*Finance on up to 50% of retail, subject to acceptance conditions apply, offer may be withdrawn at any time.



# JD LINK CONTRIBUTES TO MAJOR COST SAVINGS

Efficiency awareness increases, using data from John Deere's telematics system



Precision farming technologies, coupled with auto steering capabilities on tractors, combines sprayers and forage harvesters have well proven the benefits when it comes to accuracy of planting, recorded input applications and harvesting analysis. But this is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to machine operating costs and optimisation. Some farming enterprises are harnessing the technology to further improve other cost performances.

Overbury Estate, which is situated under Bredon Hill on the Gloucestershire/Worcestershire border, farms some 1560Ha of which 930Ha is combinable crops including winter wheat (425Ha), oilseed rape (180Ha), winter barley (150Ha) and spring barley (120Ha) and the remainder down to spring beans. Some 50% of first wheats go for milling, while malting barley is grown under contract and the oil seed rape is grown under the LEAF Marque Standard - Overbury being registered as a LEAF demonstration farm.

Utilising precision farming technology, Overbury started using variable P&K applications in 2006 and variable seed applications in 2011. Both showed significant savings of as much as 30% compared with traditional application methods.

Overbury Farm Manager, Jake Freestone commented, "With a wide variation of soil types across the estate from hungry brash land on the banks and good fertile land in the valleys, variable inputs were the way to go. More seed on the brash and lighter soils, where we normally get around seventy per cent establishment, meant that after winter losses, we still had a very strong crop. Precision farming technology has enabled us to manage the variations to the benefit of more even cropping and an enhanced yield."

The farming enterprise runs a 370hp John Deere 8370R for zero tillage planting and harvesting is taken care of with a John Deere S680i combine on tracks, sporting a 9m Premium Flow header. The combine incorporates AutoTrac steering and Yield Mapping as part of the precision farming specification, the signal being sourced through a



Mobile RTK set-up for enhanced accuracy. Both machines came with John Deere's JD Link as part of the package and wasn't something that was initially considered to be of major importance to the operation. However, subsequent analysis by their local John Deere dealer, Tallis Amos Group (TAG) based near Evesham, has meant that by working with the combine operator, Tim Stafford, significant awareness has been established as to the productive and non-productive costs of utilisation and performance versus idling time.

Richard Allard, Service Manager at TAG, with the approval of combine owners, setup an analysis of different combines, by using the JD Link reporting system, to see who was the most efficient in up-time and performance and comparing why there would have been differences between the same model of combine being used by a different customer/operator. Said Richard, "with the combine owners approval and using JD Link, we carried out a remote analysis of machine operating time, idling, unloading on the move - versus unloading whilst stationary, servicing and maintenance times and in-crop output performance of each combine. There were significant differences in output and downtime



## FIXED PRICE SERVICING FT4 6R TRACTORS

Extended 750 hour services on Medium and Larger Frame models

Example 6155R only £300 Labour and £274 Parts/Consumables

Example 6215R only £300 Labour and £250 Parts/Consumables

Average hourly maintenance over 5000 hrs,  
£1.12/£1.17 respectively.

No obligation report on machine condition and status

between machines and therefore improved benefits in reduced costs per hectare for those who were operating the most efficiently. Overbury Estate and their operator Tim Stanford came out top of the group. So we will be sharing the differences in performance and machine operating time with all of our customers to help them all get the best from their machinery. My analysis report for Overbury compared with the previous harvest shows that by more awareness of downtime and improved efficiency, Tim Stanford managed to save over one thousand pounds worth of fuel this harvest, and this is just the beginning.”

A number of factors affect the collation of data for overall analysis and can include, but is not limited to; number of trailers for unloading, size of trailer, distance travelled, unloading on the move, idling awaiting trailers, idling for adjustment or maintenance, size of field, yield of crop and whether the machine is chopping straw or not.

Added Jake Freestone, “it’s amazing how JD Link can provide such valuable data to help us to improve our in-field performance which to a degree has been somewhat taken for granted. One of the biggest factors affecting combine efficiency is trailer size and number of trailers. Size of trailer needs to be able to take a full or multiple tanks of grain from the combine while harvesting. To leave some grain in the tank means the combine could well be full before the next grain trailer arrives and that means lost performance. We try to have enough trailers running so that the combine is never held up, for whatever reason. It’s enabled us to analyse every part of our logistics so we can get the maximum performance with the minimum cost. Just a simple evaluation of our performance by Richard Allard at TAG, compared with the same analysis for last year, shows we have saved over £1000 in fuel alone, just through better planning. That’s massive!”

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.

Jake Freestone,  
Overbury Farm Manager



## TAG STAFF RAISE FUNDS FOR WORCESTER ROYAL HOSPITAL



Some team members from TAG took part in a charity run to raise funds for the Neo-Natal Centre at the Worcester Royal Hospital. Eight runners from TAG joined several hundred participants at the Vision Wild Run, a 10k course through rough terrain. The weather conditions were difficult to say the least with lots of driving rain, but everyone finished in very good positions. The best achiever was Kate Pearce who was 1st in her category and then Richard Lucas, fourth in his class and then Matt Smith who came 7th in his group.

Well done to everyone to the competing runners and the support team - a great day out for a great cause.

## GREGOIRE-BESSON PLOUGH HELPS CURB BLACK-GRASS PROBLEM



Nick Gasson

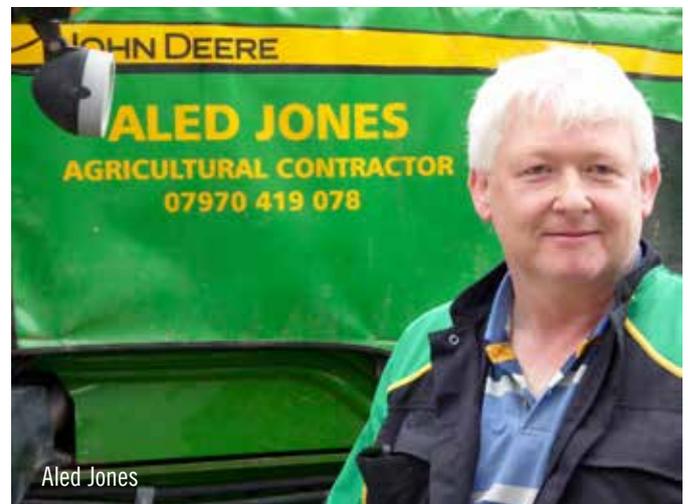
“Ploughing to control black-grass is only beneficial if the land has not been ploughed for a long time. It would have little or no effect by ploughing every year - in fact with regular ploughing, the results are likely to be totally opposite. You have to deal with the small problem areas as they arise and not let them take over. Pre-emergence is partly effective relying on moisture, so you really need forward and backward facing sprayer nozzles, more water for better coverage and spending more time on control measures. Even though we are not a fan of ploughing, we do it because we have to. But the Gregoire-Besson is a very durable and hard-wearing implement, and I don't think we've bought any parts for it yet.”

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.

## SHELBOURNE REYNOLDS HEDGER CUTS TRAFFIC RISKS

One of the other benefits that Shelbourne Reynolds 760 Telescopic hedger boasts is the ability of the boom to fold-in close behind the tractor, especially when carrying out close work. Aled commented, “one of the dangers in hedge-cutting on local roads used to be where the boom of the hedger used to stick out way past the tractor and that would restrict traffic passing and could easily cause an accident. It would also have been frustrating for drivers trying to pass. The new Shelbourne 760 folds in tight behind the tractor and is within the tractor width and so avoids restrictions to traffic. I'm sure many drivers will experience the benefit when I'm working the narrow lanes.”

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.



Aled Jones

## DOUBLING UP ON SPRAYERS FOR EXPANDING BUSINESS



“The difference in field performance, efficiency and profitability by using GreenStar has been remarkable, if not phenomenal”, commented Edward Robinson. “By having the fully integrated system that is looked after by Trevor Bolton at TAG, we have found the usability of the system so easy, that it makes our drivers happy because of its simplicity. We just get more work done because of it!”

Since having demonstrations of equipment on their own land, the Robinsons have added two new John Deere trailed sprayers to the fleet, as well as the T670 combine and just recently a new 6215R Tractor with the Final tier 4 engine specification.

“We never had John Deere before”, commented Edward, “but when we experienced it's quality of specification, build and performance in the field, it was obvious how much better the product was compared with other brands. The demonstrations kept reinforcing to us that the John Deere product was the way to go. We've also experienced the after-sales service back-up from TAG and it's absolutely first-class. Skippy, one of TAG's top technicians gets a ten out of ten from me every time. If we get a problem, he's there, promptly and everything he does is spot on!”

With GreenStar and Autotrac, the Robinsons are able to cover the ground quicker than before, especially when it comes to croppcare, using their two trailed John Deere 732i sprayers which have very effective boom suspension and section control.

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.



## NSTS TESTING STATION FOR ALL BRANDS OF CROP SPRAYERS FROM £120.00

Typical chemical costs per hectare could vary from £150 - £500+ By booking your sprayer with TAG for a full seasonal check-over and maintenance plan, plus a free estimate on any repairs, you could save £000s on your chemical bill.

**Book now and get 10% off all parts used in the check-over. Offer ends 30th April 2016**

It pays to stay current and TAG offers support for ALL brands of crop-sprayer



## NARROW SPREADING WINDOW BRINGS OUT THE SHELBOURNE REYNOLDS BIG GUNS



Richard Merriman

Richard Merman runs Shelbourne Reynolds 3200 PowerSpreader Pro's. For loading, Richard has a JCB which takes just four bucket loads to fill the spreaders and sends them on their way. "We have a great relationship with TAG and have been using them for a long time," added Richard, "they provide excellent back-up services for our tractors, and our entire contracting fleet, they are always there at the end of the phone if needed. Their parts department is really excellent, they always seem to have the right parts on the shelf any time we need them."

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.



## THE ULTIMATE EXPERT CHECK - BACKED BY JOHN DEERE FOR COMBINES, SPFH, BALERS, SPRAYERS



### JOHN DEERE 'EXPERT CHECK' INCLUDES;

- DETAILED TECHNICAL DIAGNOSIS
- ASSESSMENT OF ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS - VIA JOHN DEERE SERVICE REMOTE
- COMPREHENSIVE MACHINE REPORT
- FREE QUOTE FOR SUBSEQUENT REPAIR WORK AND REPLACEMENT PARTS
- SPECIAL-OFFER ON EARLY ORDER PROMOTIONS
- DIRECT CONSULTATION AND INFORMATION ON FIELD KITS AND ATTACHMENTS
- ADVICE ON MACHINE OPTIMISATION AND SETTINGS

ASK YOUR TAG SERVICE MANAGER FOR A TAG EXPERT CHECK QUOTATION FOR YOUR JOHN DEERE EQUIPMENT.



# BRINGING FARMING TO THE MASSES AT CATTLE COUNTRY



James & Sue Cullimore

Having already got a well established farm supplies business, just twenty five years ago, Tony and Sue Cullimore decided on diversifying their farming enterprise by opening their farming facilities to local schools and the general public.

Today, Cattle Country is a thriving 'adventure park', situated on 184 acres just outside Berkeley, Gloucestershire, and attracting 100,000 visitors every year. It's a true family run business, Tony and Sue being joined by their son James, and they spend a lot of time planning events, inviting local schools and promoting the facility throughout the region. They also employ up to 50 staff through the season.

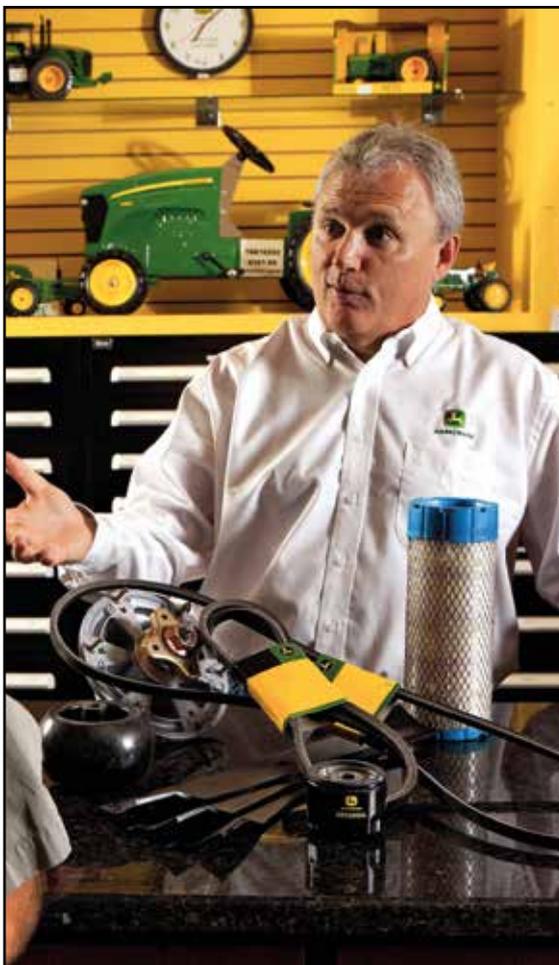
"Rare breeds have always been a family passion," said James, "in fact my great grandfather was instrumental in saving the Gloucester Old Spot pig from extinction years ago and here today we have expanded our herd of cattle to include a wider variety, including rare breeds. We have White Park Cattle, Belted Galloway, Gloucesters, Longhorns and of course Herefords. In addition there is a small flock of Cotswold and Badger-faced Sheep, plus there's Gloucester Old Spot, Kune Kune and Tamworth pigs."

Cattle Country Adventure Park has a wide range of purpose built buildings to allow visitors to come and see all kinds of livestock, not only the farm animals but also guinea pigs, goats, poultry, donkeys and ponies and encourages people to come, handle and interact with the

pets and livestock. Staff are always on hand to provide demonstrations, assistance and guidance. Additionally, there are extensive childrens entertainment facilities which include a castle, play barns, a boating lake, an assault course, jumping pillows, the UK's tallest climbing net, plus play areas for kids as well as toddlers and a whole host more attractions. A special 'animal centre' was erected recently where visitors can watch lambing, sheep shearing, young chicks hatching or bottle feed goats, lambs and lots more. There are pens for the young animals and paddocks for the mature livestock which can be viewed from a distance - typically on a tractor-trailer ride around the farm. Full refreshment, wash and toilet facilities are available on-site so it can often be a day long visit with so much to do for the entire family. To find out more, you can log onto their website at [www.cattlecountry.co.uk](http://www.cattlecountry.co.uk).

Sue Cullimore is a retired primary school teacher and understands the need to educate children about farming and of course where our food comes from. "We set-up Cattle Country to help children and visitors to be able to understand how farming works, how their food is grown, how the fields are cultivated, crops planted, taken care of and then harvested. They get to see things such as silage being made and bales being wrapped - something that city school children rarely get to see or even understand. We also introduce them to the various daily activities and machinery that is required to run a modern day farming business. Too often in children's books, farming is depicted as using little old Fergie tractors and pitch-forks, when the reality is that modern equipment today can be extremely advanced and very technical. We help the children and visitors to understand the high cost of investment in livestock and machinery needed to make a farm run efficiently."

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.



## WEARING PARTS

AT TAG, WE PRIDE OURSELVES TO OFFER YOU A LARGE RANGE OF GENUINE WEARING PARTS FOR NUMEROUS SUPPLIERS



AS WELL AS **KRAMP**

RANGE OF GENUINE AND AFTER-MARKET PRODUCTS:  
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# FREE AUTOGLYM LIFESHINE TREATMENT WORTH £300

FOR ANY ISUZU PICK-UP TRUCK DELIVERED IN MARCH 2016.

## IN IT FOR THE LONG-HAUL



“The last ISUZU we had,” said Bryan Morgan, “did three years without a spanner being laid on it and it even had the original set of tyres after just over forty thousand miles. This is the third one we’ve had and they’ve proven to be reliable, frugal on fuel and very comfortable. We tow sixteen foot Brian James trailers and never have a problem towing to maximum weight, they run sweet enough.”

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.

# Clean forage, Healthy cows.

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# CONTRACTOR MOVES INTO TOP GEAR



Anthony Marfell

With forage harvesting being a large part of the business for agricultural contractors, E B Marfell & Son, Monkland, near Leominster, moving up to the very latest technology on the market has proven to be the right decision. As general agricultural contractors focussing on just about everything except combining and spraying, the business has been established since 2000 and has a reputation for doing the job right. In 2015, the family business invested in a new John Deere 8600 self-propelled forage harvester from local dealer Tallis Amos Group (TAG) and this has meant that they have broadened their services to easily include maize harvesting.

Anthony Marfell, is the great grandson of Eric Marfell, who started the business back in 1927 and he and his father Richard have expanded the contract services, operating within 35-40 miles of their base at Upper Wall End Farm. Said Anthony, "We used to run a trailed forage harvester for grass harvest and it worked well, but we wanted to have the capacity to harvest maize crops. There are a lot of farms in the area growing the crop for silage and also AD plants, but we were missing a trick because we didn't have the right gear."

In 2014, Anthony acquired a used 2009 John Deere 7850 self-propelled forage harvester with grass and maize headers, to try it out and make sure it fitted into their system. He bought it from TAG in Leominster and they had gone through the machine and were happy to give it a warranty, even though it had done a lot of work.

"It worked really well throughout the grass harvest this year," added Anthony, "but as we were likely to harvest over two-thousand acres of grass and potential for over one thousand acres of maize, I wanted to be sure to have not only the capacity, but also the reliability. We can't afford to let our customers down."

TAG had a new demonstration John Deere 8600 Self-propelled forage harvester they were using throughout their territory and it had caused something of a stir because of its massive performance. It has a 625hp engine, 3m grass pick-up and a 10 row Kemper maize header - a perfect combination for a contractor.

"We had a demo of the new eight thousand series forager and it was very impressive" said Anthony. "The difference between the older model and the new is quite significant and makes it so much easier to gain maximum performance. For example, the electronics on the new model mean I can control everything from the operators seat. Simple things like sharpening the knives and re-setting the shear bar can all be done automatically from the cab and because it only takes a few minutes, it gets done more often. I've noticed a big difference in improved fuel economy, I can sharpen the blades more often, meaning a more efficient cut. So the benefit to my customers is that I can get round to them quicker and do a better job and do it on time."

Simon Amos, Sales Director at TAG said, "I could see that the new forager would fit well into Anthony's expansion plans and so I put together



## SPECIAL PROMOTION GARDEN MACHINERY WINTER SERVICE

**From just £45.00 including VAT**

You could have your strimmer, chainsaw, blower, walk-behind or ride-on mower serviced for winter storage, ready for a trouble-free start in the Spring

Strimmers from £45.00 including VAT + parts

Chainsaws from £55.00 including VAT + parts

Walk-behind mowers from £55.00 including VAT + parts

Ride-on Mowers from £180.00 including VAT + parts.



a package to take out the old forager and give Anthony our ex-demo machine. We also have experienced and certified service technicians who have undergone thorough training to look after the forager, so Anthony is in safe hands.”

Commented Anthony, “This autumn we cut around one thousand acres of maize and spot throughput was showing up to three hundred and fifty tonnes per hour. Fuel usage per acre was much better than the old machine and we normally chop at fifteen millimetres for livestock silage, but down to five millimetres for the AD customers. We did about four hundred acres for AD this year, but I see that increasing significantly in the future.”

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.



“Up to 350 tonnes per hour”

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**MICHAEL HORSCH**  
Managing Director  
and founder



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*Farming with passion*

## WHERE THE OLD BENEFITS FROM NEW



Richard Biggs,  
Head Green-Keeper

With more than its fair share of Britain's ancient Oak and Sweet Chestnut trees, some in excess of 600 years old, Stoneleigh Deer Park Golf Club, just outside Coventry, is arguably one of the prettiest and most historically adorned golf courses in the country. Because of its Grade II listing, strict regulations limit any radical changes to the course, which has few bunkers but lots of undulating tracts and tricky greens, challenging enough for even the most capable golfers.

As a proprietor-owned facility with an 18 hole Tantara course and a Par 3, 9 hole course, the club boasts a permanent membership of around 500,

with many visiting players and private events on a year-round basis. Owner, John Reay, himself a golf pro and proprietor of the renowned John Reay Golf Centre in Keresly, took over the Stoneleigh club in 1996 and invested heavily to maintain existing traditional deer fencing and resources that have resulted in a first-class facility.

"Our main priority is to maintain the unique and historical facilities of this beautiful English parkland, while at the same time providing a very high quality and thoroughly challenging golf course," commented John Reay. "We also hold a wide range of corporate events and even have an annual programme to raise funds to support special charities such as Fight for Sight. This is a highly important charity which is resourced through Great Ormond Street Hospital, with HRH Prince Andrew as the Patron. We feel it's right to help others who are less fortunate than ourselves."

With quality, year-round playing conditions being essential, whatever the weather, Head Green-keeper, Richard Biggs who has been with Stoneleigh Deer Park Golf Club since 1999, is on top of his game and has chosen high-quality mowing equipment to provide the ultimate finish.

"Nothing comes under more scrutiny than our greens. Not only do we need to provide the ultimate playing conditions for our members and visitors, day-in, day-out," said Richard, "but we also have a significant responsibility when it comes to the environment. Working amongst the oldest oaks in Warwickshire, we have to consider every aspect of

## POWERGARD WARRANTY PLAN PROVES IT'S WORTH

### Reduced costs for a long term plan



Wyn & Eurig Jones

Wyn Jones and his son Eurig farm around 1000 acres at Trefach, Blaenffos, Boncath. There's approximately 600 acres of grass, plus 200 acres down to spring barley and spring wheat, and the rest made up of forage rape, swedes and kale on a medium loam soil type. Livestock-wise, they run 2000 breeding ewes and buy in store lambs for fattening, plus there's a 450 strong herd of store cattle that includes 80 LimousinX sucklers.

Previously the arable and livestock work had been carried out by a John Deere 6210SE tractor and a 6320, which had clocked-up some 10,000 and 8000 hours respectively. Based on the performance and reliability

they had experienced so far, Wyn and Eurig swapped the old tractors in for a 6125M for arable and livestock work and a 6105M for much of the materials handling. They also swapped a 6620 for John Deere 6140R for the heavy arable work. The two smaller tractors are fitted with John Deere's H Series loaders, and in the main are used for shear-grab work, bale silage making and feeding - as well as general duties such as fencing.

"We decided to take on PowerGard," said Wyn, "because we could pay an additional monthly fee that would cover any unforeseen breakdown through our anticipated life of the machine. That means that as long as I have the proper servicing carried out by TAG, if anything else goes wrong then it's covered without it costing me another penny. I can now budget throughout the time I have that tractor on my farm without any nasty surprises. In reality all I now need to do is to add fuel and the driver - everything else is basically covered."

The farming enterprise is fairly spread out and in some places five miles from home, so it's been important to choose quiet and comfortable cabs with cab suspension. Additionally, with so much loader work being carried out, tractor reliability is a key reason why the Jones' chose to go John Deere again.

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.



## POWERGARD EXTENDED WARRANTY - WHERE PERFORMANCE MEETS PEACE OF MIND

**Planned maintenance, replacement parts and no nasty surprises!**

PowerGard Protection Plus includes maintenance and extended warranty for up to five years, depending on model

our actions and how it might impact on these giant trees and these beautiful surroundings.”

Richard and his team of four full-time and one part-time staff elected to use John Deere professional golf machinery from their local dealer Tallis Amos Group (TAG) near Evesham. In May 2015, they purchased two additional John Deere 2500E Hybrid Riding Greens Mowers after having used two 2500As for the previous nine years - which had proven their reliability, but the new hybrids were a step-up in all directions.

“With these new John Deere hybrid mowers, we have eliminated the potential for hydraulic hose failures, downtime and oil pollution, which can happen if a hose breaks. On the older machines there were at least

102 potential failure points. Instead,” added Richard, “that’s all been eliminated. These new John Deere hybrids power the cutting reels by electricity, generated by the engine and this has numerous benefits. Firstly, the speed of the cutting cylinders is constant and set to give the very best finish. It also means we have much less maintenance to carry out and, the engine speed is less than on the previous hydraulic versions and we have found that fuel savings have been as much as forty per cent over the older models. Therefore we are drastically reducing emissions pollution.”

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.

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Ask your TAG sales executive for more information on these exciting new products.



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**FINANCE OFFER (ON NEW ORDERS ONLY)**  
**2+22 0% FINANCE\***

\*Finance on up to 50% of retail, subject to acceptance conditions apply, offer may be withdrawn at any time.

# QUALITY OF CUT, FUEL SAVINGS AND SERVICE BACK-UP SWAY DECISION TO BUY GREEN.



Steve Grealy,  
Course Manager

**One of the major deciders for one of Herefordshire's premier golf clubs in changing to John Deere professional green-keeping equipment was the quality of back-up service from the dealer. There are many good machines on the market, but if the back-up is weak when you need an urgent response, then what value does that place on your investment? But Leominster Golf Club got more than just excellent after-sales service from TAG, its local John Deere dealer, when it found that quality of cut was greatly improved and fuel consumption was remarkably reduced on its John Deere hybrid greens mower, in fact far lower than they had ever experienced.**

Steve Grealy, Deputy Head Green-keeper and Course Manager for Leominster Golf Club said, "The quality of cut has been far better than anything we've used before and what's more a tank of fuel in our John Deere 2500B Hybrid Greens Mower can last four or five days, mowing nineteen holes a day. Nothing we've ever had in the past has even come close to that level of efficiency and quality of finish. It's almost unbelievable!"

Historically, the club was a nine hole before the second world war, was reopened in 1966 and expanded to an 18 hole facility on 92 acres. It has a 450 strong membership, plus many visitors and groups playing year-round. It sits just west of the town of Leominster and overlooks the Black Mountains, Brecon Beacons and Clee Hill.

"One of the measures that tests the quality of our greens is the membership" said Steve. "Over the past two or three years we have seen

a much cleaner cut with no misses and that means a much happier membership. That has been down to my team of professional green-keepers and the quality of machinery we use."

Leominster Golf Club's fleet of green-keeping equipment includes a John Deere HPX Gator, used mainly as a run-around in the winter carting stone and top-dressings; a John Deere 2500E and 2653B Tees and Surrounds mower. "I'm very pleased and so impressed with these mowers," added Steve "they're stable, strong, go anywhere and produce an unbelievable quality of cut."

Compact tractors in the fleet include a John Deere 2025R with a 60" mid-mounted mower and a John Deere 4049R used for rough mowing and spraying. They always get three quotes for different machines and suppliers just to be sure that they are getting the best deal, but one could imagine the difficulty of putting a price on quality.

"We are so pleased with our John Deere equipment," enthused Steve Grealy, "it makes the difference between an OK green and an excellent green and we have a first class course throughout, here at Leominster. The back-up we get from TAG is without comparison. They are always on the case and seem to want to do everything they can to help. I'm very happy with the entire set-up."

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.



## SPECIAL PROMOTION



## FIXED-PRICE SERVICING ON ALL JOHN DEERE GATORS

- Complete wet service of all oils/filters
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Special offer on a set of 4 Gator tyres from £290,00\* + VAT supplied

\*Offer on stock tyres only, fitting extra. Offer ends April 30th 2016

## BEDDING SOLUTION GETS THE SHORT STRAW



Rhys Evans

Mounting the Teagle Tomahawk to the front boom of the JCB meant that the straw shredder could 'scoop the bale', enabling it to be loaded directly from the straw stack without the need for another handling device, therefore reducing labour and the need for tying up another loader. As the JCB is articulated, manoeuvrability with the Teagle Tomahawk means it can get into even the tightest of spaces and it can handle large square as well as round bales. A low hydraulic flow requirement and a big returns capability means that the oil stays cool even when shredding lots of straw.

Read the full story by going to the TAG website.



## TAG SPECIAL TRACTOR PROMOTION

WHILE STOCKS LAST

### JD5075E

- 75HP
- 540 / 540E PTO
- 4WD Heavy Duty Front Axle
- Cab Heater & Air Con

### TAG PRICE

**£24,000** RRP £33,803

### 6110MC

- 110HP
- 4WD Heavy Duty Front Axle
- PowerQuad 16/16 Gear Box
- 540/540E/1000 PO
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- Triple Deluxe Double Acting SCV
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### TAG PRICE

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\*Finance on up to 50% of retail, subject to acceptance conditions apply, offer may be withdrawn at any time.



# SPECIAL OFFER

## JD R40

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- 65 litre collection box
- Powerful 2.1kw Petrol engine
- TurboStar 'Grass vacuum' gives excellent grass collection
- Light weight and durable polypropylene deck
- Simple cut height adjustment between 22 and 80mm
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