



“...For several years there’s been a debate about the need for stronger voices in the Outdoor Power, Sports and Turf industries”

Roger Lane-Nott explores lack of communication between management and groundsmen
- see page10

2010 FIFA WORLD CUP SOUTH AFRICA

FIFA goalie opens football centre

AT least England World Cup goalkeeper Robert Green could celebrate something as he opened Norwich’s top-class Football Development Centre (FDC) in May.

Leading natural and artificial sportsground contractors Agripower teamed with Norwich City Council to transform the old Powerleague complex into a FDC, which includes nine fully floodlit 3G synthetic pitches, one ‘Wembley’ show arena, plus changing facilities, a function room and a bar.

The cost of the redevelopment has been met partly by grants from the Football Foundation and Norfolk Youth Fund, which will see the centre being used by up to 3,500 players a week this time next year.

Despite working through the coldest

winter on record, Agripower tirelessly reconstructed ten five-a-side pitches using the new Lano Sports FIFA 1* MSXi60mm 3G surface, plus made extra drainage, landscaping, fencing, parking and storage.

Norfolk County FA Chief Executive Shaun Turner commended City College Norwich for becoming their official partner, as it provides the college with access to much-needed outdoor facilities.

Robert Green commented: “It’s a tremendous thing for Norfolk FA to introduce into the community – I’m sure it will prosper in a footballing sense as well as in a community sense. “But it’s ironic I’m here to promote grassroots football when there are no real grass roots on the pitch!”

Info: 01494 866776 www.agripower.co.uk

