

## ON THE PULL Postpuller with 4-tonne Hydraulic Action

● **4-tonne lift Postpuller 'M370'** with manually-operated pump and grapple/claw attachment. ● Price as tested £1,850. Typical hire rate from £50 per day. The 'Rhino' petrol post driver (from £1,495) and the 'General' range of fencing augers and attachments (POA) also available. ● Available from **Postpullers UK Limited**, Coventry. Call 02476 100200 for more product information, demonstration and nearest dealer/hire outlet location.

We've probably all done it – had that glow of self-satisfaction that a wheelbarrow load of old bricks and a wodge of cement will hold that fence post in place come hell or high water. As most of us have probably already discovered, it won't.

Depending on your ground conditions, degree of wood preservative application and how windy it is in your neck of the woods, within a few years you could be faced with doing the whole job all over again.

Actually, that's not the biggest problem. The biggest problem is how to get that huge clump of broken bricks and concrete out of the ground before you can get a new post in. Here is the ideal solution. No question. It's called the Postpuller, it uses a simple hydraulic pump action – not unlike a car trolley jack – a few bits of chain and a pair of wheels. What are the wheels for? We'll come to them in a minute.

You've got two options with the Postpuller – if there is some post still left above ground, the vertical carriage face is butted-up to the post to be extracted, chained on and, after a bit of action on the pump handle, it can be lifted clear.

If, as always seems to be the case in my experience, the post has broken off at ground level, the grapple/claw attachment is simply chained to the carriage and as

**SIMPLE IDEA:  
The Postpuller**



**1. The post puller is engaged and ready to lift**

*Tried & Tested*



**2. The stump is now free!**



**3. The postpuller moves the stump slowly upwards**



**4. Sorted – a thumbs-up to a good job**

long as it can get a grip around the girth of the clump of concrete, that, too, can be lifted clear as if by magic. All without any effort on your part – aside from removing the loose soil around the clump so the grapple/claw can get a grip.

That is the power of hydraulics for you. And the wheels? Well, part of the reason why the Postpuller has wheels is – obviously – to make it easier to position on the worksite. And in that respect, it's one of the few machines I've tested over many years that has wheels and tyres suited to site conditions.

But there's another reason why those chunky wheels are so useful – once you have 'captured' your stump of brick and concrete, it's a simple case of wheeling the whole lot off to the nearest skip for disposal. In this mode, you can shift

weights you'd never be able to lift and move manually – and at just 750mm wide, the whole lot can pass through a garden gate.



## Verdict

What is the saying about the simple ideas often being the best? If you've got fences – and stock – that needs to be kept secure, this has to be the most useful bit of kit to have around your place, bar none. When used in conjunction with a postpuncher – Steve Hawthornwaite, supplier of the UK-built Postpuller, also markets a rival to the Australian 'Easy' unit, the US-built Rhino petrol postdriver unit and a range of augers from the (also US-based) General Equipment Company – you've got everything you need to erect new fences, or repair old ones in double quick time.

