the pulley; a hydraulic ram connected between the support mast and the pulley for raising the mast; and a post holder comprising a flat plate carrying a depending post engaging spike, the plate fast on a support member, slidably mounted on the main mast.

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Known art suffers from a number of problems/disadvantages. For example, ease of facilitating appropriate positioning of the post driver, in use. Also, known post drivers are mounted to tractors which are expensive and require specialist operation. Further, due to an increasing problem of finding reliable labour for erecting wire and timber fencing, and increasing requirements by landowners prohibiting use of wheeled vehicles or machines on wet, marshy or boggy ground or land and resultant damage – particularly to grassland – the present Inventor has identified a need for a small, e.g. one-man, machine and/or tracked vehicle having a post driver.

It is an object of at least one embodiment of at least one aspect of the present invention to obviate or at least mitigate one or more problems/disadvantages in the prior art.

It is an object of at least one embodiment of at least one aspect of the present invention to provide an improved post driver.

## **SUMMARY OF INVENTION**

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A <u>tracked</u> vehicle having <u>first and second tracks</u>, a post driver and rotational means for selectively deploying the post driver from at least two of one side of the vehicle, another side of the vehicle, and a rear of the vehicle, the post driver comprising a mast and post driver positioning means comprising first moving means and second moving means, the first moving means comprises a forward/backward shift and the second moving means comprises a side shift, <u>and</u>-wherein the forward/backward shift and side shift allow the mast to be moved laterally and longitudinally without having to move the vehicle, the post driver positioning means are mounted on the

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rotational means, and the first moving means and the second moving means are disposable in symmetrical relation to one another.

Beneficially, in one embodiment, the opposing ends of the at least one first movable member may comprise male members and the means for slidably receiving opposing ends of the at least one first movable member may comprise female members. In an alternative embodiment the opposing ends of the at least one first movable member may comprise female members and the means for slidably receiving opposing ends of the at least one first movable member may comprise male members.

Beneficially, in one embodiment, an end of the at least one second movable member may comprise a male member and the means for slidably receiving the (end of the) at least one second movable member may comprise a female member. In an alternative embodiment an end of the at least one second movable member may comprise a female member, and the means for slidably receiving the (end of the) at least one second movable member may comprise a male member.

The first moving means and the second moving means may be disposed or disposable in symmetrical or substantially H-shaped relation to one another.

Preferably the second moving means may be movable, e.g. by or in unison with the first moving means, between a rest or substantially symmetric position, and preferably to a selected position on at least one side of the symmetric position, and most preferably, to selected positions on either side of the rest or symmetric position..

The at least one first movable member and the means for slidably receiving the at least one second movable member may be fixed to one another in symmetrical or H-shaped relation to one another.

The first moving means and second moving means may move substantially perpendicular to one another, in use.

The first moving means may comprise first and second first movable members.

The means for slidably receiving opposing ends of the at least one first movable member may comprise means for slidably receiving opposing ends of a first movable member.

## **CLAIMS**

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- 1. A <u>tracked</u> vehicle having <u>first and second tracks</u>, a post driver and rotational means for selectively deploying the post driver from at least two of one side of the vehicle, another side of the vehicle, and a rear of the vehicle, the post driver comprising a mast and post driver positioning means comprising first moving means and second moving means, the first moving means comprises a forward/backward shift and the second moving means comprises a side shift, <u>and</u>-wherein the forward/backward shift and side shift allow the mast to be moved laterally and longitudinally without having to move the vehicle, the post driver positioning means are mounted on the rotational means, and the first moving means and the second moving means are disposable in symmetrical relation to one another.
- 2. A vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the post driver is selectively deployed from any of the one side of the vehicle, the another side of the vehicle, and the rear of the vehicle.
- 3. A vehicle as claimed in either of claims 1 or 2, wherein the vehicle is a tracked vehicle having first and second tracks.

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- 43. A vehicle as claimed in any of either of claims 1 or 2 to 3, comprising means for tilting or pivoting the mast in first and second planes.
- $\underline{54}$ . A vehicle as claimed in claim  $\underline{43}$ , wherein the first and second planes are substantially orthogonal to one another.

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- 65. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to 54, wherein the first moving means and second moving means move substantially perpendicularly to one another, in use.
- 76. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 4-3 or 54 or claim 65 when dependent upon claims 4-3 or 54, wherein there is provided a mast tilt ram bracket.
  - 87. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to 76, wherein the mast is adapted to allow a weighted member to travel substantially up and down.
- 10 98. A vehicle as claimed in claim 87, wherein there are provided first means for pivoting or tilting the mast relative to the first moving means.
  - 409. A vehicle as claimed in either of claims 8–7 or 98, wherein there are provided second means for pivoting or tilting the mast relative to the second moving means.

4410. A vehicle as claimed in either of claims 9–8 or 409, wherein the first tilting means tilts the mast in a first plane, the second tilting means tilts the mast in a second plane, and the first plane and the second plane are orthogonal to one another.

- 20 | 1211. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to 1110, wherein the post driver comprises a counter-weight.
  - <u>1312</u>. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to <u>1211</u>, wherein the rotational means comprises a turntable.
  - 14<u>13</u>. A vehicle as claimed in claim <u>1312</u>, wherein the rotational means rotates the post driver in a plane of the positioning means.

4514. A vehicle as claimed in either of claims 43–12 or 4413, wherein the rotational means is capable of rotating the post driver through 180°, the post driver being deployable from either side or from a rear of the vehicle upon which the post driver is mounted.

1615. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 or 1514, wherein the vehicle comprises means for moving the vehicle comprising motive means, or wherein the vehicle comprises a trailer and comprises means for connecting the vehicle to a driven vehicle.

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47<u>16</u>. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to <u>4615</u>, wherein the positioning means allows the positioning of the mast to be optimised and adapted for alignment with a post to be driven.

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 $\frac{1817}{1}$ . A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to  $\frac{1716}{1}$ , wherein the forward/backward shift and side shift are at substantially  $90^{\circ}$  to one another.

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- 1918. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to 1817, wherein the forward/backward shift and side shift are hydraulically operated.
- 2019. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4918, wherein the forward/backward shift and side shift each have a range of travel of 100 mm to 1,000 mm.
- 2420. A vehicle as claimed in claim 43 or any of claims 54 to 2019, when dependent upon claim 43, wherein the mast is telescopic.

- 2221. A vehicle as claimed in claim 8-7 or any of claims 9-8 to 21-20 when dependent upon claim 87, wherein the weighted member is a hammer which has a weight of 100 kilograms to 1,000 kilograms.
- 5 2322. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to 2221, wherein the post driver comprises one or more legs which allows the post driver to have a stable configuration during use.
- 2423. A vehicle as claimed in claim 2322, wherein the legs are mechanical or hydraulically operated.
  - 2524. A vehicle as claimed in claim 87, wherein the mast is tiltable.
- 2625. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to 2524, wherein the vehicle comprises a driver cab.
  - 2726. A vehicle as claimed in any of claims 1 to 2625, wherein the post driver is mounted to the vehicle at or on a rear portion thereof.