Stephen Goode in action and collecting his prizes from ICI Professional Products' David Siddon, and from Ransomes' Sue Royle

Right - Trevor Davies: winner of Pattisson Trophy for low nett over 36 holes
Below - Gerald Bruce presented with Techturf runner-up award by Gordon Rolfe

Steve Sullivan - winner of Toro Trophy for low gross over 36 holes

Mike Heath presents head greenkeeper of Royal St David's - Roger Kerry - with Vitax Putting Trophy

Mark Smith: winner of Fisons Bowl, low nett 18 holes
The good thing about professionals – greenkeeping variety – is that unlike their prima
donna counterparts performing in that circus known as The Tour, they are prone not to criticise
greens, rough, sand texture, weather or the totally disturbing flutter of butterfly wings from
a distant meadow. As both players and keepers of the green they have that rare gift
known as empathy.

The choice of Royal St David’s at Harlech, a gem of a course located in that cor-
nor of North Wales known for its mountain grandeur and stunning scenery,
proved inspirational for BIGGA’s National Tournament and provided head
greenkeeper Roger Kerry the opportunity to show competitors what real
links golf was all about.

Roger had declared his course plan earlier: to provide a fair test of
golf with no trickery and so it was, with never an adverse com-
ment, or indeed cause for such. His course presentation,
viewed panoramically from the high balcony of St David’s
Hotel, was a portrait to behold, with clever use of mower
swathes both on fairways and greens all directed at just
the right angle to catch the direct line of our vision.

Players were chomping on the bit to get to the links
for Sunday practice, each later declaring their own
particular game plan. Without exception, thinking
golfers opined the course to be one where accura-
cy of tee shot was all, for just as the fairways
were in fine fettle and the greens tempting and
offering just the right amount of pace, so was
the rough certainly rough enough!

The first day and nerves seemed on knife
edge, aggravated a mite by an unwelcome
invasion of wind and rain and the necessi-
ty for full waterproof regalia. It was
tough for everyone with both late and
early birds declaring they had the worst
of the weather, though posted scores
(recorded here in nett form) suggested
that some had it mastered, others
clearly baffled. Notable leaders on
this difficult day were Mark Smith
and Don Major on 69, Steve = 36
RESULTS

Nearest the hole:
  Weds - Gerald Bruce
  Tues - David Spurden
  Monday - Ian Holoran

-83-12=71 Third

- 76-7=69 Second

- 74-5=69 First

Weds - Jason Moody
Tuesday - Jason Moody

-Played on Monday:
  The Fison's Bowl
  - 77-8=69 First
  Mark Ellis
  - 93-22=71 Third

Low gross:
  Steve Sullivan - 74

The Maxwell Hart Cup
- Played on Tuesday:
  The Maxwell Hart Cup

Low gross 18 holes:
  Barry Holt - 76

Over 55s (36 holes)
  Don Major - 148 nett

The Vitax Putting Trophy:
  Don Major - 148 nett

Barry Holt - 76

Low gross 18 holes:
  Trevor Davies - 71

The Ransomes Cup
- 142 nett - First

Trevor Davies

Over 55s (36 holes)
  Mark Ellis
  - 84-12=71 Third

The ICI Professional Products Trophy
  Simon Woolley: winner of the ICI Professional Products Trophy

Handicaps scratch-14
  Roger Willars, Richard Barker, Stephen Goode

Silver collection: Jubilee Trophy winners the East Midlands team - Roger Wilars, Richard Barker and Stephen Goode
- also winner of the ICI Professional Products Trophy

The Ransomes Cup - with Mark Smith, winner of the Techturf Trophy

35 - Sullivan on 70 and a trio comprising Mark Diment, Stephen Goode and Trevor Davies on 71.

Day two and on again with the waterproof garb, our Welsh hosts, bless 'em, quick to point out the rain is an
aberration and will quickly pass - we much less sure! Scores again from the sublime - a talented few - to a veri-
table gaggle of high numbers from the field. The links was
living up to its reputation and did not 'give' easily, good
scores having to earned. Come sundown the board reveals
just one 69, posted by the talented Simon Woolley, with
three 71s from Mark Ellis, Gordon Payne and Trevor Davies
(again). The post mortem suggested many players in with
middling 70 scores were still very much in the hunt, each
day being played both cumulatively and as an individual 18
hole total, and spirits were high.

High spirits are the order at any BIGGA banquet and that
held at St David's Hotel in the evening was no exception.
Our sponsors and hosts, ICI, pushed the boat out in a way
that left us gasping, together with a generosity of purpose
that included many of their trade and business associates,
who had all contributed magnificently to the awards table.
I've been to hundreds of such dinner cum presentations in
my time, but have never witnessed such a huge and magni-
tificent trophy profusion as that of the Association and its
generous donors. The festivities were spiced with short,
humorous speeches and the presentation of an award to
Roger Kerry for his wonderful course presentation, before
being crowned to perfection by the full might of the Cor
Godre'r Aran Welsh Male Voice Choir, the night ending,
quite literally, on a very high note indeed!

We knew it the moment dawn broke - the day was pure
magic – and hope sprung eternal in the heart of every
golfer. Would the pressure of leading the field be too much
for Trevor Davies? Would someone leap from the pack for
the coveted 54 hole Techturf (gross) and ICI Professional
Products (nett) Trophies? Who would be crowned Putting
King? We were soon to find out as time and again players
demonstrated true determination and 'stickability', holding
their games together when the going got tough and at last
we were acclaiming the winners.

That mighty atom, left-hander Barry Holt, excelled as
never before to take the Techturf Trophy with a gross total
of 228, whilst Stephen Goode won the ICI Professional
Products Senior Division with 216 nett. Mark Diment, ever
reliable, scored 219 nett to capture the ICI Professional
Products Junior Division, with Royal St David's head green-
keeper and undoubted man of the week, Roger Kerry, the
capstone winner of the Vitax Putting Trophy, a sudden-
death sixth hole victory against the ever exuberant Jimmy
Richardson.

This then was golf of the highest order played on a won-
derful course steeped in character. To the Club and espe-
cially the green staff, our gratitude and congratulations, to
ICI Professional Products, our generous sponsors, three
hearty cheers. Finally, to all competitors - the winners,
the losers, the might-have-made-its and if-onlys... well played!