Eco Warriors

Bob Taylor of the STRI, was armed with his camera when he undertook judging at last year's BIGGA Golf Environment Competition in association with Amazone and Rhône-Poulenc, and he produced some stunning results. Bob is looking forward to this year's competition which sees the Grass Roots Trading Company join Amazone as co-sponsor.
Above (top): A fine example of a heather-dominated carry at Broadstone Golf club. The Course Manager is keen to ensure the conservation of the heath and is undertaking steps to control bracken, manage the gorse and improve the gradation of the grassland rough. The course supports nightjar, nightingale, adder, slow-worm and sand lizard.

Left: Cardross Golf Club - mutually beneficial, mycorrhizal fungi growing in the semi-rough.

Above (immediate): Dougal Ray, Lindrick Golf club, receives a cheque for £5,000 and award from Brian Richardson of Rhône-Poulenc and Rod Baker of Amazone UK Ltd.

Right: The walls of an old castle at Pennard Golf Club support several extremely rare plant species, including Draba aizoides (yellow whitlow grass) as well as more common species such as the cinnabar moth and the Asplenium fern (wall-rue) top right of picture.

Facing page: A comma butterfly rests within the grassland at Oulton Park Golf Club.

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Above: Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club supports a vast and very fine series of fixed dune mounds, the management of which is largely geared to bracken control.

Left: Epiphytic lichen grown on oak at Cardross Golf Club.

Right: Frinton Golf Club has been designated a Grade 1 site for Water Vole, these being particularly common during my inspection. Interestingly, a marsh harrier flew directly overhead, possibly hunting for these small but quite rare rodents.

Below: Pennard Golf Club has been described as one of the most impressive and beautiful golf courses. It is a fine example of a clifftop links being dominated by coastal type grasslands and heather.