Greenkeepers came from Denmark, Scotland, Wales and England to volunteer their services for the Volvo PGA Championship held at The Wentworth Club at the end of May. Their work is much appreciated by the European Tour as by relieving caddies of the bunker raking considerable time is saved on a round, speeding up play to the advantage of all concerned.

They are also a great comfort to Course Manager, Chris Kennedy, who apart from all the worries that he has during a Championship such as this knows that in the event of heavy rain he can call on tremendous support from his team to get the tees out and keep play moving by keeping the greens playable.

The Championship in the past has been plagued by such weather and was one of the reasons that the Tour asked the Association if Greenkeeper Support could be made available for all four days this year. Thankfully that was not the case this year and the event was blessed with four days of almost continual sunshine. More volunteers would have been useful over the first two days as there were 52 matches to provide for and it was a great effort by those Greenkeepers who covered two rounds in temperatures around the eighties.

There was a great atmosphere in our little office, nobody being unkind to the Regional Administrator when he gave exhibitions of controlled panic and an even better one, especially on the last day in the hospitality suite overlooking the 18th green generously provided for our use by the Tour, for apart from the Support Team we seemed to ‘pick up’ lots of Greenkeepers there just for the golf (including Jack and Rita McMillan!) and who managed to talk their way past security.

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