Don't panic!

I firmly believe that nature will sort itself out and I would urge everyone within our industry to remain calm. A good summer season from now on will help to put everyone in a positive mood.

Hopefully you all enjoyed it and can earn enough Brownie points at home between now and next year to be able to do the same in 2002.

On my own patch we held a Surrey Section event at North Hants Golf Club. I know it sounds as though it shouldn't belong to the Surrey Section but it is just over the county border. The greens were in fantastic condition and a real credit to Nigel Stainer and his team who had done a great job. It was also good to see Doug Fernie, of Epsom Downs Golf Club, enjoying himself during the day. It is a tough time for him this time every year as his course is taken over for the running of The Derby with cars parked all over the course.

My next port of call was Drumoig Golf Club. I know it sounds as though it shouldn't belong to the Surrey Section but it is just over the course. We are now well into the golfing season, so we've already had the Volvo PGA Championship at Wentworth and we are looking forward to The Open at Royal Lytham and St Anne's.

Turning to the word of the Tour and what it is all about, the Support Team at Wentworth, operating for the first time over all four days, was a huge success and everyone, particularly Regional Administrator Derek Farrington, should be warmly congratulated of their efforts. His Midland colleague, Peter Larter, also turned up to help out and we were all grateful for his support as well.

Fortunately their work was confirmed with the Tour harking bunkers and not squatting but I know that Chris Kennedy appreciated the fact that the team was there for such work if it were needed.

I was most impressed by the salute to the magnificent hospitality facility that the Tour gave the team as its base. Overlooking the 18th green and air conditioned we had a grand stand seat when all the morning preparation work got under way. It started when I was woken by the sound of the sprinklers starting up at 6am and before long, I could watch all the normal tasks being carried out - hole changing, cutting the surrounds, double cutting the greens. So much activity, all before a golfer set foot on the place. I was also able to enjoy some of the wildlife with a heron flying over the course. I loved being able to watch the goings on wearing a different hat, so to speak.

Talking about last month's magazine, I was interested in the Stoke Park Golf Club article and delighted to see a golf club becoming a member of the Golden Key Supporter of the Association. Hopefully this will start a new trend and we as an Association and the game in general can only benefit from that. I believe that Stoke Park Club has shown real foresight.

On a more general note it is disappointing to see that Foot and Mouth has not gone away yet with more cases being discovered in Yorkshire. I firmly believe that nature will sort it out and I would urge everyone within our industry to remain calm. A good summer season from now on will help to put everyone in a positive mood.