At the time of reading, all the fuss will be over but I am sure you, like everyone else, will have been watching as the TV turned to the Cup, or, even if you are not interested, will know most of the results.

Fortunately I was given a deadline extension to make a last minute amendment and England have just defeated the Danes 5-0 but I am certainly not going to make any predictions for their continued success because by the time you read this it will be old news. Let's hope though that England's good run continues.

A little closer to home we have not experienced the temperatures that Mr Beckham and his team have had to cope with and have had a lot more rain. Despite the problems this may cause I hope that, at least, it has kept your course nice and green.

On the BIGGA front, it has been a relatively quiet time for me, but things are hotting up. I've just enjoyed the annual BIGGA Golf Day and hotting up is an appropriate phrase as it was the hottest day of the year to date. Touching wood frankly, this event always seems to be blessed with good weather and hopefully that will continue for years to come. It was also pretty windy which says all the more for the winning score from the Lincsgreen team of 14 under par gross. Even given the Texas Scramble format, that is a superb achievement and could only be achieved by some incredible golf. As ever it was a fun day and a great chance to get together with the trade in an informal atmosphere. I'd like to thank everyone at BIGGA HOUSE who worked so hard to make the day such a success and an sure it will continue to be a highlight of the BIGGA calendar.

The following day was the quarterly Board of Management meeting and another opportunity to discuss the news and views coming in from around the Regions.

In the last month you should have received a letter from Headquarters with regard to the minimum qualification.

Providing you will all the relevant information with regard to this was a promise made at the last AGM, the other element is your consultation so please let Ken Richardson or Neil Thomas know your views as soon as possible so that they can be included in the decision making process. Perhaps, then, we can move forward positively at next year's AGM.

You should also have received an entry form for this year's BIGGA National Golf Championship at Hillside and Hesketh Golf Clubs in late September early October. This was a tremendous success last year so please be sure to return your forms so that they can be included in the results.

The week following the Board Meeting I am attending the opening of a new golf course in Scotland then going on to the Scottish National Golf Championship at West Linton Golf Club. I have heard many a good comment about this course so I am looking forward to playing it while I am also looking forward to catching up with many old acquaintances, as well as making new ones.

Shortly after this it's the big one.