Feature listing from July 2001

July 2001: Royal Lytham profile; Tees Mowers; Fertilisers; Green Grasses; John Deere profile; Sandy McDvit; College Listings

August 2001: Aeration Survey; MacRae GC profile; Ransomes Jacobsen; Mowers; Saltex Preview; October 2001: Ryde Cup preview; Chatter; Drainage; BIGGA National Championship preview; Sandy McDvit; Machinery Maintenance; Soil Analysis; Wild Flowers

October 2001: Major Award for Walter Woods; Royal Portrush GC; Portstewart GC; Irrigation; Soil biodiversity; Leaf collection systems; Scunthorpe preview; Saltex review

November 2001: BIGGA National Championship preview; Environment Competition winner; Spraying: Toro Awards Preview; Cutting regimes; Dyke GC

December 2001: Toro Award Winners; Southern Alps GC; BTME preview; Specialty equipment; Thatch removal

January 2002: Walton Heath profile; Greenkeeping in Denmark; Moving materials; A first for Andy Campbell; New products

February 2002: Harrogate 2002 Review; Drainage; Castlerock GC; Trees; Recycling; TurfTrax profile; Barn Owl special report

March 2002: Downealling Valley profile; Utility vehicles; Essay competition winner; Irrigation; Seeds; Sandy McDvit

April 2002: Heyross GC profile; Bernhard’s Scholarship; De-stress your greens; COSHH assessments; Rootzones and topdressing; Maintenance facilities; Essay competition

May 2002: BIGGA Report; Nematosdes; Caldy GC profile; Multi-tasking machinery; Bunker Sand; Essay competitions; Fijian GC profile; BIGGA Minimum qualification

June 2002: Finding Fungi; Greetham Valley GC profile; Tyres; Cabarua GC profile; Lakes and Pond; Pss Aennu - Jim Arthur

July 2002: Open preview; Turf; Steve Itacco; Emissions; Grinding; Rotary Mowers; BTME preview; Sandy McDvit

August 2002: BIGGA Golf Day; Open review; Talking Heads - Education and training; Trees; Dr Kate Entwistle; Pwllheli GC; Weather; Compact Tractors; Saltex preview

September 2002: National Championship Preview; Irrigation; Non Grass Cutters; Hawkstone Park; Careers in Greenkeeping

October 2002: Saltex Review; Golden and Silver Key Supporters; Environment Awards; Health & Safety; Sustainable Use of Pesticides

November 2002: Toro Student of the Year; National Championship; Drainage; St Andrew’s Bay; Autumn Problems

December 2002: BTME & Clubhouse Preview; R&A Golf Course committee; Dr Kate Entwistle; Perrnard GC

January 2003: Beedles Lake Profile; Talking Heads - Chemical Application; Rebuilding Golf Greens; Constructive Advice

February 2003: BTME/Clubhouse Review; Royal Liverpool Profile; Irrigation; Nematosdes

March 2003: The Berksire Profile; Melodigree; Oversowing Golf Greens; Talking Heads - Health & Safety

April 2003: Oakmere Park GC; Spaying; Golf Course Security; Bernhardt’s Delegation; Ransomes Jacobsen Profile

May 2003: Cardrona Golf & Country Club; Pss Annas; Rough Mowers; Mole Control; Rootzone: Green Construction

June 2003: Irrigation; Ransomes Jacobsen Scholarships; Fertiliser; Railway Mowers

For the armchair viewer June has been a great month of TV for keen golfers but tough on the Superintendents having to prepare their courses so early on in the season.

But the great news is that there was much praise for the guys in the firing line - Bevan Tattersall, at The Belfry, for the final ever Benson and Hedges International; Jim McKenzie, of Celtic Manor, with the Wales Open; Kenny McKay, at Forest of Arden with the British Masters, and more praise than usual for my old mate, Chris Kennedy, at Wentworth, for the PGA Championship.

It may have been early in the season and the weather might not always have been ideal in the run-up to the events but there was heaps of praise for the presentation of the golf courses and justifiable accolades for the greenkeeping staff and all involved in helping to prepare their golf courses to the highest standard for these the first four televised events in the UK.

By the time you read this report it will be the turn of Gleneagles and Scott Forrest for the Diageo Championship, being played over the PGA Centenary Course. Then on to Loch Lomond and Ken Seims for the Scottish Open which is followed by The Open the following week which this year is being played at Royal St George’s in my hometown of Sandwich. And finally to wind up July to us at Turnberry for the Work Championship.

But at the end of the day it is the Course Manager and Green Staff, who prepare the course. And what a responsibility it is as it seems as if the whole world is watching... most of them actually are. I am sure it will be a great Open on a great course and produce a great winner. We wish all at Royal St George’s, especially Neil Metcalfe and all his crew, every success.

Talking of Championship courses, we should spare a thought for the many hidden gems throughout our country which by design and condition easily would be able to host an Open but perhaps are held back by logistical challenges that a modern Championship places on a community.

Having played golf for 30 years and seen the standard and quality of some of these courses it is a shame that they do not get the recognition that they richly deserve, but they are certainly worth a visit if ever the opportunity should arise.

I was sad to learn of the sudden death of Allan McDougall, Course Manager at Royal Mid Surrey. Allan was very popular among his greenkeeping associates and our commiserations and thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

George Brown
Chairman