Introducing the Baroness LM2400, a truly light
NEW for 2014!

Baroness…truly quality on demand!

For more than 20 years Baroness has been build-
ing the LM315 with our very own “hybrid” drive

into the making of Baroness products,

very much on and we wish them a trouble free

countdown is

and management subject matter it contains is

an upturn in membership and green fees.

though the recession there were strong signs
during 2013 that things are looking up, rounds
played increased and many clubs are reporting

an uptick in membership and green fees.

The World Cup in Brazil will undoubtedly

keep some casual golfers away from the course
during the summer but happily the majority of
the matches will not impact on golfing time.

On the flip side the Ryder Cup at Gleneagles
will once again mean golf is firmly in the sporting
spotlight.

The biennial match against the Americans
catches the non-golfing public’s imagination
like no other golf event and I expect many clubs

around the country to capitalise on this and

throw open their gates to new customers and
did alike. For Scott Fenswick, Steve Chappell

and the team at Gleneagles the countdown is

very much on and we wish them a trouble free
summer as they prepare the PGA Centenary
Course for the 24 players and the hundreds of

millions who will watch.

The very many of you attending BTME later
this month will have an opportunity to hear

how work at Gleneagles is progressing as
Steve is appearing as part of the popular

Seminar programme. The Continue to Learn
education programme is filling up nicely with

many of the Workshops and Focus On sessions
now full. It looks like the Turf Managers’

Conference will attract a record turnout this
year and it is clear that the balance of technical

and management subject matter it contains is

a winning formula.

With the exhibition halls sold out for so long
we know we are in for a successful event. Sadly
we have heard rumours that some companies

that aren’t exhibiting intend to try and ‘work

the halls’ in an unofficial capacity. We are

doing all we can to discourage this practice

and would urge you to play your part in

protecting the future of BTME by not allowing

any non-exhibitor who attempts to discuss

business with you to do so. The huge number

of companies who have invested in exhibiting

in Harrogate this year are providing significant

support to our industry and we owe them our

own support in return.

I am also looking forward to meeting up

with the Jacobsen Future Turf Managers as

they gather together for the first time since

the inaugural event in Ipswich in April. It

will be fascinating to hear how they have used

the experience to their benefit in the intervening

months. Entries are now open for nominations

for this year’s PTMI and again we have received

an excellent response.

This month’s GI contains some excellent

winter advice from Henry Bechelet (page 26);

the R&A’s Steve Isaac follows up his article from

last year with some interesting conclusions

on working towards a healthier environment

(page 30) while Laurence Pitthe catches up with

Neil Baker in his first few months as Course

Manager at Little Aston (page 34). We will

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Enjoy the read.

Jim Croxton, BIGGA CEO