Slender speedwell is the word, as Dr Terry Mabbett returns to front this month’s L&D Feature

There are over 20 different speedwells native or naturalised in the UK but slender speedwell (Veronica filiformis) is the only one found growing as a weed in well formed and tightly knit professional sports turf. Slender speedwell as the name suggests is one of the ‘puniest’ speedwells but more than makes up for lack of stature by being one of the ‘worst’ weeds in turf.

Slender speedwell along with field woodrush was given the dubious honour of being the most stubborn and difficult to manage weed of sports turf. Bayer Environmental Science conducted a survey by questionnaire at Saltex 2004 to find out which weeds were regarded as the most difficult to control. Slender speedwell came out top of the ‘stubbornness’ with 33% of respondents identifying the weed as the most difficult to control on their ‘patch’. A die-hard weed

There is no doubt that slender speedwell is one of the hardest weeds to control and along with Field Woodrush is the most resistant to selective herbicides in general used on managed turf. Unlike through the turf and bearing flowers.

Slender speedwell is certainly obscure compared with most other speedwells, especially the bushier and larger-leaved germander (birds-eye) speedwell. Germander speedwell (Veronica chamaedrys) and other species like thyme speedwell (Veronica serpyllifolia) are as nuisance weeds of turf, but generally amenity turf or recently seeded fine turf disappearing quickly once regular closer cut mowing begins.

But mowing has little effect on slender speedwell which sneaks through the turf at ground level via long, slender, creeping stems eventually consolidating into relatively large patches of stubborn weed growth. Slender speedwell is one of the most deceptively damaging of weeds of sports turf and mowing can actually make it worse.

A well travelled weed

Veronica filiformis is a garden plant introduction that must have seemed like a good idea at the time in the early 19th century. It was originally introduced from the Caucasus in 1808 as a ‘Georgian rock gardener’s delight’ but subsequently found a more favourable and fruitful habitat in grassland. Slender speedwell was already well established as a garden plant in 1830 when the cylinder mower was invented. Eight years later saw first reports of slender speedwell escaping from rock gardens into the wider world of turf.

Turf was clearly ‘on a roll’ following invention of the cylinder mower by Edwin Budding and on sale two years later at Ransomes. The ‘Collins Wild Flower Guide’ describes slender speedwell with its pretty blue/mauve flowers as ‘a worthy addition to our flora’ but the greenkeeper and groundsman would disagree seeing slender speedwell as a pernicious weed of fine turf.

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Close up on brooklime through turf rooting as they go. Plants already in flower

Slender speedwell on the move in March

Slender speedwell in the cold light of January is a small and static matt of foliage which collectively form a large matt of weed growth. Pieces of stem ‘hitch a ride’ on mower blades in which pieces of slender speedwell without a box. This mode of spread vegetative reproduction unwittingly has underpinned its success as a well-travelled turf weed. Slender speedwell has its day’, and slender speedwell is no exception. Plants have an ultra efficient means of asexual or vegetative reproduction cunningly assisted by greenkeepers mowing without a box. A mode of spread in which pieces of slender speedwell stem ‘hitch a ride’ on mower blades has underpinned its success as a well-travelled turf weed. The long, creeping prostate stems root at regular intervals (the nodes) to produce new plants which collectively form a large matt of weed growth. Pieces of stem excised during mowing root readily where they fall. This can be on the same site or miles away, because pieces of stem become attached to the mower and are carried on to the next hole on the same course when you finally go to use herbicide make sure you choose the right one: because slender speedwell is notoriously resistant to many herbicides. There has always been a dearth of herbicide actives capable of killing this particular weed at standard label dosage rates and application frequencies. The target weed lists of most turf herbicides will contain notoriously difficult to control turf weeds like self-heal, scabious and clovers but often make no mention of slender speedwell.

‘Ifa student of botany were to research the historical development of slender speedwell as a turf weed they would almost certainly find it was closely tied to birth and growth of mowing including the spread of contract grass cutting services’

Field Woodrush which is essentially confined to low fertility acid reaction soils, slender speedwell is not that fussy about soil conditions and tends to crop up anywhere and everywhere in turf.

Botanically speaking slender speedwell is a downy, low-growing and mat-forming perennial with small blunt-toothed, kidney shaped leaves carried on short stalks either in pairs or alternatively. The mauve-blue flowers borne on long thread-like stalks are relatively large given the diminutive foliage and only appear within a relatively narrow 6-week window of flowering from late April to June. In spite of its exotic plant status and original rock garden niche this fast spreading garden escape took to its ‘new’ turf home with relief and gusto, but not in every respect because Veronica filifolia rarely sets fruit or viable seed in the United Kingdom. Outside of the turf grass environment the weed is rather localised and found mainly by riverbanks, in churchyards and other damp places.

Sexual reproduction is clearly not the secret of slender speedwell’s success in UK turf and unlike more widespread and highly fecund wayside weeds such as dandelion, clovers and plantains there is no seed bank outside. But every ‘dog has its day’, and slender speedwell is no exception. Plants have an ultra efficient means of asexual or vegetative reproduction cunningly assisted by greenkeepers mowing without a box. A mode of spread in which pieces of slender speedwell stem ‘hitch a ride’ on mower blades has underpinned its success as a well-travelled turf weed. The long, creeping prostate stems root at regular intervals (the nodes) to produce new plants which collectively form a large matt of weed growth. Pieces of stem excised during mowing root readily where they fall. This can be on the same site or miles away, because pieces of stem become attached to the mower and are carried on to the next hole on the same course when you finally go to use herbicide make sure you choose the right one: because slender speedwell is notoriously resistant to many herbicides. There has always been a dearth of herbicide actives capable of killing this particular weed at standard label dosage rates and application frequencies. The target weed lists of most turf herbicides will contain notoriously difficult to control turf weeds like self-heal, scabious and clovers but often make no mention of slender speedwell.

Look down the target weed ‘hit list’ for an unequivocal statement about control of slender speedwell. Make sure the label specifies slender speedwell as opposed to speedwells in general and beware of comments like ‘moderate control only’. The ‘old auxin-type (hormonal)’ herbicides such as 2,4-D and MCPA will do little if anything against slender speedwell but there are newer actives with the same hormonal mode of action that will. The one with the most proven pedigree is fluroxypyr and by look containing products which contain this herbicide there are basic things to do when you encounter slender speedwell as opposed to speedwells in general. Use a hormonal mode of action that will kill the plants.

The speedwell most frequently encountered in general is common field speedwell (Veronica persica) a lover of recently disturbed ground and almost certainly present in flower beds around the clubhouse. It may be accompanied by creeping speedwell (Veronica hederifolia), so called because of its ivy-like leaf shape. Of passing interest is ‘round leaved speedwell’. German-der speedwell and thyme speedwell which are not uncommon in amenity turf are much more upright plants with flowers borne on spikes rather than single stalks. The speedwell most frequently encountered in general is common field speedwell (Veronica persica) a lover of recently disturbed ground and almost certainly present in flower beds around the clubhouse. It may be accompanied by creeping speedwell (Veronica hederifolia), so called because of its ivy-like leaf shape.

Spray timing against slender speedwell appears to be critical and is recommended within a relatively short window amounting to weeks. As an already difficult to control weed application too early in the year when the ground is still cold, and neither weeds nor grass is actively growing, is not advised. Applications made after slender speedwell’s main flowering period in May are considered as too late.

There are around two dozen speedwells in various environments across the UK but the speedwell situation for greenkeepers shouldn’t be too difficult to sort out. All speedwell flowers have a common structure (short tube with four petal-like lobes) and are all basically blue though with different shades and patterns. The botanist might be comfortable about differentiating species on exact flower size, structure and colour but others will clearly not.

Moreover the greenkeeper may not see slender speedwell in flower, because although low cut mowing will not remove the weed it will almost certainly stop it from flowering in profusion. A far better way to recognise slender speedwell in turf is by its slender creeping stems and distinctive leaf shape – kidney shaped when young and becoming more rounded with age. Indeed an alternative though much less frequently used common name for Veronica filifolia is ‘round leaved speedwell’.

A great mode of spread is the movement of weeds during mowing including the spread of contract grass cutting services. The weeds are very common in muddy areas and along roads. The leaves were apparently used centuries ago as a cure for scurvy (Vitamin C deficiency). The weeds are very common in muddy areas and along roads. The leaves were apparently used centuries ago as a cure for scurvy (Vitamin C deficiency).
Close up on brooklime through turf rooting as they go. Plants already in flower

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Slender speedwell on the move in March

Thyme speedwell in amenity turf

Slender speedwell in late April with slender stems moving quickly

The muff and greenkeepers mowing root readily for weed growth. Pieces of stem become attached to the mower and are carried on to the next hole on the same course

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Botanically speaking, slender speedwell is a downy, low-growing and mat-forming perennial with small blunt-toothed, kidney shaped leaves carried on short stalks either in pairs or alternately. The mauve-blue flowers borne on long thread-like stalks are relatively large given the diminutive foliage and only appear within a relatively narrow 6-week window of flowering from late April to June. In spite of its exotic plant status and original rock garden niche this fast spreading garden escape took to its ‘new’ turf home with relish and gusto, but not in every respect because Veronica filiformis rarely sets fruit or viable seed in the United Kingdom. Outside of the turf grass environment the weed is rather localised and found mainly by riverbanks, in churchyards and other damp places.

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The long, creeping prostate stems root at regular intervals (the nodes) to produce new plants which collectively form a large matt of weed growth. Pieces of stem excised during mowing root readily where they fall. This can be on the same site or miles away, because pieces of stem become attached to the mower and are carried on to a completely different course in a contractor’s mowing schedule.

If a student of botany were to research the historical development of slender speedwell as a turf weed they would almost certainly find it was closely tied to birth and growth of mowing including the spread of contract grass cutting services.

When you finally go to use herbicide make sure you choose the right one because slender speedwell is notoriously resistant to many herbicides. There has always been a dearth of herbicide active capable of killing this particular weed at standard label dosage rates and application frequencies. The target weed lists of most turf herbicides will contain notoriously difficult to control turf weeds like self heal, yarrow and clovers but often make no mention of slender speedwell.

Look down the target weed ‘hit list’ for an unequivocal statement about control of slender speedwell. Make sure the label specifies slender speedwell as opposed to speedwells in general and beware of comments like ‘moderate control’ only. The ‘old axiom-type’ (herbal) herbicides such as 2,4-D and MCPA will do little if anything against slender speedwell but there are newer actives with the same hormonal mode of action that will.

The one with the most proven pedigree is fluroxypyr and by looking at products containing fluroxypyr will virtually all herbicide active is probably the best starting point for controlling slender speedwell. Virtually all products containing fluroxypyr will contain notoriously difficult to sort out. All speedwell flowers have a common structure (short tube with four petal like lobes) and are all basically blue though with different shades and patterns. The botanist might be comfortable about differentiating species on exact flower size, structure and colour but others will clearly not.

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Rather than spend a lot of effort on trying to eradicate slender speedwell, a far better way to recognise slender speedwell in turf is by its slender creeping stems and distinctive leaf shape – kidney shaped when young and becoming more rounded with age. Indeed an alternative though much less frequently used common name for Veronica filiformis is ‘round leaved speedwell’. German-der speedweel and thyme speedwell which are not uncommon in amenity turf are much more upright plants with flowers borne on spikes rather than single stalks.

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The anatomy of... British hand mowers

Hand mower choice may be wider than you think

The ‘big three’, John Deere, Ransomes Jacobsen and Toro, may be the key names associated with golf course mowing equipment, but these companies do not have it all their own way when it comes to fine turf care.

Cricket wickets, lawn tennis and bowls, for example, are areas where smaller independent British mower makers Allett, Dennis and Lloyds continue to do extremely well.

But this is not to suggest British pedestrian mower makers do not have models suitable for ‘hand mowing’ golf greens and tees. And to suggest that Ransomes hand mowers, such as the highly regarded Super Cortes, will never compete with in-house siblings Jacobsen for some golf course duties would be misleading. But it is fair to say the key US makers, with US made models, have fine tuned their pedestrian models specifically for the golf market.

British designed and built pedestrian mowers do of course have a strong following. The ability of these machines to deliver a good, consistent finish. What many in the golf sector may not have also appreciated is how British made models have evolved. Lloyds may well still make a Paladin model but to suggest it is the same mower as the ones on sale in the 1960s is wide of the mark.

Allett and Dennis have made huge development changes too; current models have vastly improved ergonomics, vibration damping and ease of set up.

Here we take a brief overview of Allett, Dennis and Lloyds and the models that these companies suggest are well suited to producing a cut to meet the most exacting of standards to include greens mowing.
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Dennis Mowers, Ashbourne Road, Kirk Langley, Derbyshire DE6 4N
www.dennisuk.com

For many, it is the versatile Dennis FT510 ‘cassette’ model that is the most recognisable Dennis model. The company does of course offer a far wider model choice, including its increasingly popular Razor models to include the Razor Ultra 560. Fitted with a keep handle more familiar to many in the golf sector, the Razor Ultra is designed to suit greens and other fine turf mowing. Dennis has recently invested in new production facilities.

Dennis Razor Ultra 560

The Dennis Razor Ultra 560 has been purpose developed to meet the demands of golf greens and tees, cricket pitches and bowling greens. It features a 560mm (22”) cutting width with an 11 bladed cutting cylinder, ultra short wheelbase for undulating surfaces, tungsten tipped groomer, click height adjusters and stub free transport wheels. Claimed to offer excellent balance and good manoeuvrability, the mower has a compact handle design and simple controls with durable acrylic guards.

Key Razor Ultra 560 specification details:

- Cutting width: 560mm (22”)
- Cylinder: 11 blade
- Height of cut: 1.6 – 15mm
- Cut performance: up to 200 cuts/m
- Dimensions (LxWxH): 910 x 823 x 1135mm
- Weight (approx): 140kg
- Engine: Honda GX120

Dennis FT510

The established Dennis FT510 is an interchangeable cassette mower. This can be fitted with a choice of 11 different heads to include a scarifier, verticuter, brush, spiker and slitter. A choice of 5 or 9 blade cutter cassettes can also be fitted. Dennis claim the cassettes can be changed in 15 seconds, in practice this enabling one machine to carry out a range of duties. The FT510 is a popular mower on municipal golf courses.

Key FT510 specification details:

- Cutting width: 510mm (20”)
- Cylinder: 5 or 9 blade
- Height of cut: 2-25mm
- Cut performance: up to 200 cuts/m dependent upon the number of blades
- Dimensions (LxWxH): 1300 x 750 x 970mm
- Weight (approx): 110kg
- Engine: Honda GX160

Dennis FT510 models can be fitted with up to 11 different cassette types.
Allett Mowers by Turfmech Machinery Ltd, Hangar 5, New Road, Ilison, Stafford ST18 4PJ www.allett.co.uk

Allett Mowers was acquired by Turfmech Machinery in 2007 with production moving to the company’s Stafford factory. During the past three years, Turfmech has retained the basic Allett mower design but developed production to make the mowers both easier to build and maintain. The key models that target the golf sector include the Tournament and Shaver, although the new ELMOW model, due for launch this autumn, is an interesting development. Based on the Tournament, the ELMOW should boast low noise and running costs.  

Allett Shaver 20 and 24

Allett Shaver mowers have no groomer fitted but have space to accommodate a static brush. The front roller can be moved rearwards so it is closer to the rear roller on the Shaver, there’s no groomer in the way- to better handle undulating turf and contours. The Shaver targets those who mow their greens regularly using a single triple mower fitted with a groomer and use a hand mower solely ahead of competitions whereas close strip final finish and appearance is paramount.

Key Allett Shaver 20 and 24 specification details:
- Cutting width: 510mm (20”) or 610mm (24”)
- Cylinder: 10 blade
- Height of cut: 2.4 – 19mm
- Dimensions (LxH): 1010 x 1280mm
- Cut performance: 246 cuts/m
- Weight (approx): 81.5-92kg or 91.5 – 104kg
- Engine: Honda GX120 (4hp) or GX160 (5.5hp)

Allett Tournament 20 and 24

Allett Tournament models have an integral groomer that can be raised out of work when not required. This model is otherwise the same as its non-Groomer Shaver alternative. Turfmech has made a number of detail changes to these models since taking over production, these ranging from improved roller bearings, improved vibration and noise control and the introduction of a quick height micro system that allows adjustment without tools.

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Paladin Dual

The Lloyds Paladin Dual is developed from the Lloyds Paladin TG without the groomer being fitted. The front grooved roller can be located closely back to the cutting cylinder thus ensuring the shortest roller distance to follow the tight contours of the golf greens.

Key Paladin Dual specification details:
- Cutting width: 533mm (21”) & 610mm (24”)
- Cylinder: 5.9 or 11 blade
- Height of cut: 1-25mm
- Cut performance: up to 225 cuts/m dependent upon the number of blades
- Weight (approx): 76 to 88kg
- Engine: Honda GX120

Paladin TG

The Lloyds Paladin TG has a groomer fitted closely between the cutting cylinder and the grooved front roller. The groomer aids healthy growth by removing the lateral grasses and other debris to aid the playability of the surface. The groomer can be engaged or disengaged via a simple clutch arrangement. All Paladin models are designed to allow the cutting cylinder to be removed quickly and easily for maintenance.

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- Cutting width: 533mm (21”) & 610mm (24”)
- Cylinder: 11 blade
- Height of cut: 1-25mm
- Cut performance: up to 225 cuts/m
- Weight (approx): 82 to 88kg
- Engine: Honda GX120

TORO first began manufacturing engines for tractors in the USA almost 100 years ago. Today we produce some of the finest turf machinery, landscaping and irrigation equipment in the world. Like our renowned DPA (Dual Precision Adjustment) cutting unit, DPA allows the bedknife to be adjusted quickly, simply and offers an unrivalled quality and consistency of cut. What’s more, because it holds its settings for longer, DPA will also save you more time than any other quick-adjustment system. Now available across the full range, DPA is proving popular at many of the country’s leading golf clubs and sporting venues. Please contact us today for a free demonstration.

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GreenMaster 3250-D

ReelMaster 5510-D

GreenMaster Flex 21

ReelMaster 6700-D

ReelMaster 3100-D

It’s quicker in the long run. From Toro.
Allett Shaver 20 and 24

Allett Shaver mowers have no groomer fitted but have space to accommodate a static brush. The front roller can be moved rearwards so it is closer to the rear roller on the Shaver - there’s no groomer in the way- to better handle undulating turf and contours. The Shaver targets those who mow their greens regularly using a rakes on a triple mower fitted with a groomer and use a hand mower solely ahead of competitions whereas close strip final finish and appearance is paramount.

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Fitted with a groomer, the Paladin TG shares its hydraulic system with other models in the range.
Scottish Region

Ayrshire

Hello there! I’ve finally landed back on my feet after being blown around at St Andrews... What was all the fuss about? 40 mile an hour winds I guess! I could hardly stand on my own two feet and that was me using the bunker rake to hold me up!

Hats off to the players who had to suffer not only the strong winds on the Friday but the heavy showers of rain that visited every few hours. Just goes to show how well Louis Oosthuizen actually played over the whole week. He even managed to smile through every round...... I’m going to try that method, see if it helps my game.

Anyway I thoroughly enjoyed my involvement in the Open Support team. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Scott MacCallum and Rachel Duff of BIGGA, for the efforts that they both put in, not only during the week of The Open but long into the night organising us greenkeepers to be in certain places at certain times.

Thank you to you both and the other BIGGA representatives. Also a big thanks to the 52 greenkeepers involved, spirits were high throughout the Championship and a great week was had by all! Can’t wait to do it all again in the future.

There’s been a demand in the last five years for contract hire to include servicing, what would you like to see changed?

Ted Hopkins is still involved in the business on a daily basis, he will turn 80 next February and is supported by his son and two grandchildren.

Key services offered:
Sales, service, parts, long and short term hire of groundcare equipment including tractors up to 120hp on turf tyres, and implements and a full range of utility vehicles including golf buggies.

How do you work with your customers?
A number of customers work closely with us, with their own in house service facility carrying out routine servicing with our staff carrying out the major repairs.

We operate our own transport network to invest in training, tooling, parts and stock equipment - with buy backs built into contracts if the manufacturer terminates the franchise agreement.

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Key services offered
Sales, service, parts, long and short term spot hire of groundcare equipment including tractors up to 120hp on turf tyres, and implements and a full range of utility vehicles including golf buggies.

How has the dealership changed over the years?
Initially, we started selling horticultural machinery locally, from one depot then decided to concentrate on the commercial groundcare equipment, together with utility vehicles and golf buggies from our Newport depot. Realised in the late 90’s we needed to concentrate our agricultural business in Mid Wales and built a new depot in Brecon.

There has been a demand in the last five years for contract hire to include servicing.

What would you like to see changed?
Long term contracts from manufacturers - Who expect the dealer network to invest in training, tooling, parts and stock equipment - with buy backs built into contracts if the manufacturer promotes the franchise agreement.

How do you work with your customers?

A number of customers work closely with us, with their own in house service facility carrying out routine servicing with our staff carrying out the major repairs.

We operate our own transport which includes two 38 tonne tractor units with a range of trailers and one 7.5 tonne taut lorry for delivery and collections, together with a number of 4wd pickup trucks with trailers.

Major customers
Celtic Manor; Ryder Cup Wales; European Tour.

Franchises
- Amazone; Blec; Fenford; Club Car; Dennis; Deutz; Hardi; Kawakin; Kelco; McCormick; Merlo; Shire; Thynek.

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Thank you to you both and the other BIGGA representatives. Also a big thanks to the 52 greencutters involved, spirits were high throughout the Championship and a great week was had by all! Can’t wait to do it all again in the future.

A congratulations is due to George Morrison and his partner, for the arrival of their bouncing baby boy, Rory. Good wishes and the three of you from all in the Section.

Finally, we have a retirement in the Section this month, Robin McMillan, of Moffat Golf Club. Robin has been with Moffat since 1974 and has cracked up some well earned miles over his tenure. Plenty time on your hands now, Robin. I personally think he won’t be able to stay away! Robin handed the reigns over to Mike Wilson in the last week of August.

From all of us in the Section we wish you well in your retirement and good luck to Mike on his new appointment.

Remember guys get in touch with any news! Yl next time.

John Mair 07500874449 johnmair982@hotmail.co.uk

West
Autumn has arrived and here we are preparing to core greens and vert-drain a variety of surfaces assuming we can take the machines around the course without sinking, what a difference to a couple of months ago when nothing would grow because of the dry conditions.

I hope all of you have had a good season and are looking forward to the course alterations scheduled with an abundance of enthusiasm and new lively spring in your step.

Only a couple of items to mention as very little seems to be happening, as usual not a soul has been on touch, but maybe that could change or people are just too busy.

The AGM due in October has still to be confirmed for the venue but will be along similar lines to previous years with a couple of speakers, some suggestions would be good if possible.

The annual dinner in November looks to be back to Victoria’s but committee have still to confirm this as numbers last year were a bit disappointing.

The outing at Helensburgh Golf Club on September 2 will be reported on in the next issue.

Please remember gent’s to get in touch at stuart.taylor@ glasgowsgolfclub.com or on 0141-942-5554, or on mobile 07790982934.

Thank you to you both and the other BIGGA representatives. Also a big thanks to the 52 greencutters involved, spirits were high throughout the Championship and a great week was had by all! Can’t wait to do it all again in the future.

A congratulations is due to George Morrison and his partner, for the arrival of their bouncing baby boy, Rory. Good wishes and the three of you from all in the Section.

Finally, we have a retirement in the Section this month, Robin McMillan, of Moffat Golf Club. Robin has been with Moffat since 1974 and has cracked up some well earned miles over his tenure. Plenty time on your hands now, Robin. I personally think he won’t be able to stay away! Robin handed the reigns over to Mike Wilson in the last week of August.

From all of us in the Section we wish you well in your retirement and good luck to Mike on his new appointment.

Remember guys get in touch with any news! Yl next time.

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Northern

Hello everyone, hope you are enjoying the summer! This was quite a wet weather moment at the morse seems to be passing and we can cut it. On June 14 at the annual Northern V Shield match, we played two rounds of the trophy by drawing the match 3.3. The Section would like to thank Woorby Links for hosting the day and the staff there started talking about the BIGGA Support Team and how well they had been working. Brian finished raking the bunker that was well done! As usual Pete Allen then said something along the lines of, “It looks as though he’s leaving us now” and then he did... he was actually driving us to the next venue. The course was in fantastic condition and thanks to Nigel Coleman probably the best I’ve seen. Do not forget to thank the committee as Vice Chairman for the Section, we would like to recognize the hard work and time the committee put in another solid display to clinch the qualifying spot in Cat 2.

Midland

Well it never ceases to amaze me how many differing conditions you can play in and our wonderful ability to diagnose any problem that you may have! So, please continue to contact us with any news. The course was in fantastic condition and thanks to Nigel Coleman probably the best I’ve seen. Do not forget to thank the committee as Vice Chairman for the Section, we would like to recognize the hard work and time the committee put in another solid display to clinch the qualifying spot in Cat 2.

South

Hello all, it’s been a long time since I’ve had to do this article, but Craig and his wife have just had their second child and they’re a little furry, as you can imagine living to the both of you from us all.

I hope you’re all praying for the weather to improve before the Autumn Tournament... only between 6pm and 6am! It’s been quite wet and dry, warm weather, it’s been a few years of wet summers and a few dry summers, our courses are holding up well.

Our Summer Tournament was held on Saturday 21st July, managed to get 33 players to play and we collected £2000. As mentioned previously we had to bring it forward due to a cancellation from one of our sponsors.

Of those who made it, all had a great day, played well, ate well, drank well and had a good dress code, felt more comfortable on a warm summer’s night.

I would like to thank my boss, Mr Harris, for allowing us to hold our event at Stocks as we’re glad to have them there.

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