



Golf course wildlife advisor appointed

Joint funding between the Scottish Golf Union, the R & A and Scottish Natural Heritage has resulted in Scotland becoming the first country in Europe to appoint a Golf Course Wildlife Advisor.

Jonathan Smith, 25, pictured above, was recently employed by the Duke of Buccleuch on his Bowhill Estate and took up the advisory position on 29 April. Initially he will be based in

Glasgow in premises provided by the Strathclyde Greenbelt Company.

"We see this appointment as a positive step to integrating golf courses into the environment," said Ian Hume, Secretary of the SGU. "We have been considering this move for some time and are now pleased to be able to offer advice to new and existing golf courses on the positive aspects of working in harmony with the landscape and

its wildlife in line with current conservation policies."

Karen Morrison, Urban Conservation Officer with the Scottish Natural Heritage said, "Golf Courses are an important element of Scotland's natural heritage. We hope that this initiative will make people more aware of the positive contribution their course can make to the environment, if it is managed in sympathy with its surroundings."

Consultant joins firm



Jason Sinden has joined Eamonn Wall & Co as an associate consultant. Jason has an Honours degree from

Aberdeen University in Forest Management as well as a range of practical experience. His duties will include site surveys, design, planning and management with specialist duties in mensuration, contract tendering and supervision.

"Although the production of timber is a secondary consideration on golf courses, the opportunity should not be missed to attain a return from assets which already exist. The good silvicultural practices which are required to achieve a suitable commercial crop (a long, knot free stem) are conducive to the needs of the golf course. The branch free stem allows play from underneath and facilitates turf management," explained Jason.

In the last three years Eamonn Wall and Co has been responsible for planting close to half a million trees on golf courses.



Thoughts while on the seventh

by Roy T.G. Hudson, First Assistant at The Lambourne Club

If it's not Fusarium, it's bloody Poa, It's about time we backlapped that mower!

Cut the greens and tee surrounds, Collect the balls from the practice ground.

Slit, scarify, perhaps hollow tine? When was the deadline?...Next Tuesday...fine!

Tournaments, medals...What? Not another one!

C.O.S.H.H. assessment forms, "Christ, that'll be fun!"

Heath and Safety, locks, security,

Training for staff...finish at three! Members suggesting greener greens with softer grass?

"As if pressure to play in frosty mornings wasn't enough!"

Holes to be changed, Repts to call, "Hell!...Where'd that come from? "Hey, next time mate, try calling Fore!"

Fine tomorrow, maybe frost, Damn!...Budget meeting with the boss.

But thinking, as I looked out from the 7th, towards the clubhouse, "Job wise...I just wouldn't give a four XXX for anything else!"

HAYTER CHALLENGE

Emotions run high



Flying the flag: Competitors at Oak Manor

The Devon and Cornwall Section Qualifier was an emotional occasion with the honouring of the host club's Course Manager, Gordon Child who retired last month. Gordon, the South West and South Wales Regional Administrator was presented with a television set from the Section to mark the occasion.

Qualifiers for the Regional Final of the Hayter Challenge to be held at Salisbury GC on Wednesday June 12 are:

0-9. G. Tamblyn, J. Mitchell, A. Parker, T. Gooch, C. Rawlings.

10-18. T. Farkins, M. Child, E. Barber, M. Parrish, W. Potter.

19-28. T. Blackburn, A. James, S. Getson, Miss L. Breyley, C. Pine.

The winners in each category were presented with a silver salver by Mike Lincoln-Smith of Hayter.

The South West Hayter Qualifier was played at the excellent Oak Manor GC, near Taunton.

A tough test (speaking from personal experience - Ed) Oak Manor was in magnificent condition thanks to the work of Nigel Pring and his team. Nigel also led the way in the competition as well posting a best gross score of 72.

Overall winner was Craig Fudge of Tracey Park who scored a fine nett 66.

Regional Final Qualifiers are:

0-9. C. Fudge, N. Pring, M. Fawcett, P. Godwin, C. Tozer. 10-18. A. Turner, J. Williams, D. Smith, A. Knight, O. Stevenson.

19-28. C. Sealey, T. Dabenett, J. Barr, S. Mitchell, P. Cox.