

The third full week in September could quite easily be renamed Hayter Week because during that time both the inaugural Hayter International Cup and the Hayter Challenge Final will be played at West Lincs and Fairhaven respectively.

The culmination of 25 sectional qualifying events and five regional qualifying events plus qualifying events in both northern and southern Ireland sees 63 greenkeepers converging on Fairhaven Golf Club in Lytham St Annes for the 1996 Final of the Hayter Challenge.

The event, which goes from strength to strength, will this year be run in conjunction with the inaugural Hayter International Cup which has brought a truly international field together for the Rest of the World v The Americas competition at West Lancashire Golf Club earlier in the week.

Once the spoils have been divided out the entire Hayter International Cup field will travel to Fairhaven and play their own singles event, the Hayter International Medal, in tandem with the Hayter Challenge competition.

West Lincs GC is no stranger to BIGGA and Hayter, having played host to the 1995 Hayter Challenge, and such was the warm welcome afforded to everyone by the club and the superb course presented by John Muir and his team it was the ideal venue to host what is likely to become a firm favourite on the greenkeep-



Head Greenkeeper Peter Simpson: Best of both worlds at Fairhaven

WEEK OF THE HAYTERS

ing calendar. It will be a biennial event with the United Kingdom and the United States sharing the duties of host.

Fairhaven, on the other hand, is a new venue for Hayter but such is the quality of the golf course it is sure to become an immediate favourite.

"The finalists are going to find a long golf course, it's 6883 yards off the back, and if the wind blows it can be quite tough," explained Head Greenkeeper Peter Simpson.

The course comprises two loops, an inner and an outer, and

as a result the wind can get you from any angle and unlike some courses, which offer up some shocks in the shape of hidden hazards, at Fairhaven what you see is what you get.

"Fairhaven isn't really a links, it's a semi links but all the links characteristics are there but with trees as well. You get the best of both worlds as it's probably the most picturesque of the four local courses," explained Peter.

Peter (32) and his team of five have a rolling programme of revetting the bunkers.

"We have around 126 bunkers and we've done about 65 so far."

Looking round the course you can see that he is not making any false boasts. The course is magnificent with a little touch of Woodhall Spa or Sunningdale about it.

It has been a busy time for Peter and his team as the course was used as a final qualifying course for The Open Championship at nearby Royal Lytham & St Annes while Peter returned to Lytham, where he began his career, to assist with the daily preparation of an Open venue which received universal acclaim at the end of a less than perfect spell of weather.

"I started at Lytham as a YTS trainee and was kept on and learned the ropes under Jimmy MacDonald. It was a terrific place to work and I felt that if I didn't move in 1991 I probably never would," explained Peter, who went to Huntercombe near Henley-on Thames before returning to Fairhaven in December '93 and becoming Head Greenkeeper two years ago.

HAYTER COMPETITORS

SOUTH EAST

Richard Hickford, Newton Green GC
Huw Morgan, Wilderness GC
Neil Gilham, Chart Hills GC
David Jones, Epsom GC
Ray Malt, The Ridge GC
Robert Washbrook, Porters Park GC
Douglas Smith, Thorpe Hall GC
Ben Abbot, The Ridge GC
Toddy Huddleston, Retired
DEREK FARRINGTON – Captain

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES

Nigel Pring, Oake Manor GC
Cyril Rawlings, Marlborough GC
Rob Walker, Queens Park GC
Anthony Knight, Kingsdown GC
Wyndham Potter, East Devon GC
Philip Wentworth, Army GC
John Barr, Bristol and Clifton GC

Clive A. Archer, Broadstone GC
Alan Crichton, Kington GC
GORDON CHILD – Captain

SCOTTISH

George Mitchell, Newmacher GC
Robert McKay, Prestwick St Nicholas GC
Ian Bell, Glencorse GC
Brian Hillen, East Moffat GC
Tom Hindmarsh, Erskine GC
John McLachlan, Brunston Castle GC
Graham Shearer, Balmore GC
Gordon McRae, Ratho Park GC
Garry Crosbie, Dumfries & County GC
ELLIOTT SMALL – Captain

NORTHERN

Paul Pearse, Stockport GC
Alex Russell, Bedale GC
Mark Hodgson, Woodham G&CC
Robin Smith, Gotts Park GC

Allan Allsop, Cavendish GC
Colin Hopper, Doncaster Town Moor GC
Anthony Cheeseborough, Wearside GC
Paul Neve, Brough GC
John L Jones, Abergele & Pensarn GC
BOB LUPTON – Captain

NORTHERN IRELAND

Brian Mulholland, Lisburn GC
Patrick Devlin, Belvoir Park GC
Lee Eager, Knock GC
Paul McBlain, Royal Belfast GC
Glenn Culbert, Clandeboye GC
Craig Posnett, Belvoir Park GC
Eric O' Neill, Portestewart GC
John Cuffey, Crossgar GC
James Logan, Edenmore GC
TERRY CRAWFORD – Captain

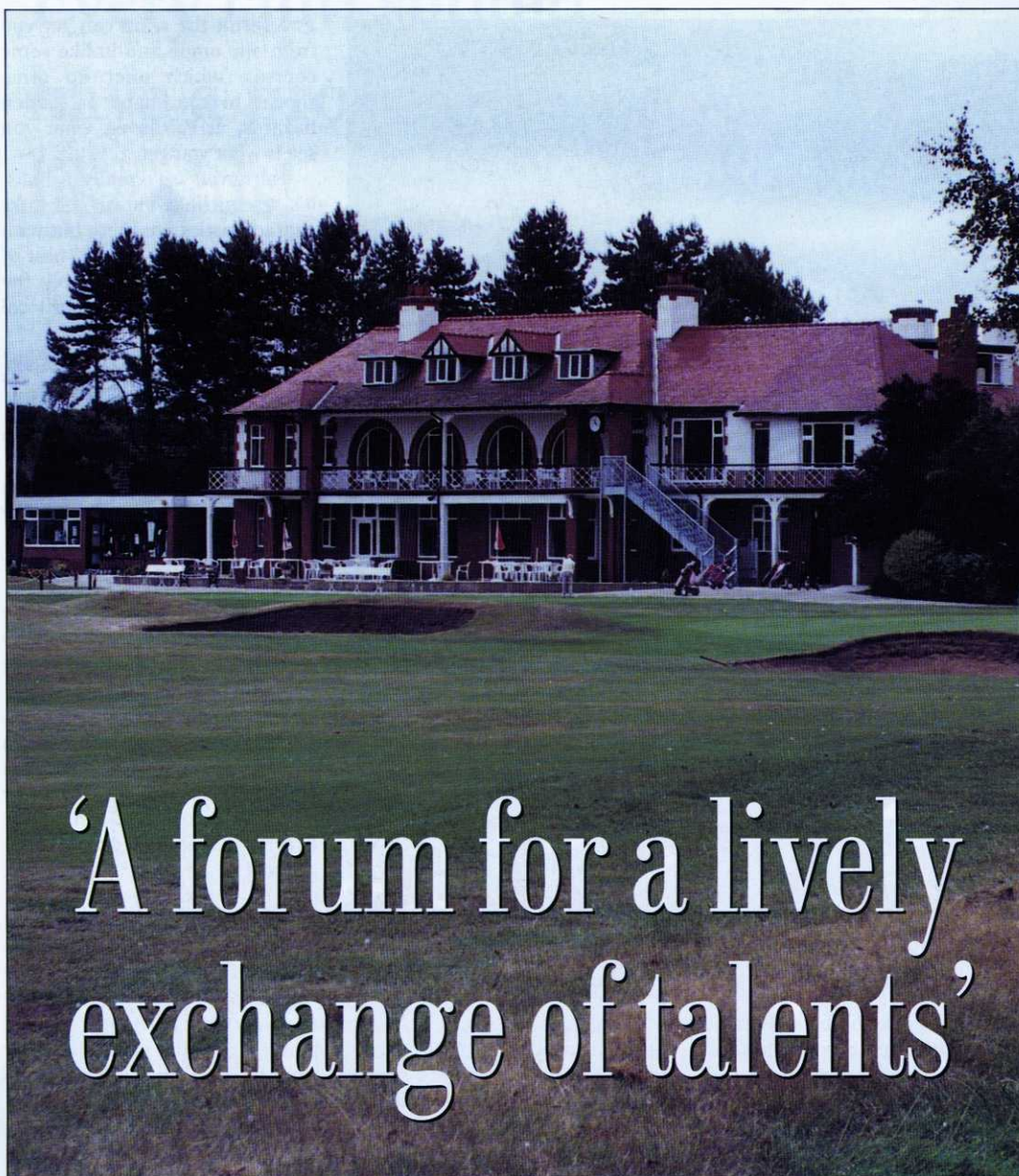
SOUTHERN IRELAND

Joe Bedford, Hollystown Golf Castle GC
Gerry Bryne, Luttrellstown Castle GC

Paul Fitzgerald, Beech Park GC
Tom Mulqueen, Mahon GC
Martin O' Shea, Castle Corner GC
Maurice Clarke, Corrstown GC
Brendon Harman, Elm Park GC
James McGuinness, The Island GC
John Plummer, The Grange GC
IAN RICHIE – Captain

MIDLANDS

David Leatherland, Kedleston GC
Peter Holtham, Kings Norton GC
Graeme MacDonald, Ryston Park GC
Richard Clarke, Trentham GC
Neil Whitaker, Woburn GC
Mark Cutler, Edgbaston GC
Steven Heap, Rothley GC
John Hewson, Market Rasen & District GC
David Gibbons, Great Barr GC
ROGER WILLARS – Captain



All of the excitement of the Ryder Cup...

With the Rest of the World tackling the Americas the event promises to have all the excitement of the Ryder Cup coupled with the rare opportunity off the course to share greenkeeping experiences and knowledge with colleagues who cope with altogether different problems.

Like the Ryder Cup the Hayter International Cup will be biennial with Great Britain and the United States taking turns to be host country and the event will consist of six fourball matches in the morning and 12 singles in the afternoon.

"I am convinced that the Hayter International will become an established part of the greenkeeping calendar throughout the world and am thoroughly looking forward to both it and the Hayter Challenge Final – to be played at Fairhaven GC in Lytham St Annes on September 18 – which is already a popular and respected event on the domestic greenkeeping scene," said Neil Thomas, Executive Director of BIGGA.

"The Hayter International Cup aims to foster a fraternal yet competitive atmosphere among greenkeepers from all parts of the world. It will be the forum for a lively exchange of talents both on the course and about the requisites to maintain the great golfing venues of the world. I feel sure everyone will benefit from the opportunity," said Kim Macfie, Sales and Marketing Director of Hayter Limited.

'A forum for a lively exchange of talents'

The impressive clubhouse at Fairhaven

"I knew I preferred links courses before I went south," he explains, "but going to an inland course just cemented what I really felt."

During the Open Qualifying the Fairhaven course record was broken by Justin Leonard – who won on the US Tour a couple of weeks later – with a 64 when it was hot and there was no wind but perhaps the main story of the qualifying event was also produced at Fairhaven. It came from Paul Eales, Lytham's Touring Pro-

fessional, who birdied the final five holes to qualify right on the limit.

"The last five holes include three par fives, a short par four and a little par three and by birdying them all he fulfilled his ambition to play in The Open at Lytham," said Peter.

Ironically Peter could have been playing in the Hayter Challenge Final as well as preparing the course.

"I won the Sectional qualifier at Morecambe but had to pull out of

the Regional Final because of the Open Qualifying so it was unavoidable."

He is looking forward to welcoming not only the 63 Hayter Challenge finalists when they arrive but also the International competitors.

"I am looking forward to the event. It's been a good year for us with the Open Qualifying and now this. It's good to see the Hayter event snowballing and it's nice to have been chosen for the final."

HAYTER TEAMS FOR INTERNATIONAL CUP

Americas: Samuel T. Williamson, Ojai Valley Inn and CC, USA; Jim Dusch, Atlanta National GC, USA; Robert Heron, Beacon Hall, GC, Canada; Douglas Meyer, Cedarbrook G&CC, Canada; Ricardo de Udaeta, Olivos GC, Argentina; George Renault, Burning Tree Club,

USA; Dean Morrison, Calgary G&CC, Canada; Paul McGinnis, Moon Valley CC, USA; Alejandro Young, Las Praderas de Lujan, CC, Argentina; Randy Nichols, Cherokee Town CC, USA; Thom Charters, Bayview CC, Canada, and Gary Grigg, Royal Poinciana GC, USA.

Rest of the World: Cosme Bergareche, San Sebastian GC, Spain; Fredrik Goa, Ljunghusen GC, Sweden; Andreas Kauler, Club sur Vahr, Germany; Derek McJannet, Sherwood Forest GC England; Ignacio Soto Alarcon, Pineda GC, Spain; Peter Schumacher, The Grange GC, Australia;

Peter Frewin, Winchelsea GC, Australia; Michael Dohlon, Bro Balsta GC, Sweden; Ian Buckley, Northop Country Park Golf, Wales; Matthias Ehser, Clubcolf Duren, Germany; Alexander Reid, Letham Grange GC, Scotland; Brian Mulholland, Banbridge GC, Northern Ireland.