

## New Director for Rolawn



Rolawn has promoted Guy Barrett to the post of Farms Director.

Guy joined Rolawn in 1980 and has risen "through the ranks" to head the harvesting and production functions which now operate on a large scale supplying millions of square metres of specially cultivated turf throughout the UK.

When not tending to the 3000 acres of turf under his care for Rolawn, he enjoys playing golf and cricket.

"It is in recognition of his hard work, dedication and success in his role over many years that this appointment has been made. I am delighted to welcome him on to the board and I am certain that Guy will play a key role in the future development of our business," said Ken Dawson, Chairman of Rolawn.



A thunder and lightning storm didn't dampen the spirits at the recent Northern Ireland Section meeting at Killeel Golf Club in County Down. Around 20 played golf but with holes running out a dramatic thunder storm struck and the sensible ones among the players high tailed it back to the clubhouse thus forfeiting any chance of a place in the prizes.

## Walton Heath Annual Gentleman's Evening

It has been brought to my attention that BSP Landscapes were inadvertently omitted from the list of sponsors for the recent Annual Gentleman's Evening at Walton Heath.

Those of you who were there will know that Barry Pace not only spon-

sored the 6th hole on Walton Heath's Old Course for the event but also built the very fine bunker that so many of you managed to get into.

Sorry about that Barry.

Derek Farrington  
South East Regional Administrator

## Students plan Vintage Open at Reaseheath

Golf Course Management students at Reaseheath College, organised the annual Reaseheath Millennium Vintage Open as part of their third year studies.

Held on the college's nine hole golf course, the tournament attracted septegenarian competitors from all over Cheshire.

Veteran golfer Fred Hallworth, 79, proved age is no handicap by winning the tournament run specially for the over 70s.



REASEHEATH  
COLLEGE

A member of Hazel Grove Golf Club, Fred received his trophy from sponsor John Hammond, of sand and gravel provider Bathgate Leisure. He also won a golfing weekend, courtesy of Gray Travel, Northwich. Further prizes were donated by The Golf Shop in Crewe.

The winning lady, Mrs Brenda Wright (above) of Ashville Court, Wistaston, Crewe, a member of Reaseheath Golf Club, received her prize from her own lady captain, Maura Murphy.

The tournament, which raised £500 for charity, also featured professional golfer Dave Yates, who was available for advice. Competitors later enjoyed a barbecue.



## Thanks from Moray GC

Moray Golf Club would like to thank the following companies - Headland, Terralift, Amenity Technology and Scottish Grass Machinery for sponsoring the environmental survey that was carried out recently over our two 18-hole championship links courses, and adjacent land. We would also wish to thank Scottish Natural Heritage for the award of a 50% grant and Jonathan and Fiona from the Scottish Golf Course Wildlife Group for their advice.

The survey was awarded to the Sports Turf Research Institute and carried out at the end of May by senior ecologist Bob Taylor.

We at Moray Golf Club are committed to improving our courses to the benefit of both the golfer and the environment and now thanks to the generosity of the aforementioned companies we will have an environmental management plan that will enable us to realise our goals.

Nell Ballingall, Courses Manager  
Moray Golf Club

Address your letters to the Editor, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Aline, York YO61 1UF. You can also fax them to 01347 833801, or email them to [reception@bigga.co.uk](mailto:reception@bigga.co.uk)

## Pinehurst tested my cutting degree

I was very interested to read the article about Pinehurst and especially G2 turfgrass. When working in the USA, I spent a considerable amount of time at Pinehurst with Richard Yoe, Pinehurst's machine maintenance director, working on methods of mower set up and sharpening techniques to obtain a better quality cut than was being achieved.

As G2 has such a high shoot density, is so fast growing and is a very juicy grass obtaining a quality cut was proving very difficult using Pinehurst's tried and trusted methods. Maintaining a sharp edge and angle on the bottom blade was also a problem due to regular top dressing dusting because of the denseness of G2 it is very difficult to mat the dressing in, it tends to lie on the leaf.

I was given four Jacobson walkers to experiment with, the normal angle ground on the bottom blade was 5°, this was not enough relief for grass ejection due to the growth rate of G2 and top dressing problems. After experimenting with different angles and set ups on selected greens on No.8



course I found a top face angle of 9°-10° and front face angle of 5° with the cylinder set with .001 clearance from the bottom blade, a quality cut was obtained combined with regular facing of the front free angle a quality cut was maintained.

This regular facing of the bottom blade is a practise that should be used for grasses and is far more beneficial than back lapping, which did not

work at Pinehurst using regular sharpening angles on the bottom blade.

The co-operation and friendliness that I experienced at Pinehurst was second to none. No wonder the lads enjoyed the experience of working with such great people.

Peter Fletcher, Professional  
Mobile Grinding, At Austell  
Cornwall