

Feature listing from August 2001

August 2001; Aeration Survey; Machrie GC profile; Rough Mowers; Saltex Preview; Dr Alan Gange - environmental research; Hayter Profile; Ponds; Open Championship review; Toro Student of the Year profile;

September 2001; Ryder Cup preview; Chafer Grubs; Drainage; BIGGA National Championship preview; Sandy McDivot; Machinery Maintenance; Soil Analysis; Wild Flowers

October 2001; Major Award for Walter Woods; Royal Portrush GC; Portstewart GC; Irrigation; Soil biodiversity; Leaf collection systems; Scotsturf preview' Saltex review

November 2001; BIGGA National Championship review; Environment Competition winner; Spraying; Toro Awards Preview; Cutting regimes; Dyke GC

December 2001; Toro Award Winners; Southern Gales GC; BTME preview; Specialty equipment; Thatch removal

January 2002; Walton Heath profile; Greenkeeping in Denmark; Moving materials; A first for Andy Campbell; New products

February 2002; Harrogate 2002 Review; Drainage; Castlerock GC; Trees; Recycling; TurfTrax profile; Barn Owl special report

March 2002; Donnington Valley profile; Utility vehicles; Essay competition winner; Irrigation; Seeds; Sandy McDivot

April 2002; Heyrose GC profile; Bernhard's Scholarship; De-stress your greens; COSHH assessments; Rootzones and topdressing; Maintenance facilities; Essay competition

May 2002; BIGGA Report; Nematodes; Caldyc GC profile; Multi-tasking machinery; Bunker Sand; Essay competition; Fijian GC profile; BIGGA Minimum qualification

June 2002; Finding Fungi; Greatham Valley GC profile; Tyres; Calabria GC profile; Lakes and Ponds; Poa Annuua - Jim Arthur

July 2002; Open preview; Turf; Steve Isaccs; Emissions; Grinding; Rotary Mowers; BTME preview; Sandy McDivot

August 2002; BIGGA Golf Day; Open review; Talking Heads - Education & training; Trees; Dr Kate Entwistle; Pwllheli GC; Weather; Compact Tractors; Saltex preview

September 2002; National Championship Preview; Irrigation; Non Grass Cutters; Hawkstone Park; Careers in Greenkeeping

October 2002; Saltex Review; Golden and Silver Key Supporters; Environment Awards; Health & Safety; Sustainable Use of Pesticides

November 2002; Toro Student of the Year; National Championship; Drainage; St Andrew's Bay; Autumn Problems

December 2002; BTME & ClubHouse Preview; R&A Golf Course committee; Dr Kate Entwistle; Pennard GC

January 2003; Beedles Lake Profile; Talking Heads - Chemical Application; Rebuilding Golf Greens; Constructive Advice

February 2003; BTME/ClubHouse Review; Royal Liverpool Profile; Irrigation; Nematodes

March 2003; The Berkshire Profile; Meloidogyne; Overseeding Golf Greens; Talking Heads - Health & Safety

April 2003; Oakmere Park GC; Spraying; Golf Course Security; Bernhards Delegation; Ransomes Jacobsen Profile

May 2003; Cardrona Golf & Country Club; Poa Annuua; Rough Mowers; Mole Control; Rootzone; Green Construction

June 2003; Irrigation; Ransomes Jacobsen Scholarships; Fertiliser; Fairway Mowers

July 2003; Irrigation Water; Greens Mowers; Bent Grasses; Course Management; Rakes



A Trip Down Memory Lane



Halfway through the season already and until recently still just as difficult to keep our grasses looking healthy. On the West Coast of Scotland we have had an unusually dry summer, when we have had rain it has come in downpours for a few hours but soon burns off with some sunshine and stiff northerly breezes.

During a rare visit to the east coast where I had the pleasure of playing the Eden Golf Course at St Andrews, I was surprised to see how green and healthy their golf courses looked, as normally it is the East that has the drier conditions. What an amazing piece of property, the Links Trust manages five 18 holes plus one nine hole children's course, it really is a pleasure and a privilege for the public to have the opportunity to play these wonderfully kept golf courses.

Having an hour or two spare during my visit I had a brief peek at the new St Andrews Bay and then a quick visit further up the road for a machinery demonstration with my friends at Kingsbarns. Indeed St Andrews really is a Golfer's Paradise!

I write this before I head down to Royal St George's and I look forward to meeting many of you at The Open at Sandwich. It is incredible how many people from different parts of the world visit The Open. It would probably take months to meet the same people if one made a special visit to their home patch. It will be a tough week for all concerned, and if the wind blows none more so than the players, I believe the golf course will be one of the most demanding challenges that they will have encountered this year.

Having just returned from the Championship and reread the above I'm quite proud of my prediction. One under par winning and everyone praising the quality of the course. Well done to Neil Metcalf and his fine team.

It was over 50 years ago that I first played golf at Royal St George's and at the time there was great rivalry among the local caddies from the Deal and Sandwich area. My father was Caddie Master at both the Sandwich Golf Courses for many years so I have many fond memories and friends in the area. It was while I was a member of St

George's Permit Holders that I won the Kent County Championship.

I must say there were some very fine golfers around at the time, both Deal and Sandwich caddies teams could host several scratch players for their annual challenge match. To make the team one had to be a single figure golfer and, of course, be able to drink endless pints of beer! Many caddies were characters that would tell endless tales of hardships and also humorous stories about the clients they had caddied for.

It was in my early years that I was a member of all of the caddies' clubs. We used to pay 10 shillings (the equivalent of 50 pence) per year for the privilege of playing each of these marvellous Open Championship Golf Courses - Cinque Ports at Deal; the Princes and Royal St George's at Sandwich. The only stipulation was that we had to tee off after five and before eight in the morning. Three Championship Golf Courses for £1.50 a year, how times have changed! I am looking forward to going back to renew some old acquaintances, providing they are still standing on the right side of the turf!

Finally, I would like to offer best wishes for a speedy recovery to Neil Thomas, BIGGA's Executive Director. Neil has been off work for several weeks and is currently undergoing treatment. He hopes to be back behind his desk in due course

George Brown
Chairman