

year for many golf clubs which results in a very difficult year for the workers.

Once again though I believe after speaking to various people that we have again excelled ourselves and provided courses throughout the Region that we all should be proud of. It is credit to us all that through this difficult period we have continued to provide such service and hopefully we will come through this period soon.

Congratulations to everyone who played in the Annual Northern vs. Sheffield golf match, by all accounts we played really well on the day and came away with a creditable tie. Thanks once again to Mike and Rigby Taylor for organising these days for us.

I would also like to thank everyone who attended our Autumn competition at Silkstone G.C. I hope everyone enjoyed the day and the results will be in next month's magazine.

T-shirt sales have continued to be very successful and another order has been made, if anyone else is interested please contact me on the number below.

Throughout September we have been busy organising our winter lecture programme and will hopefully be able to inform you all shortly with a full list of events. As I have said before though if anyone out there has any ideas on what they would like to see or happen at these events then please let anyone on the Committee know.

And finally.... Hillsborough GC recently held a golf day in aid of the Help the Heroes charity. £6500 was raised on the day which is a fantastic effort. Ian would like to thank Mike Brear, Glenn Sawyer and Simon Hardcastle for their efforts in organising the day.

Also a big well done to Tom Strong from Hillsborough in passing his Level 2. The only way is up now Tom.

Thanks for listening and see you next month

James Stevens
07738719614

Midland Region



East Midland

Hello all, with everyone being heads down and working hard the last month has been quiet; however there is a sprinkling of news to catch up on.

First some good news from Forest Hill GC, where long serving mechanic, Mick Gough, is making good progress and recovering well at home from his recent heart attack.

On another footing and again based around Forest Hill, Greg Skinner and I have decided that the only way to settle who was at fault for our whipping boy status in the Headland Pairs competition, will be a "Putt Out" over 9 holes at our next committee meeting at Birstall GC. News on the result in the next issue!

Seamlessly linking into Headland Pairs news, the semi finalists are now known and are as follows, Northern Section, P. Frith and N. Colley v P. Sands and M. Bunney, and Southern Section, F. Kempster and A. Porter v I. Hurst & P. Kendal. Hopefully, in the next issue, I will be able to report on the outcome of these matches and the final.

By the time you are reading this update we will be due to play our Autumn Tournament and afterwards hold our AGM, this will be at Hinckley Golf Club on Wednesday October 20, the last two events have been very well attended with numbers over 40 at each event, and more encouragingly lots of new faces. These golf days are a great chance to meet and socialise with colleagues and should be an important part of your diary, regardless of golfing ability. The cost for the day is £17 to all greens keepers and £25 to trade, 3 course evening meal included and lots of prizes. All entries to Andy De Wet, by October 13 please.

On a final note, I have always liked October, as normally it's a chance to finally ease off the cutting work, I hope everybody reading this has had a good season, as the grass slows

and memories of Autumn maintenance fade, we now look forward to winter and the projects we have planned, lets just hope the weather treats us kindly!

Anybody with any news please contact me @ pds1@btinternet.com,

Pete Smith



Midland

Well here we all are in the hopefully lovely month of October, if the weather is fine. Nice and cool at night and lovely sunny afternoons with the beautiful colours and light that this month gives us. And those who are screaming, "What about all those ****ing leaves?" They come every year, you should be geared up for them with the right machinery. With such in mind the Section would like to thank our long serving sponsors ALS. for this month's calendar page. Please consider them for your leaf collection needs and other turf grass machinery requirements, either; Tel: 01952 641 949. or visit their Website: www.amenity.co.uk <<http://www.amenity.co.uk/>> .

Well I must apologise for this rather short notation for this month, but as requested in August's edition for information etc... I have, to date, received diddly. Nothing new there then folks. Those that would complain regarding such a lack are either those that have, or those that have not. My respects and thanks to those that in the past have!

Looking forward to future information,
Sean McDade.



East of England

Hello all.

That's it, summer's over, Autumn greens renovation work done and greens put to bed for Winter. A summer of long hot spells coupled with

Assistant Profile

Our monthly look into the life of an assistant greenkeeper...

Name: David Patrick
Age: 23
Club: Marlborough GC
Position: Assistant Greenkeeper
Nickname: Dave



1. How long have you been greenkeeping? Three years

2. What was it about the career that attracted you? Always wanted to work outside and the hours are great

3. If you weren't a greenkeeper what do you think you'd be?

I would have loved to have been a pro golfer but I don't play so much now.

4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why?

Cutting fairways. I just love to criss cross them and make them look good.

5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why?

Stone picking bunkers. It's just boring and very tedious.

6. What one thing - other than a pay rise - would improve the greenkeepers' lot?

There should be competitions once a year for us greenkeepers and people play, knowing that they are saying thanks for our work

7. Hobbies?

Golf, socialising and taking the dog for a walk

8. Favourite Band?

Blink 182 and Kings of Leon

9. Which team do you support (football or otherwise)?

I'm boring when it comes to sports and don't support anyone.

10. What is your claim to fame?

I used to be in my local paper a lot for breaking course records or holes-in-one. Or just winning big golf events