



GOLF MANAGEMENT TROPHY DAY

Sponsored by
**Scotts (UK)
Professional**

A Midland Region Golf Management Trophy Day sponsored for the 12th successive year by Scotts UK Professional was held at Newark Golf Club last month.

Teams from 14 golf clubs enjoyed a great day on a superbly presented course, prepared by Course Manager, Graeme Macdonald and his staff. One or two heavy rain showers made the day more challenging, but the course stood up really well. Everyone was made to feel very welcome by all the staff and members at Newark Golf Club, and our thanks are extended to all at the Club.

The established format of four man teams playing Stableford with the best two points scores on each hole to count. The home team led by Course Manager Graeme Macdonald became the first club to win this event on home soil with 85 points; Stourbridge Golf Club was 2nd with 83 points on countback, and 3rd was Trentham Park Golf Club also with 83 points. Nearest the line on the 7th was won by Barry Gaynor, from John O'Gaunt Golf Club, (his drive was actually on the line!), and Bill Tyler, from Rothley Park Golf Club, won nearest the pin on the 17th hole. The photograph shows the winning team from Newark Golf Club receiving the trophy. From left to right: Lew White, Chairman of Green; Barre Ramsbottom, Club Captain; Graeme Macdonald, Course Manager; David Collingwood, Club Secretary, and Simon Hardcastle from Scotts.

The Midland Region of BIGGA thank Newark Golf Club for hosting the event and Scotts for their continued sponsorship.

*Peter Larter,
Midland Regional Administrator*

Rufford rootzone system used in modernisation and restoration project on Wentworth's famous West Course



Mick Higgins (left) and Jonathan Skelton (centre) of Rufford overseeing the project with Course Manager, Chris Kennedy.

Rufford's specialist rootzone system, TurfStart, is being used in the modernisation and restoration of Wentworth's West Course. Work began in June to reconstruct and modernise all 18 greens and surrounds on the West Course to a USGA specification, replacing the current poa greens with colonial bent grass.

The new greens are being constructed with TurfStart to encourage faster establishment and healthier grass.

The rootzone system is a combination of graded sand, a blend of organic amendments, Devon lignite and a controlled-release fertiliser. Supplied by Rufford from its quarry at Redhill in Surrey, the rootzone has been specially designed for the Wentworth project to full USGA specification.

In previous projects, both seed and turf grown using TurfStart has succeeded in a much faster establishment than turf grass grown using conventional construction techniques, producing a root mass up to 60%

greater and increasing the rate of ground cover by as much as 60%.

"Our TurfStart rootzone system has repeatedly proved itself in establishing healthier greens in a much shorter space of time. It lends itself perfectly to the West Course modernisation scheme and we are delighted to be part of the team assembled to deliver one of the most important projects in Wentworth's history," said Mick Higgins, Rufford's Technical Manager.

"This is something we've wanted to do for some time and I'm very pleased that the opportunity has now arisen," said Chris Kennedy, Course Manager at Wentworth Club.

"The objective is to produce a USGA specification consistent surface of the highest quality on every green on the West Course. Working closely with Ernie Els, the 7-time Champion on the West, we have reviewed each green so as to ensure that they become a fitting test for the modern day golfer while staying true to Harry Colt's original vision."



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Disease Control

A new way of thinking

Background

Sherriff Amenity, working with independent research organisations such as the Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) and with chemical manufacturers, have carried out extensive trials on the efficacy and compatibility of fungicide tank-mixes. This work was commissioned in order to provide new and innovative solutions to the turf disease problems experienced by our customers.

Tank-mixing

Mixing two or more products in the spray tank can be carried out to reduce the potential for disease resistance development. Certain tank-mixes can also improve the quality of the turf and reduce the time taken for the turf to recover from disease attack.

Fungicides are selected with different modes of action so that the resulting mixture will attack the target disease on two or more fronts. This makes it difficult for the pathogen to develop resistance to the treatment.

Tank-mix Packages

Data from each trial has been thoroughly assessed and analyzed. The results have helped us to develop our innovative Fungicide Packages, available exclusively through Sherriff Amenity. Please contact us to find out more.

Sherriff Amenity, Cambridge House, Nottingham Road, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 8AB
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Chairman's Word

National Chairman, Peter Todd, gives his thoughts for the month

For months I had been looking forward to going up to The Open Championship but breaking my leg in June put paid to that and I had to make do with watching the action on television and reading the sports pages in the newspaper.

However, despite not being able to tread the hallowed Turnberry turf, the course looked magnificent on television and the golf kept me glued to the TV all day on Sunday.

The final round started with so much anticipation of what might happen. Tom Watson, Ross Fisher, Lee Westwood - the crowds were eager to see one of them win and then just when all was going in Watson's favour the tide turned and Stuart Cink emerged the victor.

Listening to the BBC commentary acknowledge the work of the BIGGA Support Team and seeing George Brown in the presentation ceremony receive much deserved recognition for all his years service at Turnberry was great to hear. Well done

gear to distinguish him from the rest of the staff. According to the article, last September a tribunal agreed that the person had suffered unfair dismissal and disability discrimination and damages were awarded.

The lack of understanding shown to this disabled employee was inexcusable but in some ways I was not totally surprised. My eldest brother is registered disabled with Asperger's Syndrome and has also had to put up with ignorant behaviour at work and poorly trained management.

It is not uncommon for people with slight disabilities or learning difficulties to work in our field and the wider scope of horticulture. I have come across many people who excel at practical greenkeeping but



Welcome world-wide publicity to our industry

to George, Euan, all the greenkeeping staff and BIGGA volunteers who worked so hard to make the event such a success.

High profile events like The Open and venues such as Turnberry bring welcome world-wide publicity to our industry and can only create more interest in the game and encourage more to participate. Television coverage has such a powerful influence on the viewing public that what they see at these events shapes their perception of golf courses in general. After television, newspapers also generate images and stories that can influence the public and over the past year golf has attracted a range of articles including some less than desirable ones.

After picking up the sports supplement in The Daily Telegraph on the weekend of The Open Championship and enjoying reading all the coverage I turned to the main part of the paper. Before long my eye was drawn to a headline "Autistic greenkeeper forced to wear red hat awarded £78,000". My heart sank as I read the detail which referred to an autistic person enduring constant bullying at work, including being told by the Head Greenkeeper to a wear red head

struggle sometimes with reading, writing and numeracy. More help may be needed in these areas, particularly when being trained.

All golf clubs need to make sure supervisory staff are adequately trained in personnel management, making them fully aware of the pitfalls of discrimination. The adverse publicity this club received in a national newspaper was a public relations disaster as well as a costly exercise in how not to treat staff.

Increasingly golf attracts media attention related to environmental issues, particularly land and water use. There are many good stories to tell but the media will jump at the controversial ones such as the opposition to the so-called 'Donald Trump' golf development in Scotland which attracted nationwide media coverage.

Golf clubs and greenkeepers need to be seen by the public as a good custodians of the countryside and act accordingly. Clubs will need to make more effort improving and promoting their environmental credentials to get across a positive message, highlighting factors such as good habitat management

for wildlife, water recycling schemes etc.

The Golf Environment Organisation launched its new website in May to provide knowledge and guidance on environmental issues to help industry professionals and a certification programme. It's well worth taking a look as it provides lots of ideas and pointers to assist you in your job and improve your performance in this important area.

Whenever you turn on the television you are bombarded with talk of green energy, carbon neutral, organic, climate change etc. The subject of sustainability is here to stay so the quicker we review work practices and take proactive action, the less likely we are to make the wrong decisions on the course and for golf's future.

Peter Todd
National Chairman



Greenkeepers Training Committee



David Golding, Education Director,
with a monthly update from the GTC

The GTC has hosted seven workshops throughout England and Scotland, primarily to ensure staff working for the GTC Approved Centres and Colleges in Britain are comfortable with the promotion of the sustainable golf course programme to all greenkeeping students.

The workshops also gave representatives from The R&A the opportunity to explain why the benchmarking service was the online programme for the sector to gather much needed data from golf clubs.

All workshops were held courtesy of golf clubs which have embarked on the sustainable golf course programme and I am sure the clubs will not mind me mentioning their Course Managers as they truly have been and still are at the very heart of the programmes for best practice.

Our thanks also go the management boards, Secretaries and staff at the following clubs:

Wilmslow Golf Club, Cheshire – Course Manager Steve Oultram.
Burnham & Berrow Golf Club, Somerset – Course Manager Richard Whyman.
Glencorse Golf Club, near Edinburgh – Course Manager Ian Bell.
Temple Golf Club, Berkshire – Course Manager Martin Gunn & Deputy Course Manager Glenn Chivers.
Gog Magog Golf Club, near Cambridge – Course Manager Kerran Daly.
King's Hill Golf Club, Kent – Course Manager Duncan Kelso.
Cleveland Golf Club, North Yorkshire – Course Manager Ian Pemberton

The R&A representatives were Paul Seago and Dr Keith Duff (Advisory Members to the Golf Course Committee) and Steve Isaac, Director – Golf Course Management.

Steve, Paul and Keith explained the playing performance, environmental stewardship, economic performance and social responsibility issues facing golf course managers including why the sustainable golf programme should be considered by all golf clubs.

Following presentations by The

R&A representatives and the host Course Manager a course walk provided delegates with a first hand, realistic view on where the club were actually positioned on the sustainable ladder.

The Course Managers all gave excellent presentations and their knowledge, passion and enthusiasm really shone through out on the golf course.....thankyou gentlemen you made my job as the workshop "host" a pleasure.

On returning to the clubhouse the delegates from the GTC Centres and Course Managers discussed all issues outlined in the R&A presentation and whilst it is not possible for me to detail every discussion there were several generic messages which were raised at every workshop.

These will be discussed with The R&A and I know the following points will lead to much discussion among readers.

- A very positive message from all delegates working in the Centres was that at every opportunity from students on N/SVQ Level 2 programmes to HND (Scotland) and Foundation Degree, sustainability will be discussed with all levels of students.

- The sustainable golf course programme is far more than just maintaining golf courses in a manner that encourages the more desirable grasses.

- Water and Pesticide Directives from Europe are already starting to impact on golf and will increasingly become a challenge.

- Course Managers should never embark on implementing a sward exchange programme without first having employer support including the development of a Course Policy Document.

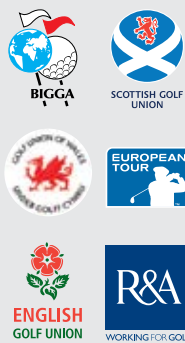
- Ongoing education and communication of the management board and members of what is involved in the sustainable programme is a MUST.

- The major golfing authorities have a significant role to play to educate golf clubs and golfers world wide e.g. The R&A, PGA European Tour, Unions, Federations.

In Brief

David reports on the recent workshops held in association with The R&A to promote the Sustainable Golf Course programme and the Benchmarking Service now available through the website:
www.bestcourseforgolf.org

The GTC is funded by:



- Non-golfers whose only experience of the game is watching televised tournaments have a perception that golf is a selfish user of land and a polluter of the environment through excessive use of water, fertiliser and pesticides.

The sustainable golf course programme promotes sound environmental stewardship and attempts to address this perception.

The GTC in association with The R&A has produced learning materials to assist with the promotion of the sustainable golf course programme and these will be made available through the GTC website.

The R&A are entering partnerships with the Home Unions and Federations within Europe to have a national specific Benchmarking Service website information.

These will be accessible through www.bestcourseforgolf.org

When it comes to the rights and wrongs of sward composition there is nothing new in this area of the sustainable golf course programme, which is the essence of basic greenkeeping good practices that have been applied for many years.

However, whilst the GTC and its Approved Centres have and will continue to promote these principles to all greenkeeping students, will the golfer (the customer) be willing to live with the potential reduction in playing surface quality during the implementation of a sustainable golf course programme?

We all have to ensure we understand all aspects of the programme whilst at the same time ensuring Course Managers jobs are sustainable!

With the permission of those involved I will be posting presentations on the GTC website.

Following the very positive feedback from delegates attending the workshops, plans are already underway for further workshops and the GTC will remain at the heart of the promotion of best practices in greenkeeper education in association with its Approved Training Centres.

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Learning & Development

Sami Collins, Head of Learning & Development,
with an update on education issues



Summertime and the livin' is easy! After some terrible summers I for one am very, very happy to see the sun and feel some heat. Is it just me or does everyone seem so much happier with life?

Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award

The Regional interviews for the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award took place in July. My thanks go to our Regional Administrators Peter Boyd, Jane Jones, Peter Larter, Clive Osgood and to our greenkeeping representatives Archie Dunn, Les Howkins MG, Chris Sealey, Tony Smith and Richard Whyman who, alongwith the Toro representatives Nigel Lovatt, George MacDonald, Larry Pearn, John Pike and Ian Sumpter selected our eight National Finalists.

The eight Student Greenkeepers who have been selected to attend the National Finals on 13 and 14 September at BIGGA House are:

Paul Bennett representing Merist Wood College

Benjamin Burrill representing Askham Bryan College

Martin Finegan representing Colaiste Stiofain Naofa

Richard Jenkinson representing Elmwood College

Peter Leach representing Myerscough College

Rhys Norville representing Coleg Gwent, Usk Campus

Oliver Pennington representing Myerscough College

Adam Wise representing Myerscough College

I'm sure you will join me in wishing all our National Finalist the very best of luck.

You Tube

Sitting at home a few weeks ago idly surfing the net, to find what I class to be the worlds funniest television adverts (for those of you who are interested it's the meerkats asking the questions 'have you seen me dancing? I mean really dancing?') I decided to search You Tube for some work related items. Having had several discussions about Dr Elaine Ingham in the past few months, I did a search and hey presto, found more than 20 short videos featuring or mentioning the lady herself. The videos clips include information on how to make organic compost, weeds, different forms of nitrogen, nutrition in food and soil biology.

I also searched for management videos using words like 'appraisal' and 'leadership' and was astounded how much information there is available (as well as a few funnies!). You Tube also features 'Channels' that you can access on a whole host of subjects and includes an open access channel from the Chartered Management Institute.

You Tube has turned out to be a very valuable resource (as well as enabling you to have a good laugh!).

Check it out at www.youtube.com.

The funding provided by Golden and Silver Key Sponsors is used to produce training and career aids, DVDs, CD Roms, field guides and provide refunds for training fees and subsidised learning and development courses. The funding also helps support seminars, workshops, courses, the lending library, careers advice, posters and manuals.

Many young greenkeepers owe their career progression to the assistance they've had from the Learning and Development Fund. An equal number of established greenkeepers have also been able to access the fund to continue their professional development thanks to the donations of the Golden and Silver Key Sponsors.

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Learning and Development Updates

Higher Education Scholarships

Supported by Ransomes Jacobsen

The most recent scholarships have been awarded to:

Derek Peat - On Line Foundation Degree - Sports Turf

Greg Knight - On Line Foundation Degree - Sports Turf

BIGGA Library

Six new books have been added to the BIGGA Library in the last month:

How to work wonders – Your guide to workplace wellness
– Liggie Webb

The body language bible
– Judi James

How to win friends and influence people
– Dale Carnegie

Confidence – the art of getting whatever you want
– Dr Rob Yeung

7 Habits of highly effective people
– Stephen R Covey

The one minute manager
– Ken Blanchard and Spencer Johnson

Thank you to our Golden and Silver Key Sponsors



Golden Key Individual Members: WJ Rogers; Andy Campbell MG, CGCS; Iain A Macleod; Tom Smith; Frank Newberry; Christopher Lomas MG, Lee Strutt MG.
Silver Key Individual Members: Ade Archer; Steven Tierney; Paul Jenkins; Iain Barr; Richard McGlynn; Steve Dixon; Hamish Campbell, Neil Whitaker, Robert Maibusch.



Lloyds acquires Hunters

Lloyds of Letchworth has bought established grinding company Hunter Grinders which will now operate as a division of Lloyds

“Like Hunter Grinders Ltd we have been supplying equipment to golf and sports clubs, stadiums and parks departments for many years,” said Lloyds Managing Director, Clive Nottingham.

“Coupled with our knowledge and understanding of relief grinding from using a Hunter precision grinder for many years on our own mowers we consider it a natural synergy for the two companies.”

Existing and new customers of Hunter Grinders will now benefit from the additional support of Lloyds and Co.

Godfreys acquires Palmers Turfcare

Kent-based John Deere dealer Godfreys of Sevenoaks has bought another John Deere dealership, Palmers Turfcare.

The Palmer’s business will initially continue to operate under the same name, with all existing staff, from its premises in East Sussex.

It will also continue to be the sole supplier of John Deere’s turf equipment range in East and West Sussex.

“Both our companies have been associated with sales and service of grounds care machinery in Sussex and Kent, and with John Deere, for many years,” said Godfreys dealer principal Peter Bateman

The acquisition has the full approval of John Deere and means that Godfrey’s now offer the company’s full range of professional grounds care and domestic lawn and garden

equipment across the whole of Kent, Sussex and south-east London”

“This deal strengthens our dealership presence in the south-east of England,” said David Hart, John Deere’s Turf Equipment Division Manager.

“Both Godfreys and Palmers are established businesses with a strong focus on first class customer and product support.”

MAPLE LEAF GOLF BUYS HORTON PARK

Paul Williams, Joint Administrator and Partner at MCR, has announced the sale of Horton Park Golf & Country Club to Maple Leaf Golf, owner of both the Chichester and Hill Barn Golf Clubs in Sussex.

Maple Leaf Golf acquired Horton Park, which went into Administration in December 2008.

Peter Townson, who has been running the site on behalf of the Administrators, said: “We are delighted with the outcome.

Maple Leaf Golf is an established golf operator with an excellent track record, it was just what this business needs.”

Maple Leaf Golf acquired Chichester Golf Club, which has two 18 hole courses, a driving range and a Par 3 course, in 1999. In 2003 it acquired Hill Barn Golf Club, the 1930’s built Hawtree designed course from Worthing Borough Council.

Richard Haygarth, who will be running

the new site, said: “We are very excited about Horton Park. It is one of the best courses in the area and fits perfectly with our existing businesses.”

Plans for Horton Park include a new irrigation system for the Par 3 course, a new fleet of greenkeeping machinery, the return of buggies and a day one purchase of 20,000 range balls.

Haygarth added: “It’s a great business with excellent staff that just needs the proper investment.”



A-PLANT LAUNCHES NEW TRENCHLESS TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT GUIDE



NORTHERN AREA SALES APPOINTMENT

Crocodile Golf has appointed Jim Fox as Northern Area Sales Manager. Responsible for the North of England as well as The Midlands and Wales, Jim joins with over 22 years experience in the amenity and grass care sector and has an enviable and extensive knowledge of outdoor products and machinery.

"It is extremely refreshing to join an enthusiastic Company with such an extensive range of desirable and quality products. Everyone who has bought their replacement mower bottom blades and cylinders has been delighted with the improved performance they have brought to the golf course greens. Manufactured entirely in the United Kingdom from hot-rolled, high carbon, hardened and tempered steel, Crocodile is definitely a brand to watch out for," said Jim.

A-Plant has published a new guide to the fleet of trenchless technology equipment and services available from the company. The Guide describes the choice and applications for trenchless technology equipment available nationally from A-Plant for use in the utilities markets, covering water, gas, power and communications throughout Great Britain.

"The Guide is a valuable new information source for the trenchless technology solutions we offer nationally and will stand the test of time. Packed with full colour pictures and diagrams of products and their applications, the Guide is an authoritative and

comprehensive brochure for A-Plant trenchless technology equipment," said Ian Johnson, A-Plant's new National Business Development Manager for Trenchless Technology.

Using A-Plant's trenchless technology equipment, customers have the benefit of the most up-to-date products from the leading manufacturers for use when they need it with no downtime, supported by experienced and fully trained, specialist trenchless technology staff at A-Plant. If training is required to operate the equipment, then A-Plant can offer customers full training at the time of equipment handover.



New Sales Manager Appointed

Wiedenmann UK has appointed Paul McIldoon as Regional Sales Manager covering Ireland and Wales. Paul (36) from Portadown, Co Armagh, has an extensive and varied background in turf care including lecturing and running an organic farm.

"I've been involved selling Wiedenmann products from the dealership side for the last seven years and it seemed like a natural progression for me.

"I'll be covering both the north and south of Ireland for Wiedenmann as well as Wales - so as well as getting to know the dealers, I'll be making regular acquaintance with the ferry crossing between Holyhead and Dun Laoghaire," he said.

David Rae, Wiedenmann UK's Managing Director said, "Paul is joining at a good time for us. We've new machines in the pipeline and steady interest across the Wiedenmann fleet in aerators, mowers and collectors so he has much to keep him busy.

"With Paul's arrival we've taken the opportunity to amend the Wiedenmann UK sales territories a little - Chas Ayres will still be covering the south east and south west up as far as Lincolnshire while Michael James will cover northern England and Scotland from Lincolnshire up," continues David Rae.

In his spare time Paul is a youth leader, enjoys landscaping, collecting die-cast models and spending time with his two young daughters.





A Warm Welcome Awaits

Burnham and Berrow plays host to the BIGGA National Championship in October and, as Scott MacCallum found out, it is sure to leave a lasting impression on those who attend.

The traditional Burnham & Berrow clubhouse has acted as a perfect backdrop to photographs of some of the country's finest amateur golfers holding silverware aloft.

Those who have won around the stunning Somerset links have certainly earned the plaudits as it is without doubt one of the best courses to be found anywhere.

It has hosted half a dozen English Amateur Championships and the course identified players of the quality of Sir Michael Bonalack and Warren Humphries as Champions, while the final of the 2006 English Amateur saw Ross McGowan and Oliver Fisher, both now making names for themselves on the European Tour, contesting the final.

This October, BIGGA's Champion Golfer will have similar photographs taken as Burnham and Berrow Golf Club hosts the two day event for the very first time.

This year, during the week of The Open Championship, the Tillman Trophy will be played at Burnham and as a counting event for the Amateur World Rankings it has attracted a quality field of 120 with the high handicap being scratch and the low handicap +5.

"We've got the Brabazon and the R&A Boys' Championship in

we sat in the clubhouse looking out over the 1st tee and 18th green.

And Richard certainly does have a lot of friends in the industry as he made a big impression on everyone he met during his year as BIGGA's National Chairman in 2006.

While he always has time for everyone and generally gives an impression of being a glass half full kind of guy, when it comes to his golf course, Richard has an attention to detail that a course of the quality of Burnham and Berrow desires.

To that end the work that has and is being carried out with regard to bunkering, overseeding and pest control has all contributed towards improvements being made to the course.

Burnham and Berrow has had input from three of the all-time great architects – Herbert Fowler, Harry Colt and Alister McKenzie while the more recent work has been carried out by Martin Hawtree.

The course is cut between some monster dunes with tough pot bunkering and large sloping greens. The four par-3s are particularly challenging and the last two holes, consisting of a 200 yard par-3 and a menacing par-4 445 yard closing hole, especially tough.

"We are a traditional out and back golf course – if you lose on the 10th green you've got an unhappy three mile walk back to the clubhouse –

"I'm looking forward to meeting all my friends during the week and hopefully, after the event, they'll still be my friends,"

Course Manager,
Richard Whyman.

2011, one in June and the other in August so it will be a manic year," said Course Manager, Richard Whyman.

"But that's the reason I came here in 2003. I could have stayed at Bude & North Cornwall Golf Club, which I'd been at for 18 years and which I still love dearly, but I always wanted the challenge of preparing a course for large events. You might not always think it is such a good idea a week before but, hopefully, the week after you've had a real buzz and thought it was the best thing you've ever done."

It will no doubt be a similar feeling that Richard and his team will be hoping to get when they welcome the field for the BIGGA National Championship, in early October.

"I'm looking forward to meeting all my friends during the week and hopefully, after the event, they'll still be my friends," joked Richard, as

and as a result all our bunkers on the way out are south facing and they used to just fry and crumble," explained Richard.

"One of the great things about BIGGA is the networking! I was at The Open Championship at St Andrews in 2005 when I was Vice Chairman and I met Chris Watson, whom I'd never met before although he works not far from here at Sherbourne.

"He put me in touch with Andy Church of Lancashire Turf Supplies up near Birkdale and we've been using their revet turf ever since. It's been really successful. We used to keep the grass on the faces of the bunkers but now when we revet the bunkers we keep the grass off the faces and it's working well. We also have sprinklers in all the bunkers facing south," explained Richard.

The overseeding policy has also reaped its rewards with a higher

ABOVE: The dune structures at Burnham & Berrow are quite outstanding



percentage of fescue now apparent on many of the greens.

"During the growing season we overseed four greens every Monday morning. It's something we started last year and it's worked really well.

"We go across with a vertidrain then brush the seed in by hand before going over with the triple brushes. We used to do it twice a year but I believe that there is less waste doing it this way and by starting at 6am and finishing at 10am no-one knows we've been out and there is no disruption to play. Our fescue percentage has increased quite a lot especially in areas which have always struggled during dry conditions said Richard with some greens increasing by 30-40%," Richard, has also overseen a 50% cut in fertiliser and pesticide in recent years

The other area where strides