

Greens and Course Report – September 2016



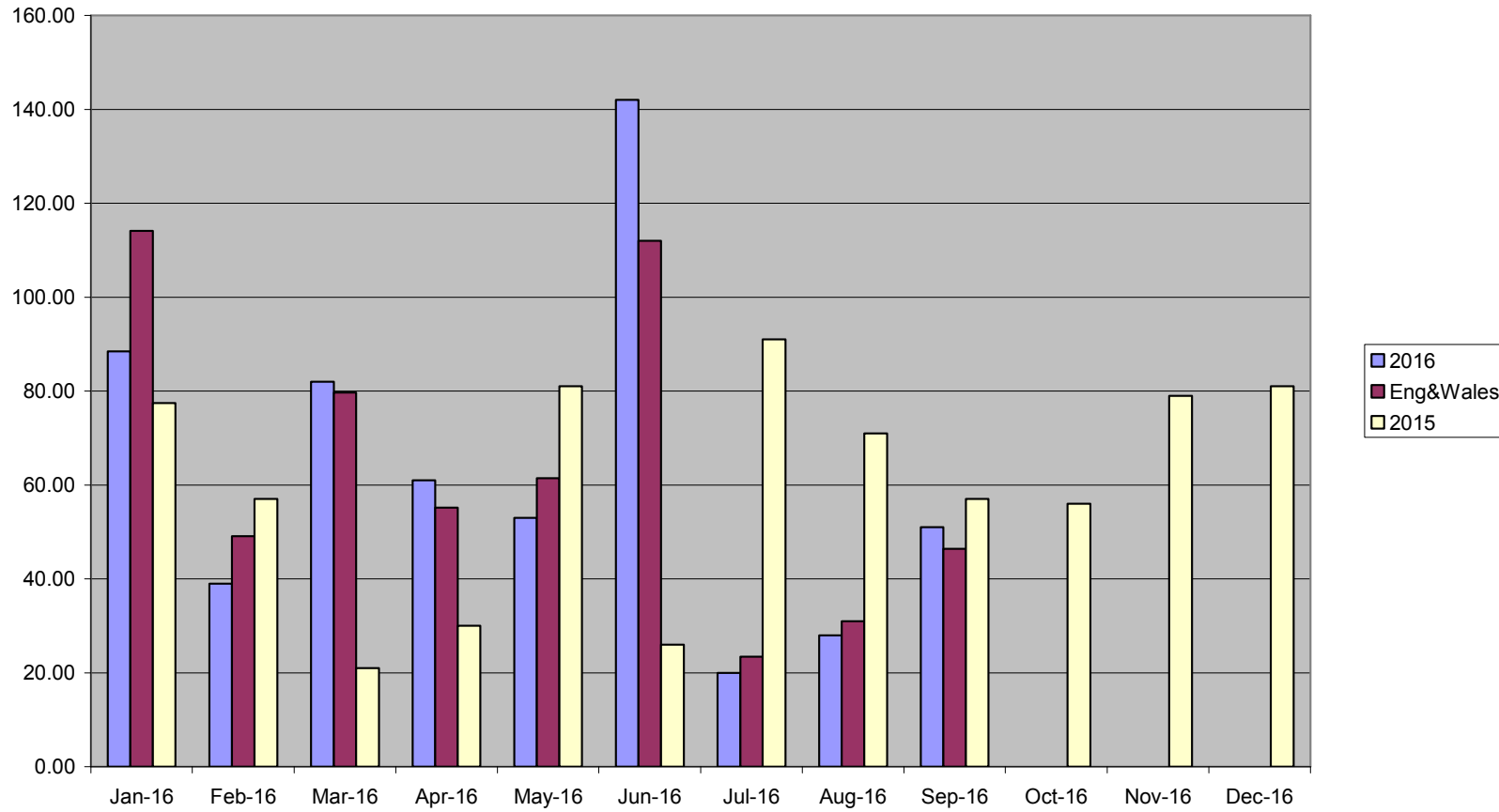
We couldn't have asked for better weather throughout September, some record breaking temperatures for the region. The greens were a little slow recovering from the renovation work due to the high temperatures but not to be detriment of play. This year we are experiencing a late autumn but inevitably fungal activity will greatly increase with cooling damp nights, Fusarium the greatest risk to greens. A preventative fungicide was applied early on in September and more fungicide will be kept in stock should we have an outbreak. Preventative measure are also increased such as keeping organic matter to a minimum, aerating as much as possible and removal of as much moisture from the surface as possible using Dew suppressants. Pesticides have now been banned for the control of Leather Jacket (Crane fly Larvae) and Chaffer grub which attack the grass roots and are also hunted from the surface by Crows and Magpies pecking the turf surface to extract the grubs, we are already witnessing the damage they can make the unsightly areas to the right of the tenth green.

An application of autumn feed is to be applied mid October which is low in Nitrogen but high in Potassium which is also good for the plants disease resistance. Height of cut has been held at 4mm making the most of the fine weather we have been experiencing but we will soon lift it to 5mm which will also help the health of the turf and disease resistance.

The tees are at present being cut twice weekly with plenty of growth, an application of worm suppressants will be applied when conditions dictate. All the tees have been fertilised prior to autumn to keep some strong growth. There have been plenty of divot repairs being carried out on the fairways. The Fairways 2nd, 3rd and 14th have been reshaped to please all standards of golfer. Temporary greens have been cut out and an application of feed has been applied. Soon the leaves will start to fall and the tasks of collecting them will begin with blowers and collectors.

Finally we have come to the end of our extraction licence for the bore hole pump for 2016 which runs from April to the last day of September this year we extracted 4.2 million litres of water compared to last year when we took 4.35 million of our allocated 5 million, we are still able to irrigate if needed but we will have to use the mains supply.

South Beds Rainfall 2016



Tom Hooper
Course Manager