The Captains’ Prizes Edition
The Captain’s Corner ... from the Lady Captain, Breda Swan

Having just drawn breath after the excitement of two wonderful days, culminating with a very worthy winner! I reflect.

My Captains Days took place on the 7th and 14th of June. The Time Sheet opened at 8.30am, and with the Ladies waiting in the wings 15mins early John McGuirk and I wished them Good Luck..
After weeks of miserable weather I was quite nervous about my Captains Days. If I get one good day, could I possibly get two. Thank you God and the Infant of Prague, and all the other Infants of Prague that hid in the bushes leading up to the 7th of June, for the sun stopped being so shy, and the sky turned well almost blue! And the wind kept its hat on. WHAT MORE COULD I ASK FOR.

I am more than halfway through my Captaincy, and there are days I still have to pinch myself, and remind myself that I am Lady Captain, an Office that I am truly honored to hold, it is an absolute privilege to represent you the Ladies of H.G.C. and I would like to thank you all for your kind words, your gifts, and high spirits that helped create such a wonderful atmosphere over the two days. My Prize was a White Gold Diamond Pendant , won by Jane McAleese, a most deserving winner. Jane accepted her prize, with an eloquent speech that brought tears to our eyes. CONGRATULATIONS JANE.

Thank you to our Professional John McGuirk who stood by my side for two days, and gently ushered everyone up onto the 1st tee. Darragh our General Manager, for all his help coordinating so so many things. The Ladies in the office Catherine and Anne. Geraldine who is always so willing to help. The two Davids – who pull, drag, and carry. Darren, and his ground staff, under the watchful eye of Gerry Barry. The course was in immaculate condition. The Flower Ladies, Mary McKenna, Phil Redmond , Margaret Grainger, Maura Mulhall, & Therese Gray, who produced a wonderful display. Thank you Des for doing the photo’s on the 1st day, for displaying them, and for the wonderful captions, also to Bert for doing the video. To our Caterers, Anthony and Lisa, and all the staff for looking after us so well.

I would like to Thank our Captain Muiris and his wife Brid for the beautiful flowers, and good wishes on the morning of my Captaincy, and for his support during the year. To my wonderful committee, each and everyone who worked so hard, there is a huge amount of preparatory work that goes into making an event like this run so smoothly. Thank you Ladies

Last but not least, my husband Alan, Thank you for being there for me.

(continued on page 4)
Scenes from the Lady Captain’s Prize Day 1
The Captain’s Corner … from the Lady Captain, Breda Swan continued

Our March Madness was a great success once again. I would like to thank Brenda Flynn and her team for all the work they put in over the six weeks. A new members night was held on May 14th, with a six hole scramble, or a clinic with Darragh, that was followed by a cheese and wine reception. A wonderful evening was had by all.

April, May, and June, the months our Ladies have been travelling home and away in our Interclub matches. They fought some long tough matches, pipped on the 19th in some cases, also some hard luck stories, but alas they are all over for this year. I would like to thank the players, the caddies, team managers, and assistant team managers for their time and commitment in playing and managing the teams. Also to all the members who came to support the teams both home and away.

Junior Girls. This Program is working out very well, A big thank you to Kate O’Neill and her team for their commitment to Junior Golf. Darragh does coaching with the younger girls on Tues. evenings, and six girls go for coaching to Sue Bamford on Wednesday evenings. We have applied, and got some funding from the I.L.G.U. I wish these young girls every success, and hopefully we will see them playing on teams one day, and be the future of Howth Golf Club.

Finally, I would like to wish you all, good golf, good health to enjoy it, and I hope to spot you all following a small white ball around the beautiful fairways of Howth Golf Club.

Yours in Golf,
Breda Swan
Lady Captain

Lady Captain Breda, supported by husband Alan, is presented with flowers by the Captain Muiris and his wife Brid
Howth Golf Club

Scenes from the Lady Captain’s Prize Day 1
Scenes & Prize Winners from The Lady Captain’s Dinner & Prize giving
Scenes & Prize Winners from The Lady Captain’s Dinner & Prize giving
Scenes & Prize Winners from The Lady Captain’s Dinner & Prize giving
Jane McAleese, has been a member of HGC, for so long, she is unsure of the actual date she joined, but we are reliably informed that it was the year following Laurie Linehan’s captaincy!! Jane joined the club with her sister-in-law Jacqui, way back when there was no BRS, and it was a struggle to get your name on that infamous white board outside the ladies locker room, at weekends!!

Jane started playing golf as a child in Connemara Golf Club, where she won the under 14 Connaught Girls Competition,…..we understand that there were 2 other Under 14’s in that particular competition.!! She was also a junior member of Sutton Golf Club. She then put golf aside for her love of horses & it was then back to golf……when the horses bolted!!

Jane, an extremely popular winner of the 2014 Lady Captain’s Prize. Staying quietly under the radar on the first day with 34pts, and bringing in a whopping 40pts on day 2, to win the most coveted prize of the Golfing year. For her efforts she lost a further 2 shots and is now playing off 16.

Jane enjoys her golf, and has featured on many of the Club Teams. She regularly practices her golf.......a leaf that many of us might take from her book!!

Jane enjoys the craic on the golf course with her great pals from The Alternate Ladies, aka.....The Workin’ Women.

Congratulations & well done Jane.
As we go to press this July we have completed our respective Captain’s Prize Final Day. June 2014, like last year, gave Howth Golf Club sunny and memorable days for both captains’ prize days. Lady Captain Breda’s Prize was first off with two perfect days.

It was then my turn to pray! Then on June 21st and 28th I followed with again two clear blue skies. Just perfect for golf.

Day 1 finished with three players on 41 pts., Joe Hanway, Bob Larkin and Liam Walsh. They were followed by thirty-seven other players with 35 pts. or better. As no one player was out on their own many were quietly confident that this was their year.

On Day 2 as the competition was coming to a close, ‘the leader in the clubhouse’ was zoning-in on a few players from the last few seeded groups. Prominent were Mark Lillis, and Paddy Cooney. Then a ‘dark horse’ dressed in a red top white slacks and red cap caught our attention. Word filtered through that Bob Larkin was doing well - he was now on the 18th green and twelve feet from the pin. You could hear the silence. The ball was on its way – and went just past the hole. A tap in? Missed! - Bob thought he had blown it. He finished with 35 pts., giving him a total 76 pts. enough for him to win by one point ahead of Paddy Cooney.

Two great days, a great competition and a very popular winner. Congratulations to Bob Larkin.

Captain Muiris is supported on Day 1 by his wife Brid

(Continued on page 12)
Scenes from the Captain’s Prize Day 1
The Captain’s Corner … from the Captain Muiris Heron continued

At the Captain’s Prize dinner I thanked and named each member involved in making the two days a marvellous success. Again I thank our staff Geraldine, Dave and Dave. Also Darragh, Catherine and Ann. The course was in the best condition ever. So thanks to Darren, Dave, Peter, Graham, Dave, and Frazer. I also thank our PGA John McGuirk who was present for both days, not forgetting Daniel and especially Jimmy Tully.

To our Lady Captain Breda and Alan, and the many lady members, thank you for your support and encouragement, which was very much appreciated.

Lastly I thank my dear wife Brid for her support, her scones went down a treat for the early competitors, unfortunately for me they were for my ‘elevens’.

Teams: I want to express my thanks to all managers and their panel of players for their enormous commitment. There were some very close results, which could have gone either way. So I would encourage all to stay involved for next year. We are still in the Best Cup, and at this point we are in the semi-final, so please go and show your support by attending the match. The champagne is on ice.

So now let’s move on and look forward to the rest of our year.

Mile Buiocheas do gach duine.

Captain Muiris Heron

Former Captains gather for the annual competition and dinner on June 13, 2014

Standing L-R: M Gray, T Thunder, D O’Brien, D Mahony, A Finlay, D Coleman, B Byrne, P Crosbie, G Murphu, B Dillon, E Brennan, P Redmond, D Toomey, C Mulhall, P Archer.

Sitting L-R: J Carberry, D Byrne, A Dorgon, M Heron, L Crowe, C McMahon, W Moen, S Hanrahan, B O’Brien
Scenes from the Captain’s Prize Day 1
Scenes from the Captain’s Prize Day 2, Dinner & Prize giving
Scenes from the Captain’s Prize Day 2, Dinner & Prize giving
Scenes from the Captain’s Prize Day 2, Dinner & Prize giving
Scenes from the Captain’s Prize Day 2, Dinner & Prize giving
In conversation with …
Robert Larkin,
winner of Captain Muiris’ prize

‘Ring me anytime, I am floating on air’.

Once again Howth golf club has produced a very popular winner of the coveted Men’s Captain’s Prize, Bob Larkin. The 98th winner of the Prize.

As a member of Howth Golf Club for 38 years, this is by far Bob’s biggest win. There have been some fourball wins and runners up in monthly medals but this is the greatest thrill of Bob’s golfing life.

Day one was played in the company of Matt Smyth and Finian Grimes. Bob scored a fabulous 41 points which left him as joint leader after day one, alongside Joe Hanway and Liam Walsh. With the seeding system this then became the partnership for day 2. The advice given to Bob was that if he could record a 36 on day 2 he would likely win the Prize.

The preparation for day 2 was not unlike any other round of golf, out for a drink on Friday night, as usual, early to bed, as usual and no practice before the round, again as usual for Bob. The second round got off to a flying start with Bob on 26 points after 11 holes, Joe was saying nothing as his playing partner marking the card. No one wanted to create extra pressure as the round progressed. But pressure did start to tell and the back nine was completed with 15 points in total. Completing the 18th Bob was sure that he had blown it, missing a few putts and recording a 6. But the total for the round was 35, giving a total for the event of 76 points.

When it was later confirmed to Bob that he had won, he was ‘totally taken aback’ and ‘over the moon’. Actually he was in a state of shock. His first thought was to head to his son Karl’s house to break the news and ask for his support that night at the presentation dinner. Both Karl and his daughter in law Rebecca joined Bob for what he described as a wonderful night.

The Captain’s Prize a beautiful crystal lamp takes pride of place in the living room. Bob has been overwhelmed with messages and phone calls of congratulations and is still floating on air after his great win.

Congratulations Bob.
The Council has met on 5 occasions so far this year and the Officers have met once with the Trustees. The membership continues to be a matter for concern though the Marketing Team have been very active and we have taken in 46 members to date. We have, however, lost a number of members and also suffered financial losses due to membership movements. The half year results due soon will give us a good indication of how the year will pan out. We have been awarded substantial grants to improve energy efficiency and we will shortly bring our recommendations to the Council for approval before we commit to any spends. As part of this we are looking into other areas where we have committed or need to make improvements so that we can make cash flow projections for 2014 and 2015.

Congratulation to Catherine McCann, our club Administrator on the birth of her first grandchild Penny. Penny arrived on June 7th weighing 9lbs to the great relief of mammy Emma and daddy Mark!
The Social Butterfly

After a successful run of Social evenings, the last event before the summer was held on Wednesday 21st May. The play presented was The Man Who Wore Women’s Shoes. It was very well attend and thoroughly enjoyed by the members and friends who were able to attend. The Social Committee will now take a rest until the autumn and our thanks to Eileen Gilroy and her Committee for the work they have put in to give the Club a varied programme of social events.

The Friday nighters commenced in April and gives all members, and particularly new members, the opportunity to invite a friend, partner or husband (and on some occasions all three!!!!) for a round of 9 or 12 holes of golf followed by supper in the Club. It is a very social occasion and gives the opportunity for members to get to one another in a relaxed atmosphere.

On Wed. 28th May Ladies prize giving night took place in the Club and the details of the major prize winners are outlined in a separate article. The prize giving was followed by a buffet meal. After the meal a dazzling fashion show was presented by Carmel Brennan with a magnificent selection of outfits from her boutiques, Ellen B in Clontarf and Stepz in Malahide. Our thanks to our very elegant models Mary Judge, Fiona McMorrow, Carole Reid, Mary Gray Fitzpatrick, Maura Dillon, Anne Marie Sheehan and Bronwyn Reilly. The girls were super models and the photo tells it’s own story!
The Social Butterfly continued

The Lady Captain Breda’s Competition took place on the 7th and 14th June. The weather on the first day (7th June) started dull but improved very quickly until one felt they were golfing in Spain or Portugal. The second day on 14th June was sunny and warm from start to finish. All the Ladies were spoilt by the Lady Captain. Each lady received a lovely black golf towel with the Howth Golf Club emblem on it plus refreshments for our round of golf. The final day was very exciting for all of those golfers who were on the leaderboard.

Lady Captain Breda’s magnificent prize was a diamond oblong pendant (representing the green) with a solitary diamond (representing the golf ball) set in the corner of the oblong hung on a double chain of white gold. This beautiful prize was deservedly won by Jane McAleese who had a super score of 33 points on the first day and 40 points on the second day. Congratulations and good wishes were expressed to her by all the lady members of the Club. The runner up was Louise Mahon, the Gross Prize was won by Jassy O’Siochain and third was Gillian Guinness. There were many other prize winners who were all very fortunate to receive an array of beautiful prizes from the Kilkenny Shop and their photos are all set out on a separate page.

Lady Captain Breda being supported by husband Alan on Day 1 of her Captain’s Prize
The Social Butterfly continued

Captain Muiris Heron’s competition took place on Saturday 21st and Saturday 28th June. Saturday 21st June was a magnificent day and Saturday 28th June was equally kind weather wise. Captain Muiris gave a beautiful prize of a Tall Waterford Glass Table Lamp. The winner of this most coveted prize was Bob Larkin playing off a handicap of 22 who had 76 points. There were many other beautiful prizes which were won by many deserved winners. Paddy Cooney was second with 74 points, just piping Paddy Mahon who got 3rd on the last 9. David Quinn won the gross. The Captain’s dinner also welcomes the ladies to join their men folk and they add an extra sparkle to these very special celebrations. An enjoyable night was had by all.

![Captain Muiris being supported by wife Brid, Lady Captain Breda and Alan Swan](image)

The Captains’ Charity Days will take place on Fri Aug 22nd & Sat Aug 23rd. The designated Charity is LauraLynn, Ireland’s only children’s hospice. This charity was founded by Jane and Brendan McKenna who began fundraising for a hospice facility after tragically losing both their daughters Laura and Lynn. LauraLynn Charity now cares for children with life limiting conditions and their families by providing transitional care, home support, respite and end-of-life care. Sponsorship and support would be very much appreciated for this very deserving charity. Book your Tee Time now!
The next big event in the Club will be Open Week from Sunday 6th July until Sunday 13th July. This is an ideal opportunity for all members, both male and female to promote Howth Golf Club to their families, friends and acquaintances.

Saturday 30th August will be the Husband and Wife Competition which takes place once a year in the Club. This very enjoyable event is followed by dinner and prizegiving in the Club. Darina and Bernard McGuirk are very kindly organising this very popular event and would appreciate the support of the members.

Congratulations to Catherine McCann, our club administrator on the birth of her first grandchild Penny. Our best wishes to mammy Emma and daddy Mark.

A very important occasion took place on Friday 20th June when Kate Linehan, the Honorary Secretary of the Ladies Committee tied the knot to Michael Brosnan in the Church in Howth.

Kate was a beautiful bride and Michael a most handsome groom. We all wish them every happiness in their future life together.
### Results Round-Up

#### Ladies Section

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Winners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Granard Foursome</td>
<td>March 22, 2014</td>
<td>Mary Judge &amp; Audrey Mc Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phillie McHenry Trophy</td>
<td>March 29, 2014</td>
<td>Pauline Mulligan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ria Kenny</td>
<td>April 9, 2014</td>
<td>Class A: Julie Doherty</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Class B: Mary Lowe</td>
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<td>PGA Tankard</td>
<td>April 30, 2014</td>
<td>Mary Tynan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Spoons</td>
<td>May 7, 2014</td>
<td>Brenda Flynn &amp; Louise Mahon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lady Captain’s Prize</td>
<td>June 7 &amp; 14, 2014</td>
<td>Winner: Jane McAleese</td>
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<td>Runner-Up: Louise Mahon</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Gross: Jassy O’Siochain</td>
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#### Men’s Section

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<tr>
<td>Tom Nicoll Trophy</td>
<td>March 23, 2014</td>
<td>Paddy Cooney</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Fintan’s Cup</td>
<td>April 26 &amp; 27, 2014</td>
<td>Karl Hersssens</td>
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<tr>
<td>PGA Tankard</td>
<td>May 11, 2014</td>
<td>Raoul Holden</td>
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<tr>
<td>President’s Cup</td>
<td>June 15, 2014</td>
<td>Pat King</td>
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<tr>
<td>Captain’s Prize</td>
<td>June 21 &amp; 28, 2014</td>
<td>Winner: Bob Larkin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Runner-Up: Paddy Cooney</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Gross: David Quinn</td>
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#### Mixed

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Winners</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ivy Hadden Mixed Foursomes</td>
<td>May 31, 2014</td>
<td>Myra Keavney &amp; Sean O’Sullivan</td>
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Winner of the Phillie McHenry Trophy, Pauline Mulligan pictured here with Lady Captain Breda & Phillie’s daughter, Aideen Jeffers.

PGA Tankard Winner Mary Tynan with Lady Captain Breda.
Young Guns

The last week in June got the ball off the tee with An Introduction to Golf course for juniors. Darragh, with his talented team (including Robbie our current junior captain), hosted a great week of coaching and fun for the young recruits who equally enjoyed and learned the basics of golf - the weather was a big help too. The week ended with a small reception where certificates and prizes were presented to them. This needless to say was warmly received by the next generation of new junior members. Well done and thank you to Darragh and his team of helpers.

Kate O’ Neill is the Junior Convenor for girls and is ably assisted by Lesley Phelan, Pauline Quinn & Deirdre McSwiney – (new helpers always welcome!). The junior girls are receiving coaching from Sue Bamford over in the old Portmarnock driving range every Wednesday evening which is progressing very well. Kate’s aim for the eleven to twelve year olds is to secure them a golf handicap by the end of the summer which will be a challenge for the juniors and the team....good luck to all. In house coaching for the all juniors continues on Tuesday evenings with Darragh.

Mossy Connolly is the Junior Convenor for the boys and is ably assisted by Errol Goulding. The following is their report:

Under 15 Squad – Michael Fitzgibbon, Tom Crinion, Mikey Duignan, Time Farrelly & Tristan Farren-Dunne. This team lost in Beaverstown (4-1) but won their matches in Clontarf (5-0), and against Donabate (5-0) and Raganstown (3-0) at home.
Irish Junior Foursomes (u18) Squad – John Smyth, Brendan Smyth, Ciaran Kelly, Robbie Hynes & Conor Collier qualified in Ashbourne (7th of 24 teams) but lost to Balbriggan by 1 hole.

Congratulations to John Smyth down to a handicap of 4 and thanks to all our junior ball spotters on The Captain’s Day. Junior match play championship continues over the summer and the Junior Captain Robbie Hynes’ prize is July 15th. Coaching for the all juniors continues on Tuesday evenings with Darragh in the practice area. Attendance at the Tuesday Junior Competition is disappointing, averaging 9-12 juniors and we would encourage more juniors to come down and play.

Finally, we would like to sympathize with Mary Rose Barry on the death of her husband Ray, who was on our junior committee and a sponsor of junior golf. Ray was the owner of Finglas driving range where our juniors were coached from March – May at a very reduced rate. May he rest in peace.
New Kids On The Block

Welcome to Howth Golf Club
Mirja and Jochen Wenski!

“We joined the 6 Week Introduction to Golf in April as most of our neighbours play and talk about golf and we thought that we would give it a try. The lessons were very good and after some time spent on the driving range we have now ventured out onto the course. The BRS online time sheet are very good as we can pick quite times on the course to give ourselves some space to get to grips with the game. Members on the course are friendly and Mirja is glad of the tips she is receiving.

Unlike our other sport, sailing, golf is quite frustrating as there is no one else to blame when you play badly. We see ourselves playing more in the winter to be ready for next year.”

The Wenskis took part in our 6 Week Introduction to Golf Membership Program along with 35 other participants under the tutelage of our General Manager Darragh Tighe who was ably assisted by Marketing Convenor Brenda Flynn, Gillian Guinness, Carmel Walsh, Pauline Quinn, Maura Dillion, Joan O’Connell, Jacyntha Cooke, Fiona Staunton, Chairperson Liam Cahill, Tom Robinson and Vice-Captain Joe Richardson.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members who have joined since March to the end of June …

Bill Aston  Killian O'Mahony  Grainne Mallon  John Gallagher  Hugh Moore
Patrick Coady  David O’Brien  Carol Scott  Sue Murphy  Sarah McDonnell
Peter Lynsky  Adrienne Kelly  Denise Brett  Nina Salveta  Jochen Wenski
Mirja Wenski  Marita Connaughton  Brendan Martin  Paul Gaffney  Ronan Mannion

In And Around The Greens
from the Greens Convenor, Gerry Barry

The course is in generally very good condition with our main concern being adequate irrigation of greens and tees. Our irrigation programmes are computer controlled but are supplemented by hand watering as required. Recently a new pump and pipeline were installed to replace older poorly functioning ones so that the water level in the ‘tank’ can be maintained. The current dry spell has shown up some deficiencies in our irrigation system and these will be addressed as soon as possible.

Members will have noted that stakes have been removed from our spinneys apart from some remaining guy wires, so no more free drops!

There is a need to improve our signage on the course particularly to help visitors and this matter is being addressed -- members are asked to respect signs and replace those which maybe removed in the course of play.

The Greens Committee have been impressing on staff the need to improve the quality of hole cutting and there has been a noticeable improvement --- members are asked not to remove balls using putters and to replace flagpoles carefully.

It is the intention to hollow tine (poll fork) all greens in early September as it is now nearly two years since this work was previously carried out.

The areas burned last summer are slowly regenerating but it will be some years before the original vegetation cover will be restored -- a couple of ‘moist’ Irish summers would help!

A big thank you to Des Gilroy who provided the photographs from both the Captains’ Days. Also thanks to Angela McCudden for her photos from the ladies prize giving – our Tee Times would be much less colourful without their help and talents!