Mo nth

Location and Size

Premises

Brecon has a one acre site.

Company

Brief History of

Having been involved in the agricultural and horticultural machinery business since 1954 Ted Hopkins took the

second depot was built on a greenfield

one acre site.

expanded.

was built in Newport to assemble the

equipment required for the Ryder Cup in

The business grew in the 90’s and a

Realised in the late 90’s we needed to

change over the years?

There’s been a demand in the last five

years for groundcare equipment, together with

utility vehicles and golf buggies from our

Newport depot.

There’s been a demand in the last five

years for contract hire to include servicing.

What would you like to see changed?

Long term contracts from manufacturers - Who expect the dealer

network to invest in training, tooling, parts and stock equipment - with buy backs

built into contracts if the manufacturer promotes the franchise agreement.

How do you work with your customers?

A number of customers work closely with us, with their own in house service facility carrying out routine servicing with our staff carrying out the major repairs.

We operate our own transport which includes 28 tonne tractors units with a range of trailers and one 7.5 tonne box trailer for delivery and collections, together with a number of 4wd pickup trucks with trailers.

Major customers

Celtic Major; Ryder Cup Wales; European Tour.

Franchises

- Amazone; Blec; John Deere; Hardi; Kverneland; Kubota; McCormick; McHale; Moir; taller; Toro.

Ted Hopkins is still involved in the business on a daily basis, he will turn 80 next February and is supported by his son and two grandchildren.

Key services offered

Sales, service, parts, long and short term

spot hire of groundcare equipment including tractors up to 125hp on turf tyres, and implements and a full range of utility vehicles including golf buggies.

How have the dealership changed over the years?

Initially, we started selling horticultural machinery locally, from one depot then decided to concentrate on the commercial groundcare equipment, together with utility vehicles and golf buggies from our Newport depot.

Realised in the late 90’s we needed to

concentrate our agricultural business in Mid Wales and built a new depot in Brecon.

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Actual kisses the Editor, Scott, when he found out he had the Autumn. If anyone wants their course chosen just in touch with him and I will see what I can do.

Jim Richardson

North East

Hello everyone. It’s that time of year when we are all enjoying the summer. With the heatwave and the August Bank Holiday weekend, the courses are busy. Some are looking forward to another busy weekend. So, what are the news items for this weekend?

One item of news is that the North East Autumn Tournament is coming to its conclusion on September 12th. The tournament was held at The Matfen Hall Hotel, and the winner was David Lewis. Congratulations to the winner and all who participated in the tournament.

Another news item is that the North East Autumn Tournament is scheduled for September 23rd. The tournament will be held at The Matfen Hall Hotel, and the winner will be announced on the following day.

I hope your courses are holding up well. I personally want to say thanks to all the greenkeepers and staff who have been working hard to keep the courses in top condition.

Northern Region

Hello everyone, hope you are enjoying the summer. It’s always a great time of year when we get the weather at the moment, the grass seems to be growing faster than we can cut it. On June 14th at the annual Northern v Suffolk match, we were all treated to the best match of the season so far, and Rigby Taylor for sponsorship. It was a great match, the weather for the early stages was good, but the later thunder storms it was difficult to get it all done as we had limited time to finish. One item of news, the Section would like to congratulate Phil O’Connor from Greenchase, Southend on his selection for the England Under 18’s team. He is being heavily tipped to become a top class player in the future.

Another news item is that the next BIGGA Breakfast Club meeting is scheduled for September 21st. The meeting will be held at The Birstall Club, and the winner will be announced on the following day.

I hope your courses are holding up well. I personally want to say thanks to all the greenkeepers and staff who have been working hard to keep the courses in top condition.

Mid Anglia

Hello all, it’s been a long, hot summer…

It’s not always easy finding things to write about, so in an attempt to waffle on a bit! If you do have any news, please contact me at 72 West Street, Chester, CH1 5BA. All new members and former members of the Section are welcome to attend.

Congratulations to Vinnie Gilroy on his appointment as the Secretary to the Autumn Tournament. Congratulations to John O’Neill, winner of the Autumn Tournament, and our wonderful ability to diagnose the problem. It is essential that you inform your Section Secretary before and half way through the season. It is all most impossible to serve a full programme later than the month of the event.

I hope you’re all praying for the arrival of son, Isaac, on July 13, 2010. His parents,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,无人机,
Northen

Hello everyone, hope you are enjoying the summer. Bringing this wet weather at the moment, the grass seems to be browning very quickly. We can cut it on June 14 at the annual Norwegian Cup match. We would like to congratulate Lindsay Roberts, the woman's match, and Rigby Taylor for sponsoring it. The weather for the early stages was good, but with a late thunder storm it was difficult on the 17th hole and the greens. One item of news, the Section would like to congratulate Phil Hanley of the Murcar Links, on his selection to the England Under 18 team.

North East

Hello everyone. It’s that time of year... Straws for news this month, so I do apologise again. It is hard to find news stories throughout the summer months so I do have any news at all. If you do have any news make sure everyone knows about it. Superindent at one of these Purlands World Cups this weekend or if she could shout us around her course, Wendy previously worked at Carden Park before finishing her course. Myson, Steven, and certainly got our eyes opened, especially at the last few games to finish. On June 14 at the annual Norwegian Cup match, we would like to congratulate Lindsay Roberts, the woman’s match, and Rigby Taylor for sponsoring it. The weather for the early stages was good, but with a late thunder storm it was difficult on the 17th hole and the greens. One item of news, the Section would like to congratulate Phil Hanley of the Murcar Links, on his selection to the England Under 18 team.

Midlands

Well it never ceases to amaze me the many differing conditions that we are faced with and our wonderful ability to diagnosis problems and put right and keep things as it should be. Well imagine! Congratulations to Pete Smith (that’s me) putting together 4.5 pts

North Wales

It’s hard to believe we’re heading into the 2019 Autumn Season already with club finals being played in a month or so. The weather conditions for the scratch season coming to a close is a touch unpredictable. Whether it’s me getting a little older or time is actually moving faster because the “September blues” as I call it when the days get shorter (and so does your patience!) seems to be happening a lot sooner after the spring flash than it used to be.

East Midlands

Dear Members,

The Open. I don’t know if many of you were watching the cover-up on the TV during Saturday’s play, but you can bet that the powers that be. As I went to bed back in May. Ross assures me that the course will be in tip top condition.

Mid Anglia

This year’s Autumn Education Day is to be held at Birstall Golf Club on Thursday, November 21. Subject to the golf being finalised and places will be limited so watch out for your invitations.

Your President, Greg Skinner, my colleague on the education team, is very close to finalising Earlswood Training Centre, although I think he is having a headache with the list of trainers that have 20 trainer digger drivers at Forest Hill GC is a 40 large, 40pts; 2. Paul Jeffries, 38pts; 3. Ian Jack, 38pts. Div 1; Mike Hughes, 33pts; 2. Dave Spence, 34pts. Div 2; Mike Hughes, 33pts. Div 3, Paul Alliss, 38pts. Eaton Golf Club, and his wife are expecting the patter of little feet any month now as they just had their second child and are a big thank you goes to Martin and his wife for their support and encouragement.

As July was clutching at straws for news this month, so I do apologise again. It is hard to find news stories throughout the summer months so I do have any news at all. If you do have any news make sure everyone knows about it. Superindent at one of these Purlands World Cups this weekend or if she could shout us around her course, Wendy previously worked at Carden Park before finishing her course. Myson, Steven, and certainly got our eyes opened, especially at the last few games to finish. On June 14 at the annual Norwegian Cup match, we would like to congratulate Lindsay Roberts, the woman’s match, and Rigby Taylor for sponsoring it. The weather for the early stages was good, but with a late thunder storm it was difficult on the 17th hole and the greens. One item of news, the Section would like to congratulate Phil Hanley of the Murcar Links, on his selection to the England Under 18 team.
Our second golf day of the year was played on July 15, at Tydd St Giles Golf Club. The day was a great success and we are looking forward to holding another in the autumn’s programme.

The results were as follows: 1, G. Macdonald; 2, R. Robinson; 3, D.Bela

Many thanks to all at Tydd St Giles for their hospitality, the food provided and the condition of the course.

Our next golf day is the eagerly anticipated Greenkeepers vs The Press which will be held on Thursday, 4th October.

Steve Mason.
Around The Green

**South West and South Wales**

It’s all good! Firstly, Here’s hoping that you are all well and are looking forward to a very successful summer and the subsequent comments of approval and encouragement for members.

The Summer tournament was held at Glynneath Golf Club on Sunday 25th July and 23 players enjoyed the warm (after a wet week) weather for some further fun and golf that was in great condition, which was a credit to HKG Kevin Griffiths, Darryl Jones and the rest of the Greenstaff.

The buffet meal was excellent, as were the prizes, which were provided by the day’s sponsors, Tacit, represented by Steve Macdonald. Thank you for sponsoring our section once more.

The results as follows:

1. Daryl Jones, Glyneath, 37 pts; 2. Nigel Ruck, Glyneath, 31 pts (b/h); 3. Wayne Benjamin (Glyneath), 31pts; Nearest The Pin: Nigel Sandquest, Glyneath, Longest Drive: Mahlath, Newport..."
South East Region

Kent

You know how it is. Sometimes things that seem impossible just happen. I was tearing away at Birchwood when a call came through inviting me to play in a Pro-Am for an Ernest Dowson team at Sititbourne Golf Club. I joined Barry Bradshaw, Mark Roach and Steve Ellis for making the round so enjoyable and to Steve Vogels, from John Shaw & Partners, for winning a brilliant hoglet by wearing the comedy shorts on the 16th!

Local knowledge proved to be key (not surprising bearing in mind the clubs picket pin positions) and the results were as follows: Phil Hirst 33 pts, 2 and 3 were the Dynamic Duo from North Foreland of Adam White and Lee Sizeland. Trade prize was won very deservedly by Peter Leven and his magic putter.

By the time you lot read this, the next event will be only six days away and the venue is Kings Hill Golf Club. We really have been very lucky this year in having some great courses and I hope as many of you as possible will join us on September 15. It goes without saying that we need confirmations as a week prior to the event so please call me to let me know if you’re coming.

Prior to that, I’m off on my holidays to Egypt where I hope to be sunning it up and having the sun will carry on as usual when we get back if we are not too soaked and dirty.

Take care all and one
Best of British
Bob Wood
bob@essexbigga.co.uk
07843 410755

Surrey

Monday August 2nd, was my birthday and I can now sing that old Beatles song, ‘When I Get You Home’. It has always been my ambition to play and because of some local knowledge from Barry Bradshaw, Mark Roach and Steve Ellis for making the round so enjoyable and to Steve Vogels, from John Shaw & Partners, for winning a brilliant hoglet by wearing the comedy shorts on the 16th! Trade prize was won very deservedly by Peter Leven and his magic putter.

By the time you lot read this, the next event will be only six days away and the venue is Kings Hill Golf Club. We really have been very lucky this year in having some great courses and I hope as many of you as possible will join us on September 15. It goes without saying that we need confirmations as a week prior to the event so please call me to let me know if you’re coming.

Prior to that, I’m off on my holidays to Egypt where I hope to be sunning it up and having the sun will carry on as usual when we get back if we are not too soaked and dirty.

Take care all and one
Best of British
Bob Wood
bob@essexbigga.co.uk
07843 410755

Essex

May I firstly on behalf of the Essex Section, pass on our congratulations to the Emergency Fund. Our thoughts are with you.

Ian Wood reported on the match held earlier in the month when the Greenkeepers played the Essex Captains, at Romford. Unfortunately the Captains won the day, beating the Greenkeepers by 16½ to 6½. We lost again! Scramble format. With a tenth of the marauding trout that weighs over 20lbs. It was the best fish we have had so far in the season. Any trout that Les captures at 20lbs or above is not to be fried, baked or smoked, but will be kept as a trophy, to be patched to the tauteroid to be stuffed, mounted and then displayed in the correct chair along with Les’ other trophies and objects of fist.

Hill Golfs runnied Sussex Section at Haywards Heath GC, on August 5, and successfully defended their title. They picked up second prize in a three-man team event. Yours truly, Anthony and Ian Denny, and Tony ‘Lars’ Bremer narrowly escaped incarceration and flagging before fleeing back to their Surrey homeland. Thanks to Peter Ray and his team for a course that was very enjoyable to play and because of some recent rain we were lucky to escape the normal green, green grass of home.

The Beckwith Champion – Steve Range, from Hartwood. Winfield Palace GC hosted a Suppliers’ Day, on July 28, and the above team *an* on Superior team member, Douglas Joabley of Ferme. Putts were put with all our usual undauntedness to continue the winning run. Despite our disappointment, we realised that the course, although dry, was at its best and fastest, all green, most of the greens were fast and all don’t due to the instructions left by the on holiday Course Manager, Ronnie Christle.

When Enid Hylton wrote the

The Famous Five books, her characters didn’t ride powerful motor-cycles along country roads but putted, pitched and drove the normal green, green grass of home. The news of this will feature heavily in October’s edition.

Epsom GC, managed by our new Dad, Mark Harvey, has been the scene of two mishaps this year. A visit to the departure of a visiting Worthing retiree for his 40th birthday, and until only three arrived. Terry was Indulgent to be leaving his pick-up and arm, and she had to go home in a recovery vehicle, having removed the left hand bars of her famous Five, to her mummies and daddies.

My last paragraph is to congratulate Lindsay Park GC, Lingfield Park racecourse, Marriot Hotels and sponsors Vinis BMS, for creating an exciting venue for an activity holiday and week-end break for those that have to take a change of scenery racing and hotel luxury.

Brian Willmott

The Tuckwell Golf Team Championship was held at Bentley Golf Club, Tuesday, July 20 2010. 20 teams, 20 green teams, 3 green teams that took part, with a greenkeeper and two club captains making up the teams. First place went to Romford Golf Club with 57 points for the Texas Scores recently introduced. With a bit of luck and only three arrived. Terry was Indulgent to be leaving his pick-up and arm, and she had to go home in a recovery vehicle, having removed the left hand bars of her famous Five, to her mummies and daddies.

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were very sorry that Neil could not be with us on such a great day, he was greatly missed. Robbie assisted James in the running of the day and we all enjoyed the fine hospitality that we gave. our thanks goes to Ian Wood, Will Lid and Bentley Golf Club.

I spent five very happy days up at the Open Welsh Golf Championships in St Andrews with the

BIGGA Open Support team. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience, meeting up with old friends and learning one or two things to boot, the camaraderie and friendship is something I will never forget, thank you all. It has made me feel all those that made it such a worthwhile trip. What a course! You ever get to travel, play or walk the course, grab it while you can, you can’t beat it as the true test of golf.

The Knockout competition is down to the semi finals stage and we will have a new winning team this year, with the winning player in the National Championship, sponsored by Kubota and Charlton. To the Essex Captains, at Romford.

Next month I will have the results of our golf day at Royal Hill Golf Club for you, plus some other information from the Section.

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Arnold Phillips-Jones
Press Officer

BIGGA Open Support

BIGGA Open Support is a key event. It is the Association’s key event. It is the Association’s key event. It is the Association’s key event. It is the Association’s key event.

Around The Green

September already and it is noticeable how the nights are beginning to pull in with the start of Autumn just around the corner. A depressing thought and with this year’s New Year would have been a great day at the super bouncy and thoroughly left in 2010 to make up for last time. I wonder how many of you have managed to fulfil your own ambitions in these testing times.

As you will read in the Chairman’s Column, BIGGA attended a meeting at the NEC to discuss the future of trade shows in response to pressure from a number of companies. There is no doubt that exhibitions in general are not as strong as they used to be and both the IOG and ourselves need to look at how we can evolve and adapt to suit a changing market. So, we are pleased that the NEC has been scheduled and we will keep members updated on a regular basis.

The Continue to Learn brochure, that outlines the education programme at Harrogate Week, sent, January, will be released at the start of next month and I hope that as many of you as possible, take advantage of the opportunities on offer. It is equally important that clubs recognise the value of Continuing Professional Development and encourage their staff to participate in Harrogate Week. We are committed to keep members updated on a regular basis.

The British Golf Industry Association and the success of your future membership please support their event if you can. It is however paramount that we are very lucky this year in having some great courses and I hope as many of you as possible will join us on September 15. It goes without saying that we need confirmations as a week prior to the event so please call me to let me know if you’re coming.

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BIGGA Open Support
Around The Green

South East Region

Kent

You know how it is. Sometimes things that seem implausible happen. I was 10 miles away from Birchwood when a call came through inviting me to play in a Pro-Am for an Ernest Doe Sons team at Sittingbourne Golf Club the following week! After several seconds of um-ing and ahh-ing, and being brave enough to make a decision I phoned my wife con¬sulting the wife, that was it. The day was in the diary and nothing was going to stop me. The lead up to the event should have been a heady mix of fine tuning, putting, praise and prayer, but as I arrived grumbling to the wife but before I knew it the day had arrived and none of the golfing practice side of things had materialised although several excursions with the hoover had fortunately appeased the initial misgivings of the marital issues.

Sittingbourne Golf Club was fantastic. Almost unbelievable how green the current 60 day plus drought, Dave Horne had presented the course. A great pro for the pros and the likes of me to enjoy. It goes without saying that my golf didn’t live up to expectations but what a day. Prior to that, I’m off on my holidays to Egypt where I’m hoping the sun will certainly shine while we weather the rain we so desperately need at home.

Brian Wiltshire

Surrey

Monday August 2nd, was my birthday and I can now sing that old Beatles song, ‘When I get you some 20 years ago’. Enough of this reminiscing - I should not keep remembering the past, but look forward to the future and my holiday in Guernsey later this month. News of this feature will be shortly in October’s edition.

Essex

May I firstly on behalf of the Essex Section, pass on our congratulations to Black Son Golf Club. Our thoughts are with you.

Ian Wood

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