A good turn out of 30 people came to hear Brian Zorick, of the USGCA Greens Section, speak at Ellonwood on April 21. Brian gave an interesting slide show showing some of the changes made to Pebble Beach for the 2010 US Open and at Congressional for this year’s Championship.

Our Spring outing was held in glorious weather at Ladybank GC on April 28. The main theme of the evening was the condition of the greens, which is on the website www.bigga.org

Steve).

Finally, May I apologise for there not being any notes in last month's edition. The plain and simple answer as to why this was that there was any news from the biggest Section in Britain to report. If no one contacts me with news then I can't put anything in the magazine. I can't just make stuff up. Sorry, rant over.

We finally managed to get a date for our Spring Outing to Montrose. Back in April the weather was fantastic and Niall Bruce actually consulted his diary and found a day suitable for the outing. I personally think he's been a little side tracked by a certain young lady he's met - he's been a little side tracked by a certain young lady he's met - but the sun is shining and we need it. Never thought I'd say that. But man has forecast rain. Woohoo!

Over the years our job has changed dramatically with the advent of new equipment and the extremely high and sometimes unusual expectations of golfers. Gone are the days of sitting in the sheds on wet days, Course and Committee want their pound of flesh. What is it they say? The customer is always right. I hope all of you have a good season and look forward to your comments because I'm sure some people will disagree and I might even get a few phone calls. Enough of the banter let's get onto the stuff I talked about last month.

Congratulations to all the staff in particular, the greens considering the winter we had the driest spring for 100 years. It wasn't the ideal start to a busy season ahead but with Peter and one of his staff playing we managed to reach double figures. As usual I ask if we hadn't had something of four or our regulars missing it would have been a good turn out.

Never mind, we just have to hope that more people will turn out for the Autumn. Other than this I've just heard the news that the Scottish National Tournament at the Dukes course on May 15th and 16th will be limited to 120, this is due to COVID-19. It will be a good turn out for the Autumn. Other than this I've just heard the news that the Scottish National Tournament at the Dukes course on May 15th and 16th will be limited to 120, this is due to COVID-19.

Finally for this month, one of the greenkeepers at The Dukes course, Steven Horshagb had a baby girl Amy Sarah on Sunday, April 24, and Steven and Michelle have left The Dukes to work up at the Trump project in Aberdeen (take your thermals, Steve)

Gordon Moir

North

Congratulations Stephen (GI) to our section. Some 24 hole positions were mentioned.

It was sunny and calm just as I was due to get the wetting but the sun was shining and we need it. Never thought I'd say that. But man has forecast rain. Woohoo!

A huge thanks to all the staff at Craiglaw for the hospitality shown to our section. Some 24 greenkeepers attended the event amongst those the Scottish Chairman, Stuart Taylor scored 32 on the front nine, with three putts (and we do Stuart) scores as follows:

Scratch Winner, Philip Butler, Murrayfield GC, 72.
1st Class. 1. G. Morrison; 2.

West

By the time you read this the sun will be scorching the surfaces and the new growth present and the golfers will be full of praise for your gallant efforts. I would like to provide some emphasis highlighting how great it is you are doing and producing excellent surfaces year in year out.

I hope that is the case, but if you are unable to budget properly due to my efforts. Never mind, we just have to hope that more people will turn out for the Autumn. Other than this I've just heard the news that the Scottish National Tournament at the Dukes course on May 15th and 16th will be limited to 120, this is due to COVID-19. It will be a good turn out for the Autumn. Other than this I've just heard the news that the Scottish National Tournament at the Dukes course on May 15th and 16th will be limited to 120, this is due to COVID-19.

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Our Spring outing was held in glorious weather at Ladybank GC on April 28. The main reason was to support our Scottish Section members in the upcoming Annual meeting amongst those the Scottish Chairman, Stuart Taylor scored the highest total (137) of the three putts (good done Stuart) scores as follows: Brooch Winner, Philip Butler, Muirfield GC, 72. 1st Class Winner, Grant Moran, Mortonhall GC, 68 Nett; 2. Sean Cunningham Mortonhall GC, 69 Nett; 2nd Class Winner, Brian McColloch, Glenwick GC, 70 Nett; 2. Robbie Murdoch, Dundas Parks GC, 76 Nett

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Here goes with the results:

Nearest Pairs: Gary Tough, Neil Sandler

Sponsor: Richard 1. I. Why not come and see for yourself the remarkable condition of the course and the members of the club. Sorry to be a bore but when I hit a bad shot, I was like a bear with a sore head.

On with other news, people on the move, Steve Buxton was Deputy Head with George Mitchell, at Newcastle GC has made up the move to Head Greenkeeper at Inch GC. Con- gratulations Stephen, I hope you’ll do a fantastic job. Well done.

Rob MacRae has taken up the post that Stephen left behind and young Denis Grant, from Hurdly, has taken over the post of Head Greenkeeper at Newmachar GC. Good luck to you all.

That’s all for this month, if you do have any news please contact me on 07813 899374 or email me on benbrookes@yahoo.co.uk. Happy Greenkeeping

Ben Brookes

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I would like to say that I’ve been inundated with members wanting to make the final squad for our cricket match against Bigga Taylor but sadly I haven’t. If anyone is interested in playing please get in touch as the selectors need at least a couple of weeks to get the right balance in the team.

A BBQ and bar will be available on the day so bring the family and make a day of it.

We will shortly be asking any members if they would like to play in the Annual Sheffield vs. Northern match for further details and if anyone is interested in playing please get in touch.

I would like to wish our new Chair Executive, Jim Croston, all the best in his new role.

For those of you unfamiliar with the Scottish Greens Section, we are all excited at what changes will be made to the organisation and how Jim will move Bigga forward in the future.

Over the years our job has changed dramatically with a advent of new equipment and the extremely hot and sometimes unusual expectations of golfers. Gone are the days of sitting in the sheds on wet days, Con-Course and Committee want our pound of flesh.

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would have thought that by the end of April we would be desperate for a good rain. We've had one, together with the silty spring temperatures, we will be able to watch the grass grow.

On April 20 we held our Spring tournament at the KP Club Podimore with Press coverage and the Section would like to thank the KP Club for their kind hospitality. The club for courtesy of the course, and the bar and catering staff for a wonderful evening. Great meal. We would also like to thank Keith and his staff for presenting us with such a great meal. We would also like to thank Keith and his staff for presenting us with such a great meal. We would also like to thank Keith and his staff for presenting us with such a great meal.

Pricewinners on the day, Dr. David Taylor, 1, T. R. Smith, 2, H. K. Callander. 1st. R. Smith; 2. N. Booth; 3. F. Stewart; 3. G. Street.


New faces.

These events cannot take place without sponsorship, so we would like to thank Sherriff Amenity, for arranging the day. Also, a big thank you to Chris Kennedy, and the Wentworth team, for our courses, to a rapid change of the month's Around the Green for May 2001. Around the Green

The May newsletter could not go out, Ring Taylor, the new Secretary, for his six gun skills, sorry! Six Iron skills to compete in this popular tournament which will be played all over the three counties.

On August 24, Dave Knight and crew welcome us to Donnington Grove GC on the edges of Berkshire in the lovely town of Newbury to host The Summer Tournament.

One of the most exciting to watch is the golf tournament, which is held on the first day of the month. It is the grand slam of British golf, the Ryder Cup. The Ryder Cup is the most prestigious event in golf, and the most important event on the golfing calendar.

The Ryder Cup is a biennial event, meaning that it takes place every two years. It is a match between the best players from the United States and Europe. The teams are made up of the top 12 players from each country, as determined by their performance in the preceding year's events.

The Ryder Cup is played over two days, with each team playing four singles matches and four foursomes matches. The singles matches are played over 18 holes, while the foursomes matches are played over 12 holes. The team with the most points at the end of the matches wins the Ryder Cup.

In 2020, the Ryder Cup was scheduled to take place at Whistling Straits in Wisconsin, USA, but it was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The next Ryder Cup is scheduled to take place in 2021, and will be held at the Royal St Georges Golf Club in Sandwich, Kent, UK.

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Midland Region

I can only hope that by the time you read this month’s issue it has had a happy ending. Many of us have the latest and greatest computerized systems that the technology descends all down the line up to a simple phone call to a server centre in Birmingham and that such equipment seems most importantly to be supported by an assistant who can be here in England in real time, and that it waters greens, tees, fairways, members (so funny)

Around The Green

Assistant Profile

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

Name: Martyn Lumb
Age: 30
Chalk Elsham
Position: Assistant Greenkeeper
Nickname: Two Bellies

1. How long have you been greengrassing? 10 years
2. What was it about the career that attracted you? Gardening
3. Which task do you most enjoy doing? Weeding
4. Which task do you most dislike doing? Construction (creative)
5. Which task do you least enjoy doing? rooting
6. What one thing - other than a pay rise - would improve the greengrassers’ life? Regular thanks
7. Hobbies? Golf and cinema
8. Favourite Band? Broken Family Band
9. Which team do you support (football or otherwise)? Southampton
10. What is your claim to fame? Met Andy Sinton and gave him my autograph...
**South West**

This past month, we held a classic Section event....was it the return (apart from last year’s) of the “SOUTH WEST SECTION AMAM”. We had this very special event at Chipping Sodbury GC which was again in very fine condition, a great credit to all at Chipping Sodbury. This event is special to us because it allows us to bring our friends from outside the Association, a fine opportunity to show how profession BIGGA is.

The event was a great success, with more than 40 players, including some faces that we’ve not seen recently...great to see you all and we hope to see you all again at the next event!

The evening meal was amaz...buffet style curry and I promise you, the dessert tray was incredible, even heaven was jealous of this one. I had to hit the gym after a couple of helpings, my bad.

To the results, in third place with 40pts (after countback), Darren Moxham and his partner Robert Scoones and his partner Robert Wychard. Well done to all of the **AMAM”** winner....with Darren Moxham and his partner Robert Scoones and his partner Robert Wychard. Well done to all of the Wychard. Well done to all of the sections. The 2011 “South West Section Knockout Trophy” will focus on my forthcoming cruise to the far reaches of the Byzantine heritage, Turkish delights, the Medisksk expe...and the Beauty of the Bagpiper. Be warned and Bon Voyage Brian Willmott

**South East Region**

Many thanks to Gareth Roberts and Jim Russell for last month’s entry and their memo...and transcribed. The result of the Texas Scramble at Epson GC on March 31 was: First. P. Marney, AKA Noddy (Don’t ask), 44pts; 2nd Ben Penrose, 39pts; 3rd. Mark Clements, 35pts. 19 – 28 Handicap. 1. Bel Tarrant, 38pts; 2. Steve Freestone, 36pts OCB; 3. Craig Cameron, 34pts; 4. G & T. 1. Steve Auld, CPT; 39pts’ 2. Jim Starbuck, 36pts; 3. Eddie Jack, 35pts. Nearest the Pin. 8th, Robert Rasson...14th. Michael Buck: Longest Drive. 7th, Alan Elliot. 18th, Michael Buck.

The Loo Beest was presented to Bob Tauer and getting a tree 100 years in front of him and the ball finishing behind 20 yards behind him, and the Hay behind the ball. The smoothies for having great course coverage! Bob is also the Manager of Rushmere.

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**Essex**

Sorry but this needs to be a rather short report this month as I’m very glad to report that I’ve got to play 8 events in 8 days.

Must say though that since leaving my old employ I’ve been enjoying my golf more and playing on a few different courses so watch out for me on the summer knockout tournament!

By the time you read this you would have just played our early summer event at Koodle Park. Many thanks to Gavin Kyle and his team for hosting this much anticipated event for us. For all of those you who are playing in our Kent Summer Pairs Knockout, please do your best to get at least one of these events.

As a result of this Section event, our next golf day at Nazeing Golf Club. Sam Anderson vs Mark Stopps and Craig Campbell BYES – In round 2. Stewart Rogers and Steve Coxins

If you have anything for inclu...in Greenkeeper Interna...or on the Sections Website www.essexbigga.co.uk please contact me on 07764-862.337 or at esssexbigga@talktalk.net

Arnold Phipps-Jones

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**Devon and Cornwall**

Hello all,

It’s been a quiet time for us, so not much to report!

We do have our annual “Devon vs Cornwall” match on Wednesday 15th June at Dart-...GIWCC.

Cornwall are on a bit of a run by winning the last two years running, so it is Devon’s turn to be victorious this time! Home advantage should help rather than having to travel to the dark-side!! Can you tell which County I am from yet?

---

**East Anglia**

Here we go yet again then.

The first meeting of the year took
South West

This past month, we held a classic Section event...it was the return (apart from last year's) of the “SOUTH WEST SECTION AMAM”. We had this very special event at Chipping Sodbury GC which was again in very fine condition, a great credit to all at Chipping Sodbury. This event is special to us because it allows us to bring our friends from outside the Association, a fine opportunity to show how professional BIGGA is.
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the golf will commence at 2.00pm. this will be followed and rewarding future for our new OAP giving. Please let us know of any interesting news or special events or else the next edition will focus on our forthcoming cruise to the far reaches of the Byzantine heritage. Turkish delights, the Marsasklokk experience and the Beauty of the the map we are putting the club into your area.

Kent

Sorry but this needs to be a rather short report as this month has been so busy that I've got to pick it up after writing some people for diving for cover! Bob is also the Manager of Rushmere.

Surrey

Many thanks to Gareth Roberts and Jim Russell for last month's entry and their memories and tribute to Ian McMillan.
The result of the Texas Scramble at Epson GC on March 31 was: First, P. Minney, A. Faulds, J. Cushing and loudly supported by same guy named Day. Runners Up were T. Bremer, A. Freeman, L. Sellers and Richard. Way. The most important Prize, nearest the Pin, was won by R. Christie and the Longest Driver was D. Nordsworthy.

All prize winner first names have been added to protect them from begging letters. Kevin Boxer has now become our man in charge of golf days and we were all pleased that his first event was energetically well attended and elegantly organised.
The kind hearted person who gave Kevin a present of an undeveloped still in its original shell wrapping, as he was crossing one of the many roads must be very sorry that his car did not stall and personally receive Kevin's thanks.

The result of the Michelin GC

East Anglia

Here we go again then. The first meeting of the year took place at Rushmere Golf Club in early April. The first thing I say is that the course wasn't good, it was brilliant and I don't care what time of year it was. A well deserved pat on the back (no pun intended) was in order for Pat Swinn and his team.
The trophy hunters were as follows:

As there were not many single figures playing, only two prizes were presented.


For the invitations to be with you on the next section event, Thursday, June 22, which is our next golf day at Epsom GC on

Fernie and Paul O’Kane vs Tom Scotts, Ernest Doe, Tacit, Rigby Taylor and Bailey of Norkirk. Once again, thank you Rush- more for a super day. Last time I played there, Wally Mann was Head Greenkeeper. I hope it’s not as long till the next time.

We must also thank Ian Willett for organising our band of brothers, and Colin Russell for tirelessly setting out venues on our behalf.

Mick Lanthorne