Around the Green

East of England
Happy New Year to all.
By the time you read this maybe we will have actually experienced our first winter weather! At the time of writing I can count the number of frosty mornings we have had on my fingers, hand. Couple that with mid winter high winds and average rainfall and once again we have another upside down season of golf. We are all hoping when we are going to get all the indoor and off course jobs done I think this week.

As I write this before, and you read after, I assure you that I am sure the entire event has passed over the situation as usual.
Our Christmas golf event this year was held at Belton Park Golf Club, in Grantham, on Thursday, December 8. This year saw a change to the format with a Team Texas Scramble, well attended by members and invited golf club officials.

The golf course was presented in fantastic condition as always by the hard working greenkeeping staff, although all we could have done without the gale force winds that accompanied the day. An excellent meal was also provided by the club’s catering staff which made us feel welcome throughout the day. Many thanks also go to our grounds team, especially Gary Ogilvie, from Tacit; Gary Ogilvie, from Care Machinery; Mark Day from Outlane GC, and many others.

As I write this at the start of January, wind has become a real issue. Many of you, I’m sure, are not averse to a tempest in a teapot but you have to wonder when we can expect a little calm.

South East Region

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

Name: Tom Wood
Club: Divemaster GC
Position: Assistant Greenkeeper
Nickname: Tom-to-Mo

1. How long have you been golfing? 5 years.
2. What was the career that attracted you? Preparing sports turf and being outdoors.
3. If you weren’t a greenkeeper what do you think you’d be? Film editor
4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why? Courses looking after the greens on busy days and getting the best out of the grass in challenging conditions
5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why? Divemaster Golf Club
6. What one thing – other than a pay rise – would improve your working conditions? More staff to help relieve the pressure
7. Hobbies? Cricket, football, Golf, Photography, Cigs and Dog walking
9. Which team do you support and how far do you travel to support them? Yorkshire Cricket Club
10. What is your claim to fame? None. Yet.

Are you an Assistant Greenkeeper? Please email office@bfga.co.uk for a list of Qs...