Scotland

The Section had an enjoyable day at Crail for their spring outing with over 50 participants par- taking on a course that was in excellent condition. Although the overnight and early morn- ing weather was grim, by the time golf started it was a pretty decent day. The full list of par- ticipants are on the website, but by the principal the winners on the day were as follows:

Best Scratch, Gordon Moir, St Andrews Links, beating Stuart Robertson, St Andrews and Golf Centre by a shot. Best nett: Scott Cameron, 07506407867.

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West

Scratch winner 68 gross - Stuart Taylor, Munravdy Golf Club 2nd class winner - John Philp, Carnoustie Golf Club Runner up - Grant Moran Mortonhall Golf Club

East

1st class winner Keith Burgan, Hinsel Golf Club 2nd class winner - Stuart Ferguson, Dunbar Park Golf Club Runner up, Ryan McCulloch, Goswic Golf Club

West

1st class winner Kenneth MacGregor, Kirkcudbright Golf Club 2nd class winner Alistair Holmes, Seahouses Golf Club 2nd nett winner Scott Cor- rigan, Greenburn Golf Club Prize price: James Bahnbro, Hinsel Golf Club Trade winner, Stewart Clay- ton, Greenniman limited Novelty prizes nearest the pin at the 13th hole, Pat Allan, Symbole Longest drive at the 18th hole, Charlie Millar, Musselburgh, Greenburn Golf Club

The Glen was very hospitable and was kind to the Kirk, Course Manager, and his staff had the course in excellent condition. As he has been played with the Captain Mr. Mike Curry, who was very impressed with the efforts of the section, went about our business, so well done to all of you for attending and I hope you all enjoyed your day. Well done to George Sturvet again for making it on the day, but next time why not bring your clubs George. A big thanks again to Stuart Ferguson for all the administra- tion and planning on the day. Hopefully we will see the sun soon and maybe come back to help the links grow as this last month has been too cold, fingers crossed.

Stewart Crawford a.crawford@keeve.co.uk

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Best Scratch, Gordon Moir, St Andrews Links, beating Stuart Robertson, St Andrews Golf Centre by a shot. Best nett, Kenny Mitchell, St Andrews Links. Paul Murphy of Pif Golf Trust won the 1st section and 2nd section turned in a splendid display. And finally I will report on the spring outing on the website. I hope you all enjoyed your day. Well done to the greenkeeping team, the customers respectively will give one a beginning of June while John McKelvie of St Andrews Links, beating Paul Murphy on 20 June; entries have to be submitted to the head office at Aldwark Manor.
I will report on the spring outing in the next issue and once again if anybody has any information for me could they please get in contact on stuart.taylor@glasgowgolfclub.co.uk or mobile on 07993289414 or 0141 944 3554.

West

Well done to George Sturtevant for making it on the day, but next time stay home. Chris Peddie. A big thanks again to Stuart Ferguson for all the administra tion and planning on the day. Hopefully we will see the sun soon and get some heat back to help the greens grow as this last month has been too cold, fingers crossed.

Stuart Crawford
s.crawford@crailgrove.co.uk

Ayrshire

The spring outing of the Ayrshire section is at Bogside this year on the 8th of September, so get it in your diary and let's have a good turn out from the section.
I am going to say a few words about the course.

Stuart Taylor
Scotland

The results of the survey conducted last month on the website were as follows:

1st - Barry Crate 40 points. 2nd - David Wason 39 points. 3rd - Andy Jeffries 38 points. 4th - Barry Crate 37 points. 5th - Barry Crate 36 points. 6th - Barry Crate 35 points. 7th - Barry Crate 34 points. 8th - Barry Crate 33 points. 9th - Barry Crate 32 points.

I would like to thank the section for their support on the day. The prize winners: 1st Class winner Keith Coull, 2nd Class winner Alistair Nicol, 3rd Class winner Kenneth Robertson, 4th - Barry Crate 24 points. Stewart Clayton won the trade prize with a score that suggests he spends plenty of time on the golf course! The section would like to extend their thanks to South Ayrshire Council for allowing us the use of the Belleisle golf course, always an enjoyable experience. The course is under the management of Billy, Kevin and the rest of the greenkeeping team, the course, the catering staff for the great meal. Thank you to Glen Baxter of Howley Hall for the great meal. Thank you to Glen Baxter of Howley Hall for the great meal for the ushers and the Hard greenkeeper Chris Peddie and his staff for the presentation, which made it such an enjoyable day.

The winner was Craig Morrison with a score of 36 points, which was a three-way tie with a back 9 count back with two other competitors who were John Mcgloolhun and Chris Gibson. The longest drive and nearest pin prizes were picked up by Billy Merritt and John Mcgloughlin. Well done to everybody on the day.
There are a couple of people I would like to mention here. Neil Oliffe is moving out of our area and down to Essex, so good luck.
Midland

Well after the unseasonally dry and hot March/April, the old green grass was getting a bit thin and very penal. The committee was grateful to have a great new manager to help keep the green on their respective Nearest the Pin hole. The committee are also extremely grateful to the donors of the day for their generosity – Sherriff Amenity, Campey, Platts Harris and Henton & Chattle and also to Scoopshot Golf Club who produced a first class meal and were also excellent hosts. It was noted that the menu didn’t include brussel sprouts this year… you know who you are!

So the Jubilee Holiday Bank has passed us by now, all the hunting and ill fusing Union Jacks are packed away, until the end of the month, and we can hopefully look forward to a good summer with happy hours, barbecues and… you know what we are talking about as the Oriental Championship kicks off in…

East Midlands

As the hose pipe ban has got into full swing, the rivers and reservoirs started rapidly filling up. Among the coldest, wettest April for over twenty years the East Midlands Section played our Spring Tournament at Scoopshot Golf Club on Thursday 26 April. Many courses around the country had been closed due to the extreme weather conditions but Nigel White and his team, who have worked hard over the past week, produced an excellent golf course for the day. A well supported day, although there is always room for more people, saw Ruslings stay ahead of the field. The prizes were presented by Nigel Church and the catering was provided by By the River. The next Section golf day is to be held at Temple Golf Club. Dates, entry forms, including the Rigby Taylor pairs knock out and handicap competitions will be out in the not too distant future. The green fees are very reasonable and we are sending out a correct email address on file. You can easily update us by sending an email to bgeagmail@gmail.com and we can keep you informed of events/matters within your section. That’s about it for now, see you on the green next year…

BBBO

As summer approaches and the golfing season kicks into full swing hopefully many of you will have managed to get your hands on a rigby wood. With the competition being on the increase and completed all renovation/main maintenance work in what must be the wettest April for over twenty years on record! That said those of you impacted by the bad weather may be missing the action and are no doubt breathing a sigh of relief reading this in a dry house. So far…

South East Region

Here we go again then. Our rather small, but perfectly formed band braved the wind and the rain and all had a great day at Waltingfield. My personal memories of Waltingfield were three portacabins and a concrete fishing pond, unable to form a good test of golf; which is nothing new (just like me some say, others tell the truth). The village now has a small part to Keith Tashall and his crew.

Some managed to stay out of the gore, unlike me who is still plucking thorns from my backside. As they are: 1st – 20, 3rd Points, 36 Points, 2nd Nick Hewett, 35 Points. 10 – 18 Handicaps: 1st Chris Davies, 37 Points, 2nd Tony Tacker, 35 Points. 10 – 18 Real Golfers: 1st Andy Baker, 37 Points, 2nd Keith Tishall, 30 Points, 3rd Trevor Hurn, 40 Points. Nice one!

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Worsted with the new life down south. With any back his able deputy Damian will get the promotion or can be seen the hey we are in the golf industry.

Matt Shiward is leaving Hopwood Hall College where he has been deputy head of golf for the past 3 years to work for Arnold Palmer. We wish Matt all the best and hope he comes back to his roots one day.

North Wales

Let's hope that, now mid-summer is here, we can finally have a proper summer! April and the beginning of May were hardly anything to get excited about. The spring tournament at Llangollen was a complete washout; thank-fully everyone took the day and disappointment in their stride and stayed in a good mood with the pupils in the clubhouse. Although no meaningful golf was played on the third day, the weather had improved and we managed to cut the greens and rough up the watercourses, but it was a bit of a laugh. The pupils in the Pro Shop were not too happy however, as the gorse was still starting to flower. Although some of the pupils have taken the day off to get some sun, the others were very keen to get back to golf.

South East Region

Here we go again then. Our rather small, but perfectly formed band of brain-damaged wind and the rain and all had a fantastic week at Waldingfield. My personal memories of Waldingfield were three months ago and a constant presence near the entrance. An absolute terror! The golf club has replaced the portacabins and the course has developed into a good test of golf, which is maturing nicely (just like me some say, others tell the truth). It was nice to meet the newly appointed course manager at Merriot Wood GC and I am sure that he will make it a successfull move. Best wishes on all manifestations.

Easter Anglia

May 31st Monday Where has this month gone? It seems to have flown by, but another fantastic last months report. So, to stop me saying the same thing next month, perhaps this is July's tomorrow! If that hasn't confused you, it has. They say no news is good news, but when one has to keep an eye on the golf course, and the golf course isn't, so come on all of you lot out there give me news, news! Steve Bubb and Worzel Freeman have been appointed course manager at Merriot Wood GC and I am sure that he will make it a successful move. I have been out, and I am loving having a call every month.

North Wales

Midland

Well after the unusually dry and hot March/April, the old mob did well to stop raining when it comes! It is already finer than ever! But I was able to get back out at the weekend and had a few drinks with the South West and Midland region. Gaynor and the rest of the hospitality team were wonderful.

East Midlands

As the hose pipe ban has gone into full effect, the rivers and reservoirs started rapidly filling up with the coldest, wettest April for over twenty years. The Midland East Regions Section played their Spring Tournament at Scroft Golf Club on Thursday 26 April. Many courses around the Midlands have been closed due to the extreme weather conditions but Nigel White and his team, who started the week well, pro-duced an excellent golf course for the day. A well supported day, although there is always room for more people, saw Ruislip Golf Club on the Catagory 1 prize with Rob ‘local knowledge’ Duvall and Adi Porter finishing second and third respectively. In Category 2 Andy Marsch took first place, with Adrian Vers-cho and James Shaw-McEne who came in the plum. As East Midlands golf competition wouldn’t be complete without Garry Thur- man picking up a prize in the Category 2 (Associates) category. Garry has continued to support the golf day for many years and his consistency is beginning to gain legendary status, especially in the raffle!

BB&O

As summer approaches and the golfing season kicks into full swing hopefully many of you will have managed to get your summer job and completed all renovation/main-tenance work in what must be the closest thing to a full golf course in the UK. There was a wealth of news, views or ideas for the BB&O section this month. The ‘very reluctant’ Andy Sharratt has got the ball rolling on the running of a course! The person telling me said: “We'll be a professional and he should know how to make good greens?” My reply was “I’m a professional, I taught you do that but I bet he couldn’t make the pitch out”. Mick Lathrope

BB&O

50 | JUNE 2012

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

Name: James
Age: 32
Club: Gobowen Golf Club
Senior Greenkeeper
Nickname: Bledge

1. How long have you been greenkeeping? 15 years
2. What is was about the career that attracted you? Being involved in golf, working out doors and working with tractor!
3. If you weren’t a greenkeeper what you think you’d be? Probably a farmer, although I’d love to have been a golf course photographer or a musician!
4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why? Probably mowing, although the new build and even though we have 97% grassland we keep coming on the surface! I have never seen so many storms! If I never see another thunder storm again it will be too soon!
5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why? Probably digging bank and drainage, but I probably be a farmer, although I’d love to have been a golf course photographer or a musician!
6. What is one thing - other than a pay rise - would improve the greenkeepers’ lot? In our region (Perthshire, Scotland) a little bit of decent weather wouldn’t go

Hobbies? Golfing, playing guitar and writing/recording music.
8. Favourite Band? Oasis
9. Which team do you support? Queens Of The South
10. What is your claim to fame? I’m still improving in the Main Stage at the Wickerman Festival, playing with the Buzzcocks and Spiritualized.

Around The Green

Around The Green

Assistant Profile

South East Region

A little better, but sadly some popular birds have been flushed the nest. It will happen every year, and ...
3rd Liam Spright & Dan Summers

South East

KENT

At this time of writing, the severe drought is at its height and myself and my partner are spending most of our time walking the course in an attempt to get water onto the fairways. The result is that the fairways and greens are in a very good condition and the course is a pleasure to play on.

Our competition was won by Colin Young, who scored 41 points on the Pin Hill course. His score was followed by a 42 point score by Kim Allen, who scored 40 points on the Pin Hill course.

The competition was held on Tuesday 11th June, and the prize-giving ceremony was held on Wednesday 12th June at the County Club in Maidstone.

The competition was open to all members of the Kent Section, and the prize money was awarded for the top three places.

Fourth place was awarded to David Jones, who scored 43 points on the Pin Hill course.

The competition was a great success, and we would like to thank all the members who took part for their support.

The Committee of the Kent Section would like to congratulate all the winners and thank them for their participation.

KENT

The committee of the Kent Section would like to thank all the members who took part in the competition, and we hope that they will continue to support the Section in the future.

The next event is the Summer Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday 20th June at the Kent Club. We hope to see you there!

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The next event is the Summer Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday 20th June at the Kent Club. We hope to see you there!
There is news at last of our planned trip to The Hurlingham Club on Tuesday 12 June. For those of you who spoke at the recent Regional Seminar and Easen meeting is giving us a good chance at impressing this extremely prestigious venue. Details are on our website and if you are lucky there may still be places available, though we are limited to 20 people. Please contact Ian Wood on 07662-470.86 if you are interested. CPD points are available for those that attend.

Our next golf day is at Risoul, Grande Chartreuse, French National, Qualifier, 18- hole-Sta tton Trophy on Sunday 19 June, ready for when it does stop raining! Until next month keep on Greening!

Tony Gaud

Essex

Hi all,

Let me start by saying that we have just had another 22mm of rain and there is water everywhere. Kev from the restaurant has taken a photo of his second hole with only the top third of the flag visible in the flood! It is quite likely that when you read this we will be in a heatwave!

The committee last met on 18 April and we have at last finalised arrangements to give us, with a new bank account that will help us to make a loan of some sort. We haveenny by the bank and they have offered to make a loan of £25,000 at 0.1% over base rate.

I am also in the process of changing my contact details. From now on you should contact me on 07746-862.337 or at amil@talktalk.net

Arnold Phillips-Jones

Kent

At this time of writing, the severe drought is at its height and we are still working to keep the course in reasonable condition for the joint tour next weekend.

Kemping is coping better than we have ever seen it. However, I am aware that the main problem for the Essex members is to go out onto the course and deal with the excess surface water via aeration and sod cutting and at least give your respective clientele the option of venting out.

We in Kent will just have to hold our early summer event at West Kent Golf Club when you read this, so a full report to come on that and a certain football match, which is coming up on our Essex courses over the hallowed turf of Upton Park in next month’s column.

One last thing before I sign off from a rather brief report this month, we are collaborating teams now for our Summer Pairs Knockout tournament. This was hugely popular and we hope that the last 12 months may have prompted you to contact me or Kevin as you have not already done so to be part of this great and enjoyable competition. More details are on our website below.

Best of British

North East

After weeks of relentless rain we held our first golf day of the season on Wednesday 16 May at Northallerton GC. Monday and Tuesday, quickly unfilled the three days of fine weather that have been experienced over the weekend prior to our Spring Trophy pairs event at Blodworth GC, but as Wednesday dawned, the fine weather was back. The greens were greeted with warm temperatures, bright sunshine and a light breeze. Blodworth Head, Sam Young had laid the course out in spec tacular fashion, considering the atrocious weather we have all been experiencing of late, the odd puddle on fairways and one or two in bunkers that was all that remained.

Hard work had been put into in order to bring the course to such a high standard and Sam had done most of it himself. Sam man aged this South Essex course with only two members of staff. This 18-hole course, set in the centre of Blodworth, is compact and therefore ideal for the most aver age 18-hole courses.

28 players showed for the start of the season and some good scoring resulted, the first three places being split by only three points.

1st Roger McDougall & Peter Peanut, 43 Points.
2nd Zebby Tunley & Barry Matthews, 42 Points.
3rd Liam Springett & Dan Simmons, 42 Points.

Nearset the pin 5th hole, Sean Ishada.

Best Ball Matchplay, 25 points, for the pin 11th hole, Dam Simmons.

Our thanks go to the follow ing: Dam Simmons and his team for their hard work, Ilford Golf Club for the excellent condition of the course and the fine meal and hospitality put on by the staff.

We Wayne McNamara of CMW Equipment Ltd for the haybail house, plus all our sponsors, without whom the day would not have been possible.

Finally, there is news else where in the magazine about our football match between the Kent sections on Monday 21 May at Upton Park, home of West Ham United; Tooe/UK sponsored the event.

Essex

52 Giga welcomes the following new members

Scotland

Northern Region

Midland Region

South East Region

7th/West/ Wales Regions

Northern Ireland

Overseas

For more information on new members log in to the Members’ Area of the BISGA Website.

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The committee last met on 18 April and we have at last finalised arrangements to give us, with a new bank account that will help us to make a loan of some sort. We haveenny by the bank and they have offered to make a loan of £25,000 at 0.1% over base rate.

I am also in the process of changing my contact details. From now on you should contact me on 07746-862.337 or at amil@talktalk.net

Arnold Phillips-Jones

Kent

At this time of writing, the severe drought is at its height and we are still working to keep the course in reasonable condition for the joint tour next weekend.

Kemping is coping better than we have ever seen it. However, I am aware that the main problem for the Essex members is to go out onto the course and deal with the excess surface water via aeration and sod cutting and at least give your respective clientele the option of venting out.

We in Kent will just have to hold our early summer event at West Kent Golf Club when you read this, so a full report to come on that and a certain football match, which is coming up on our Essex courses over the hallowed turf of Upton Park in next month’s column.

One last thing before I sign off from a rather brief report this month, we are collaborating teams now for our Summer Pairs Knockout tournament. This was hugely popular and we hope that the last 12 months may have prompted you to contact me or Kevin as you have not already done so to be part of this great and enjoyable competition. More details are on our website below.

Best of British

North East

After weeks of relentless rain we held our first golf day of the season on Wednesday 16 May at Northallerton GC. Monday and Tuesday, quickly unfilled the three days of fine weather that have been experienced over the weekend prior to our Spring Trophy pairs event at Blodworth GC, but as Wednesday dawned, the fine weather was back. The greens were greeted with warm temperatures, bright sunshine and a light breeze. Blodworth Head, Sam Young had laid the course out in spec tacular fashion, considering the atrocious weather we have all been experiencing of late, the odd puddle on fairways and one or two in bunkers that was all that remained.

Hard work had been put into in order to bring the course to such a high standard and Sam had done most of it himself. Sam man aged this South Essex course with only two members of staff. This 18-hole course, set in the centre of Blodworth, is compact and therefore ideal for the most aver age 18-hole courses.

28 players showed for the start of the season and some good scoring resulted, the first three places being split by only three points.

1st Roger McDougall & Peter Peanut, 43 Points.
2nd Zebby Tunley & Barry Matthews, 42 Points.
3rd Liam Springett & Dan Simmons, 42 Points.

Nearset the pin 5th hole, Sean Ishada.

Best Ball Matchplay, 25 points, for the pin 11th hole, Dam Simmons.

Our thanks go to the follow ing: Dam Simmons and his team for their hard work, Ilford Golf Club for the excellent condition of the course and the fine meal and hospitality put on by the staff.

We Wayne McNamara of CMW Equipment Ltd for the haybail house, plus all our sponsors, without whom the day would not have been possible.

Finally, there is news else where in the magazine about our football match between the Kent sections on Monday 21 May at Upton Park, home of West Ham United; Tooe/UK sponsored the event.

Essex

52 Giga welcomes the following new members

Scotland

Northern Region

Midland Region

South East Region

7th/West/ Wales Regions

Northern Ireland

Overseas

For more information on new members log in to the Members’ Area of the BISGA Website.

There is news at last of our planned trip to The Hurlingham Club on Tuesday 12 June. For those of you who spoke at the recent Regional Seminar and Easen meeting is giving us a good chance at impressing this extremely prestigious venue. Details are on our website and if you are lucky there may still be places available, though we are limited to 20 people. Please contact Ian Wood on 07662-470.86 if you are interested. CPD points are available for those that attend.

Our next golf day is at Risoul, Grande Chartreuse, French National, Qualifier, 18- hole-Sta tton Trophy on Sunday 19 June, ready for when it does stop raining! Until next month keep on Greening!

Tony Gaud

Essex

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