

# North and South Wales Come Together in Battle



An idea which began over a chat at the last BTME resulted in the first BIGGA golf battle between North and South Wales BIGGA members.

The tournament was the brainchild of Gareth Knight from Trefloyne Golf Course and Rhys Butler of Aberdovey Golf Course – and Rhys agreed to host the inaugural event.

Gareth, South Wales Secretary, takes up the story: “Rhys kindly booked the dormy rooms for the south team and we decided on two teams of eight players.

“We were very lucky to gain sponsorship for both teams, John Mooney of Rigby Taylor organising the North Wales team sponsorship and Peter Holmstrom from Countrywide sponsoring the South Wales team.

“We teed off at 2pm. It was a light breeze at Aberdovey for the North Wales Links Boys, however blowing a gale as far as we were concerned! Strong winds and a tight Links course made it tough conditions for some of the inland parkland green keepers.

“The course was excellent, a beautiful coastal setting, the true untamed elements of the natural rolling links creating an exhilarating rustic and natural course.

“Colt, Braid and Fowler have all had a hand in shaping the course over the years, with tight lies, rolling fairways, natural bunkers, undulating approaches, dry firm surfaces and true, fast greens, a joy for any standard of golfer.

“The match was very close with three of the games heading to the 18th hole, the result being 3-1 to the North Wales team.

“We all sat down to a beautiful meal after and were joined by Richard Dixon of the Golfing Union of Wales who said a few words, speeches were made and the rest of the evening was enjoyed by both teams embracing the delights that Aberdovey had to offer.

“Thank you to Rigby Taylor, Countrywide and Farmura for their continued support and assisting this event, Trade involvement is so important to all section events.

Thank you to all the BIGGA members that travelled far and wide to support the day, and to Richard Dixon of the GUV for his support and Aberdovey for hosting the event.

“The Organisation for next year’s event is already underway and we hope it to be as successful as the last. This proves once again how important networking can be at the BTME show.”



## KINGS OF THE CASTLE

Bothwell Castle Golf Club have appointed a new Head Greenkeeper and an Assistant Head Greenkeeper.

Alasdair McDermid, who has been Acting Head Greenkeeper for the past year at the parkland course near Glasgow, has accepted the permanent role of Head Greenkeeper. He’s been with the club for 20 years.

Stewart Carbray, who has been employed by Bothwell since 2000, is now Assistant Head Greenkeeper. Stewart has been Acting Assistant since last year.

Everyone at BIGGA congratulates Alasdair and Stewart, and wishes them every success in their permanent roles.

*Picture: Stewart (left) and Alasdair*