BIGGA SEMINARS AT SALTEX

BIGGA are staging a whole day of free education presentations at this year’s SALTEX (Sports Amenities & Landscape Trade Exhibition) at Windsor Racecourse – with CPD credits available for those attending.

The BIGGA Golf Education Day on Wednesday September 4 will appeal to greenkeepers at courses of every size and type and will focus on drainage, bunkers, composts and disease management.

The day will start with ‘Greens Drainage - Mission Impossible’ presented by Andy Wood, Course Manager of Robin Hood Golf Club. He will outline a workable solution for transforming soil-based greens with deep thatch and black layer, highlighting the methods used to solve drainage problems on troublesome greens.

Stuart Yarwood MG, Course Manager of Lymn Golf Club, will then discuss ‘Sand Traps Troublesome greens. He will look forward through the high risk autumn and winter periods. BIGGA CEO Jim Croston, said: “BIGGA is delighted to once again have the opportunity to work with our friends the IOG and bring top-class greenkeeper education to the SALTEX experience. I hope many of our members take the opportunity to attend the seminar programme.”

BIGGA’s revamped CPD programme launches on July 1 so it is great that SALTEX provides the chance for our members to improve both their knowledge and their CPD profile. I hope many also take the chance to view the exhibition; the turf industry is a constant provider of innovation, and opportunities like SALTEX where new products and services can be seen at first hand are always a benefit.”

One BIGGA CPD credit is available for each seminar and a CPD register will be available at the end of each seminar. Visit www.iogsaltex.com for full details.

TONO MOWER AT THE HART OF WEDDING

A greenkeeper at Newcastle-under-Lyme Golf Club is so attached to his Tono mower – he took it to his wedding.

Daren Hart tied the knot with sweetheart Stephanie on a glorious June day. He took the opportunity to be pictured with his Toro Greensmaster 3200, which was specially transported to the nearby wedding venue.

Ian Beach, Head Greenkeeper at the Club, attended the nuptials and confirmed a good time was had by all.

CHRIOS ROARS OFF INTO RETIREMENT

Keen motorcyclist Chris Mitchell has retired after working at Maidenhead Golf Club in Berkshire for 45 years.

Chris - currently a 13 handicap golfer – joined the club in 1968 as an apprentice greenkeeper. Then moved on to assistant and first assistant before taking the Course Manager position ten years ago.

The club has promoted two of Chris’s former colleagues with Barry Gardner assuming the mantle of Course Manager and Mark Sweeney the new Deputy.

Chris said: “I’ve really appreciated the support of the club, the members and management in providing the resources to do the job to the best of my ability.”

He added that one of the highlights of his time at Maidenhead was when the members clubbed together to pay for a much-needed full fairway irrigation system several years ago. Chris intends to lower his handicap in retirement as such as indulging his passion of motorcycling, and travelling with his wife June.

GREENKEEPERS VICTORIOUS

Ashley Wood Golf Club played host recently to the 17th Annual Course Care Cup, this year with the secretaries bowing for a win! Good weather and a fine course ensured good golf with the day thoroughly enjoyed by all. Despite huge efforts the Secretaries could not prevail and the Greenkeepers took the trophy again winning three matches to two. Thanks from all were extended to Highspeed Group Ltd for sponsoring the event.

Highspeed Group’s Area Manager Paul Dyver presented the trophy to Tony Gould, Chairman of BIGGA South Coast Section.

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