Golf Club, would like to offer some assurance to any greenkeeper who is having irrigation leaks in our latest dry spell, for every one you have someone somewhere will have two and that if left they will be completely unnoticeable when the rain starts again in September.

Due to a delayed deadline for the magazine I am able to include the results of the Cresta Cup played at the superbly presented North Hants Golf Club. Everyone agreed that this is one of our outstanding courses in the south and confirms that we are very lucky to be able to play golf in clubs that are presented to such a high standard. We thank Nigel Stainer and his Greenkeepers for an extremely pleasant day.

The above average golfers were: Cresta Cup Winner John Mathis Sunningdale GC, 48pts. Runner up Andrew Dennis, Laleham GC, 35pts. Nearest the pin Craig Mills, Hindhead GC, Longest Drive Gary Ogilvie (Avoncrop) The day was sponsored by Vitax whom we thank most sincerely.

South West
The Greenkeeper/Amateur Fourball Betterball Competition took place on a sunny short-wearing day at Woodspring Golf Club, Bristol. I was lucky enough to play with the Course Manager, Steve Chappel, Nigel and Chopper Harris (a very appropriate name) from T. H. Whites. The course was in excellent condition, and the scores proved this.

Superb prizes provided by sponsor of the day Biosoed Probotics. These were presented to 1. C. Tozer and D. Rendell 42 pts, 2. M. Hawker and C. Ross 41 pts, 3. J. Keenaghan and L. Cox, 38 pts. The longest drive went to C. Tozer and the Nearest the pin, J. Keenaghan.

We would like to thank everyone at Woodspring for a brilliant day in splendid surroundings. The next event for your diary is the Summer Tournament at the Kendleshire on July 24 please continue to support the Section and the events.

The team will play the South Coast on August 16 Contact; J. Keenaghan if you are available for selection. Dave Bougen.

South Coast
The Spring Tournament has finally been played at Basingstoke. The lunch and evening meal was very enjoyable. A special thanks must go to Julie Tribe, the Assistant Club Secretary, for all her hard work.

And last but not least to Harvey Tribe and his team, for providing the course at such short notice.

The next competition to take place is the The Secretaries ‘v’ BIGGA, to be held at Uppavon GC on June 14. And then the Summer Tournament is to be held on July 12 at Broadstone GC. So look out for the results shortly. Well that’s for another month.

Mike Cartwright.

Devon and Cornwall
What a month we were lucky to have the company of our Chairman Clive Osgood who attended the workshop on Health & Safety organised by our Regional Administrator, Paula Humphries. Unfortunately the excellence of the workshop wasn’t matched by the attendance. For the second time this year I have experienced the effects of an earthquake this time in my home town of Bude, although it only measured 3.6 it still made the bed shake, I thought my luck was in.

The Section is delighted to announce that Phoenix Irrigation will be sponsoring the fixture cards for the next two seasons. The new fixture cards will hopefully be with you during late August.

Richard Whyman

Section Event?
www.bigga.org.uk/events.html

South West and South Wales
Tel: 01296 352194

Northern Ireland

South Coast
The Spring Tournament has finally been played at Basingstoke. If you remember the original day had to be cancelled at The Army GC, so it was rescheduled to take place at Basingstoke on May 31.

A total of 28 players eventually played on the day, including the Club Captain Mr D Neaman, and Eddie Fox, from Haxleys. Seven entrants had to withdraw, some at very short notice. One day isn’t enough time for Chris to inform the caterers of changes. I mentioned before that at least seven days’ notice is required to cancel, any less time than this and you will forfeit your entrance money.

So who were the winners on the day?

Div 1 (Hussey’s Trophy)
1. Mark Hancock 50pts
Div 2 (Avoncrop Trophy)
1. Kevin Glass 56pts
2. Andy McDonald 54pts
3. Alan Magee 53pts
Div 3 (Reefves Cup)
1. Kevin Ratcliffe 55pts
2. M. Archer 46pts

Everyone enjoyed the wonderful hospitality given by Basingstoke. The lunch and evening meal was very enjoyable. A special thanks must go to Julie Tribe, the Assistant Club Secretary, for all her hard work.

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Mike Cartwright.
This competition is not open to our congratulations and a fantastic all three telephone numbers. Numbers when he correctly identified correspondence will be entered into. The judges decision is final. No correct entry drawn will receive a stylish BIGGA Sportswatch!

Wednesday, July 18, 2001. The first BIGGA sportswatch are Manchester GC, certainly knew his BIGGA staff or non-members. Last month, Neil Oliver, from North Aldwark, Alne, York Y061 1UF.

BIGGA HOUSE, 1154 Melton Road Syston • Leicester • LE7 2HB

Tel: 0116 269 6766 Mobile: 0830 533999 Fax: 0116 269 6866

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WIN A BIGGA SPORTSWATCH

Simply look through all the products and services in our guide and name the companies which the following telephone numbers refer to; a. 0161 763 7060 b. 01771 633777 c. 01260 281801

Write down your three answers on a postcard and send your entries to:

Know Your Numbers, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Aina, York Y061 1UF

Entries to reach us no later than Wednesday, July 18, 2001. The first correct entry drawn will receive a stylish BIGGA Sportswatch!

The judges decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.

This competition is not open to BIGGA staff or non-members. Last month, Neil Oliver, from North Manchester GC, certainly knew his numbers when he correctly identified all three telephone numbers.

Our congratulations and a as fantastic BIGGA sportswatch are on their way to you!
31 year old Head Greenkeeper with 12 years experience in greenkeeping. Qualified to NVQ level 4 Management, including Spraying, Chainsaw and First Aid certificate. Excellent motivation, supervisory skills and computer literate. Experience in formulating & working to agreed budget, managing staff, resources and presentation to highest standards. Seeks challenging new position all locations considered.

Scottish Golf Course Manager seeks new challenge either home or abroad. Experienced in growing-in, as well as all other aspects of greenkeeping, including construction, drainage, irrigation and machinery maintenance. Qualified to HNC level.

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SCOTSCRAIG GOLF CLUB
EST 1817

Invites applications for the position of

COURSE MANAGER

Scotscraig Golf Club is one of the oldest golf clubs in the country, and is currently on The Royal & Ancient list of Final Qualifying courses for "The Open". This is a new appointment and offers an exciting and challenging position. The successful candidate will be a fully qualified greenkeeper who can demonstrate ability in forward planning, budgeting, organisation, man management, interpersonal and communications skills. The Club have recently installed a full irrigation system with computer control and a skill in this area is also essential. An attractive remuneration package will be available to the right candidate.

Applications which will be treated in strictest confidence, should include a detailed career history to date, current salary, and references, and sent to:

Barrie D. Liddle, Managing Secretary, Scotscraig Golf Club,
Golf Road, Tayport, Fife DD6 9DZ

Closing date for applications - 6th August 2001
A full job description is available upon request.

ROYAL BLACKHEATH GOLF CLUB
IS A PRIVATE MEMBERS CLUB, INSTITUTED IN 1608

WE CURRENTLY REQUIRE A

HEAD GREENKEEPER
FOR OUR 18-HOLE PARKLAND COURSE

The successful applicant will possess the appropriate qualifications and be experienced in all aspects of golf course management, with skills to supervise an established greenkeeping team. Excellent salary and conditions available to right applicant.

Applications in writing, together with your C.V. should be addressed to:

The Secretary, Royal Blackheath Golf Club,
Court Road, London SE95 5AP

Marketing Directors

Could you maximise your company’s online presence for your primary target audience?

BIGGA's online statistics have revealed the most viewed area on our website to be the recruitment section. Regularly receiving an average of 1,355 individual user session visits every month, this area of the BIGGA website has, in fact, received over 12,220 individual user session visits since its' relaunch just 9 months ago.

Opportunities now exist for creative, forward thinking professionals to utilise their knowledge and skills to implement a strong marketing presence within this rapidly expanding commercial area. We are looking for candidates who can see the long-term potential of building strong links with the Association, and understand the importance of targeted marketing. Previous experience of handling advertising budgets is desirable.

Attractive financial packages will be dependent on experience, but monthly sponsorship rates for successful candidates will start at £400 per single month sponsorship, rising to £1,000 following a successful 3 month sponsorship period.

Benefits will include: Your 'brand' being associated with a proven market-leader; The ability to entice more than 1,355 potential online customers to your site every month; Increased traffic to your site.

For further information please surf to: www.bigga.org.uk/opportunities.html

For an application form, please contact Jennifer Whichello on 01347 833800 or email jennifer@bigga.co.uk

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence. Closing date for applications: August 14, 2001
The London Golf Club is one of the premier complexes in Europe, with two championship courses designed by Jack Nicklaus and his company Golden Bear. Set in 650 acres of the Kent countryside, the club is situated 25 miles south of London.

Equipped with the latest machinery and one of the most modern maintenance facilities in the industry, the successful applicant will experience high standards of greenkeeping, with excellent training provision. The position presents great opportunities for the right person to progress, in our 30 man team.

We are looking for an enthusiastic, conscientious and self motivated greenkeeper with experience.

Applicants should hold, or be looking to gain relevant qualifications. Remuneration will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Please apply in writing by 6th August enclosing a full C.V to:
Mr Peter Todd, Golf Courses Manager, The London Golf Club PLC, South Ash Manor Estate, Ash, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 7EN

ABRIDGE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Require an

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

For their mature 18 hole parkland course.

Applicants should have a minimum of two years experience and have NVQ Level 2 or equivalent.
Spraying certificates an advantage.

Salary in line with the Standing Committee minimum recommendations.

Apply with full CV to
The Manager, Abridge Golf & Country Club, Epping Lane, Stapleford Tawney, Essex, RM4 1ST

SOUTH HEREFORDSHIRE GOLF CLUB

Requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

To work on 18 hole course with an attached 9 hole Par 3 and 16 bay Driving Range. The ideal applicant should possess NVQ Level 3 and have experience at a supervisory level in their current/past position.
Salary to be discussed. Accommodation available.

Please send your CV to:
Roger Lee, South Herefordshire Golf Club, Twin Lakes, Upton Bishop, Nr. Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7UA

PENRITH GOLF CLUB

Requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Penrith Golf Club which was founded in 1890 is a private members club and is situated in a splendid location between the delights of the Eden Valley in Cumbria and the majesty of the Lakeland hills which provide a magnificent backdrop to this par 69 course.

The successful applicant must be self-motivated with suitable experience and sound knowledge of all turf maintenance practices. They will have overall responsibility for the course and should be equipped to develop budgets, work schedules, course and machinery maintenance plans and have strong man management and motivation skills to manage a small team of five.

Free golf membership will be available and remuneration will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

No accommodation available.

Please apply in writing including CV to:
The Secretary, Penrith Golf Club, Salkeld Road, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 8SG

ONLINE RECRUITMENT

Check out www.bigga.org.uk for the latest job vacancies from the fineturf industry
Signs are here to stay and Sandy McDivot has made full use of an array of such notices at Sludgecombe Pay and Play.

I suppose if I was to be brutally frank with myself and using management consultant's parlance, I would have to be classified as a resistor to change. But as I enter the realms of doddering senility, even I have to occasionally make way for the unstoppable momentum of change.

For example, it was not many years ago that I was totally convinced that computers had little place in the lives of we greenkeepers. Today however I have been forced to slightly reconsider my view. I suppose if I was to be brutally frank with myself and using management consultant's parlance, 1 would have to admit that any greenkeeper will be allowed within a two-mile radius of the golf course, but to my knowledge they have not yet rang up our country's international airports to inform them that due to their Summer Invitational the days flights will have to be suspended.

Signs are here to stay and Sandy McDivot has made full use of an array of such notices at Sludgecombe Pay and Play.
really saying is when you get near to the green you are required to invite the next group of golfers to hit golf balls at you. Now I don’t know about you but in my humble opinion that is just asking for trouble.

A golf course near to me has an array of signs just about everywhere. As you drive into the car park, the first one you see states visitors must only park in the rear car park. This immediately gives the impression that visitors are an unwelcome parasite that are not worthy of the car park adjacent to the clubhouse but instead have to hide their beaten up old bangers around the back so as not to offend the members. The next one you see tells you that mobile phones are not allowed in the car park, clubhouse, golf course or any of the vertical airspace above the same.

This requirement was confirmed to me when someone I was with, accidentally had his go off while in the pro shop. He was immediately pounced upon by irate members and thoroughly admonished for bringing these symbols of Lucifer into their temple. But the thing about this course, was that it was located in a retirement area and had a steep slope at its furthest reaches affectionately known as “Cardiac Hill” due to the number of elderly members who while climbing up it had finally succeeded in conquering their habit of living.

The membership was to put it mildly, getting on a bit. In fact the worry was, an especially harsh winter could wipe half of them out in one go. Now the Head Greenkeeper had personal-ly witnessed nine of them exit this world, so what would happen at this club, if while at the far end of the course someone suffered a heart attack and required urgent medical attention. If due to the prohibition of mobiles that person dies while their partner risks his or her own life in running back to the clubhouse to fetch help, then what is the club’s legal position?

Surely they were aware of the potential threat to life that they could be posing by the implementation of this ban. Would they then be open to prosecution?

Of course signs on golf courses are not only used to warn of potential danger. They are also needed as a means of direction. I am sure I am not alone in witnessing golfers walking onto a tee adjacent to the preceding green and not quite being able to work out how according to the card, the hole they face should be a short par three when all they can see is a green some five hundred yards distant.

To such golfers the concept of numerical order is often a difficult one to grasp and so they require signage to direct them to the correct part of the course. I remember the story of how two visiting Americans once played golf at Royal St George’s only to stray mid round onto the neighbouring Princes Golf Club. Amazingly they finished the round, had lunch in the wrong clubhouse and only realised something was wrong when they could not find their car in the car park. Then there was the unfortunate case of the poorly directed newly appointed greenkeeper at Sunningdale Ladies’ Golf Club who was asked to rake bunkers.

He would of benefited greatly from a direction sign as somehow after raking the bunkers on the Ladies course he managed to end up on the Old course at Sunningdale. This is a course that apart from bordering the Ladies Club was otherwise entirely unrelated. The poor apprentice then worked his way through the bunkers on the Old and then onto those of the New Course. It appeared the actual Sunningdale greenkeepers who witnessed this, did not inform the hapless apprentice of his errors.

They reasoned that he was doing such a fine job of raking their bunkers why would they want to stop him.

But no matter how many signs we put out, we can never cover ourselves for every eventuality. A quick glance through the pages of Golfers Handbook reveals that two women once died on the course when an aeroplane hit them. In another three separate cases, golfers have died when their golf shafts have broken mid swing, rebounded off inanimate objects and plunged into their bodies.

Now try doing a risk assessment on those!

Sandy McDivot, Head Greenkeeper, Sludgecombe Pay and Play

July 2001 Greenkeeper International 49
We are now well into the golfing season, so we have already had the Volvo PGA Championship at Wentworth, and we are looking forward to The Open at Royal Lytham and St Annes.

The Support Team at Wentworth, operating for the first time over all four days, was a huge success and everyone, particularly Regional Administrator Derek Farrington, should be warmly congratulated of their efforts. His Midland colleague, Peter Larter, also turned up to help out and we were all grateful for his support as well.

Fortunately their work was continued to raking bunkers and not squandering but I know that Chris Kennedy appreciated the fact that the team was there for such work if it were needed.

I was most impressed by the salubrious hospitality facility that the Tour gave the team as its base. Overlooking the 18th green and air conditioned we associated the fact that the team was there for such work if it were needed.

I firmly believe that nature will sort itself out and I would urge everyone within our industry to remain calm. A good summer season from now on will help to put everyone in a positive mood.

Hopefully you all enjoyed it and can earn enough Brownie points at home between now and next year to be able to do the same in 2002.

On my own patch we held a Surrey Section event at North Hants Golf Club. I know it sounds as though it shouldn’t belong to the Surrey Golf Club, but I believe that Stoke Park Club has shown real foresight.

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