est the Pin - I know, I couldn’t believe it either, and with 35 pts on countback, the winner of the aforementioned cup was Ryan Angear. Gary Holland, 35 pts, was runner-up, and the other Effingham GC bandito, who came third was Cameron Porter. That great Scottish golfer, Gareth Roberts, had the best gross score and will, if you are not careful, relive for you at our next event... every shot.

The next event is at Wimbledon Park GC, which confusingly has not taken place yet, but will have by the time you read this. Back to the dark room.

Daddies of the month are Jon Wood from Woodcote Park GC, who will retire on long and exciting retirement. Office in Pall Mall. Good luck to Woodcote Park and occasionally of veteran and older RAC rescue retire soon, but will continue position.

Bob, a man to whom the years have been kind, and who still has a little twinkle, sorry that should read a little twinkle in his eye, is looking forward to relaxing in the Chichester area by the sea. He is intent on playing much golf in the Goodwood area by the 12th.

Jon’s wife Abby, on August 11 had a second baby girl, Isla, 8 lbs 13 oz. Congratulations to both families.

As you may all be aware, Bob Wiles, RAC GC, officially retires in February 2010, after 33 years. Bob, a man to whom the years have been kind, and who still has a little twinkle, sorry that should read a little twinkle in his eye, is looking forward to relaxing in the Chichester area by the sea. He is intent on playing much golf in the Goodwood area by the 12th.

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a tremendous score to win the main prizes.

Now, the Sussex Section has always prided itself in making teams and players from other Sections very welcome and so we were pleased to welcome three teams from Surrey to our Team Shield. Surrey Renegades II consisted of Gary Ogilvie, with Course Managers from West Hill and Guildford, and they took second place (on countback) with 87 points. In third, with 86 points, were Surrey Renegades III, all from Tandridge Golf Club.

What happened to Surrey Renegades I? You may well ask. For this was the team led by Brian (Tachi) Willmott who regularly enters Surrey team events. Mark Harvey (Epsom) struggling with illness having just returned from Mexico played brilliantly to card 50 points, almost enough to win it on his own. He was however inconsolable at not getting in the prizes feeling that his team mates performance could have been better. Anthony was no better than average (unalso for him) while Brian had great difficulty in getting off the tee. He found the 9th Green from the 10th Tee, nearly demolished the halfway house (the catering lady hopes to back to work soon) and the winner of the 3.50 on the nearby Brighton Racecourse only won because of where Brian’s drive on the 15th finished. Surrey and Brian, you are great fun and are welcome to all Sussex events. On reflection that was a stupid thing to write as Brian pens the Surrey reports!

Carlton Allen Davis won the Longest Drive prize with a huge drive, with Nearest the Pin being won with a great shot from ‘Sex-Bomb’ Sears. This wonderful day was rounded off with a superb meal in the evening

There is a Sussex/Kent/Surrey triangular match on October 14 and anyone wishing to play please contact Secretary Dave Allen and for your information the Sussex Turkey Trot which is always a great day will be held at Worthing Golf Club on Friday, November 27.

Derek Farrington

South West and South Wales Region

BIGGA South West and South Wales Regional Seminar 2009

This year’s annual Seminar is being presented in association with Farmura and Aquatrols and will be held once again at Cannington Centre for Land Based Studies on November 19. The theme for the seminar this year is “Modern Solutions For The Game”.

The morning presentations include two speakers over from America. Dr Stan Kosta, Director of Technology for Aquatrols Corporation, who will give a presentation on Surfactants and Soil Management and John Kaminiski, Assistant Professor of Turfgrass Science at Pennsylvania State University, who will talk about Fairy Ring Control. These speakers will also be joined in the morning session by Dr Ruth Mann, Plant Pathologist for STRI, who will be speaking on Diseases On The Increase. The afternoon session commences with Peter McVicar, Course Manager at Hesketh Heath Golf Club, speaking on Sustainability followed by Tom Malehorn, from Aquatrols, who is a graduate from Pennsylvania State University and will give a presentation on Surface Moisture Management and Playing Control.

Entry for BIGGA members is £20 with non members £30. A reduced rate of £20 for a non member is offered if accompanied by a BIGGA member. Places for the day are limited and booking details and information will be sent to all Head Greenkeepers/Course Managers in the region. Anyone requiring further information or a booking form please contact Jane Jones BIGGA Regional Administrator on 01454 270850 or mobile 07841418110.

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Around The Green

Derek Farrington

South West

Early August, on one of the few dry days, saw the Section team travel “across the Bridge” to take on the South Wales Section at Marriot St Pierre. I say crossed the Bridge – most of us sensibly crossed the bridge, but Robin Greaves in the “yellow peril” drove around the long way via Gloucester. “It costs fifteen lousy quid to cross in a pickup” Robin was heard to moan while driving into his second Magnuson on the verandah (and doing his best to wind up our hosts!).

Never mind – it was a great day. Thanks to Marriot St. Pierre, and all the team there for such a terrific experience. The Old Course, which as most of us know has been hard enough over the years, has had a significant revenge over the course of last year. Most of the bunkers have been rebuilt, four greens have been replaced, and several tees repositioned – notably the 7th tee, which has been moved back into woodlands down on the lower level, now making the former par-4 hole into a 540yard par-5. Also the 16th hole, which goodness knows was difficult enough before, has been made into a much more severe dogleg by moving the tee to the right and a new green with a nasty sneaky drop-off at the back. Excellent improvements throughout, and fullest congratulations to all those involved. Money well spent without question. The South Wales team finally got revenge over the course of defeats with a narrow 3 ½ – 2 ½ win. Well played Wales– but watch out - We’ll Be Back.

The Autumn Meeting and AGM at Saltford Golf Club is now very close. Please respond to the email applications which have gone out. If you haven’t received one for any reason – please contact me on paulw@mgcnew.co.uk as soon as possible. Darren Moxham and his team are champing at the bit to welcome us, and the word is that Saltford is in really good condition with all the stops pulled out.

As for the AGM – this is your chance to make a difference. Come along and tell us what you’d like to see in the way of Education, Training, and Golf. Yes Golf. We shouldn’t be embarrassed by playing golf. This is our trade. If we don’t understand golf – if we don’t understand the requirements of golf – if we don’t understand the mindset of the golfing member – we don’t stand the best chance of doing our jobs properly. At a career level – getting involved with a BIGGA Committee is the best opportunity for developing yourself. Stand for the Committee. I did – at the age of 25 and a Deputy Head Greenkeeper in 1982. Best thing I ever did. I don’t think I’d be where I am today if I hadn’t. Yes, BIGGA has taken up a lot of my time. No I haven’t been paid – no I don’t want any payment. It doesn’t work like that. Volunteering speaks volumes don’t underestimate it. You develop a network. You develop relationships and a reputation. When that job comes along that you really really want – you’ve got the best chance of securing it. You’re not going to manage that if your name is not known or your commitment unproven - and someone else’s is. Simple.

Nuff said. This is getting close to my last report. I’ll probably squeeze one more in, which might well be a look back over five years of ramblings. So please send me any news from your area or club and you may be spared.

May I just close by thanking our Patronage Partners for their support. The names are on the Fixture Card. The links will soon be appearing on the website. These companies support us. Please help by supporting them.

Paul Worster.

paulw@mgcnew.co.uk

07768 394593.

South Wales

Hope you are all well and not suffering from Trench Foot after that ‘glorious’ summer that we just had!

Seriously, in September’s Around The Green (which I wrote in August) I commented on the rain, then went to Tenerife for two weeks, came back and the weather was still exactly the same! What happened to the ‘BBQ Summer’? And what happened to those ‘experts’ who advised us that, due to global warming, we were to paint our houses white to reflect the sun and to plant shrubs to provide shade? Are these the same people who during the 80s advised us that in the event of a
nuclear war we were to paint our houses white to reflect the blast? Do these people have shares with Dulux or something? Anyway, rant over, back to the Section!

The annual match against The South West was played at St Pierre recently. Players found the Mathen course in excellent condition, thanks to the efforts of Course Manager, Stuart Wood, and his staff. After a hard fought contest, the South Wales team finally came out on top, with the final score 3 1/2 to 2 1/2. Longest Drive was won by Jordan, from Taunton & Pickeridge, and Nearest The Pin was won by Stuart Ross, from Brecon GC. Thanks go out to South West team’s captain Wayne ‘The Special One’ Vincent for organising his team; to Steve Chappell for organising the South Wales team and for looking after the cup; to T H White for sponsoring the South West team’s shirts and James Rees, of Inscapes, for sponsoring the South Wales teams shirts. Also a big thanks to Simon Keeble and Nick Martin from The Scotts Company for providing the prizes. And finally thanks to Stuart Wood and everyone at St Pierre for the course, the great food and hospitality.

At the time of writing, the draw for the Semi Finals for The Rigby Taylor Matchplay Competition (The Road To Tenby) was as follows: Paul Handy & Rhys Norville v Gary Humphries & Rhys Norville; Mark Wilshire & Mark Anderton v Andy Roach & Gareth Knight or Darryl Bray & Leigh Davies.

The final will be played at Tenby GC and both teams will be giving Dave Carvey’s RT company credit card a good hammering in Tenby town after the match. If I give you a good write up than can I come along too Dave? Roy? Peter? Oh well! It was worth a try!

Don’t forget the Autumn competition which this year is at Southerndown GC on Wednesday, October 14. The Section’s AGM will also take place here so if you have any suggestions/issues regarding the Section then please feel free to come along to air your views. The golf will start at 1.30pm. Invites will be sent out in due course. The Autumn event will once again be sponsored by Keith Morgan Mowers. Thanks in advance to Jon and Ben Morgan for their continued support.

Good luck to our Greenkeeping team when they play The Secretaries in their annual match, which this year is to be held at Neath GC on Thursday, September 10. A report in next month’s Around The Green.

Finally, If Adrian Panks (your friendly SISIS Rep) tells you that he will be on his inflatable this weekend, don’t put your hands to your ears and shout ‘too much information Ade!’ He is merely stating that he has a new fangled inflatable kayak and can often be seen paddling on the river Taff on weekends. He has kindly given me his old kayak (The Pink Pig) and has suggested following the river Taff from its source in the Brecon Beacons right down to Cardiff. I don’t know mate! I’m sure that when we paddle through Merthyr I’ll be able to hear someone playing the theme tune from the film Deliverance on the banjo. I’ll let you know!

Any information or announcements that you would like added to this column will be gratefully received.

Ceri Richards

07831 168645
Fancy Improving your IT skills?

Why not try online learning, you can learn at your own pace, in your own time with Microsoft® online learning.

As a membership benefit, BIGGA members can access an official Microsoft® Office 2003 training library that includes programs such as Excel, Word, Powerpoint and Outlook.

A BIGGA member can access these practical and effective online courses at a discounted rate of £15 (plus VAT at the prevailing rate) thanks to the support from the Learning and Development fund.

To take advantage of this membership benefit or for further information contact the Learning and Development Department on 01347 833800 option 3.

BIGGA Membership Benefit of the Month – Stress Advice Helpline

Stress, health and wellbeing are becoming more and more of a serious issue.

BIGGA recognises that stress is becoming a real concern, especially work-related stress. In order to help you address any issue that may be causing you to feel stressed BIGGA is pleased to offer a stress advice helpline as a new service to full members.

This membership benefit can help you proactively manage stress by providing immediate emotional support, advice and practical information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Stress Advice Helpline can work with a wide range of concerns from emotional issues such as anxiety, stress, depression and low self-esteem to family and relationship issues, marital and relationship problems, critical illness and bereavement, this list is not exhaustive.

One telephone call to the helpline could be all that someone needs to begin to manage their own work-related or personal problems and improve their situation.

Full Members of BIGGA can now call the helpline on 0800 174 318, this is a freephone telephone number 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and speak to a professionally qualified counsellor.

Greengkeepers and Groundsmen...

...two words here at BIGGA we are now using more in unison with each other.

It was very encouraging to receive so much positive feedback at Saltex last month from both greenkeepers and groundsmen regarding the inclusion of groundsmen into full membership of BIGGA. It was quite apparent that many do believe that there is much to learn from each other.

We view both greenkeepers and groundsmen (working on sports turf) as our core membership business and both receive our utmost attention. We are not under any illusions and realise that we have to work hard at promoting the services, benefits and reasons why greenkeepers and groundsmen (working on sports turf) should be members of BIGGA.

Harrogate Week

As we are now into October some of you will be thinking as far ahead as January and Harrogate Week. The dates for your diary are –

Exhibition dates – Tuesday 19th January to Thursday 21st January 2010

Education dates – Sunday 17th January to Thursday 21st January 2010

There is a full programme of exciting seminars and workshops to choose from, you will probably find some that are “interesting, but not for me”, while others will have triggered that “Ah ha” moment, whatever your reaction there is certainly something of interest for everybody. Don’t leave it too late, when you have made your mind up, book!

Fancy Improving your IT Skills?

Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

BIGGA welcomes the following new members

Scottish Region
Stewart Carbray, West
Ryan Copland, East
Tao Gao, Central
Ben Gourlay, East
Jamie McGrogan, West
Rongxue Xu, Central
Kun Zhang, Central

Northern Region
Keith Dood, North East
Mark Dodd, North East
Charlie Emmsley, Northern
Craig Kilgour, North East
Andrew Shaw, North East
David Thompson, Northern

Midland Region
Michael Bithell, East of England
Peter Dunkley, Mid Anglia
Richard Hawker, Midland
Jonathan Lewis, Midland
Mick Marvell, East Midland
Richard O’Hara, East Midland
Simon Oakes, East Midland

South East Region
Geoffrey Beauchamp, Kent
James Brazil, Surrey
Adrian Cox, Essex
Robert Dowling, Essex
Steven Gaines, Surrey
Matthew Jupp, Essex
Christopher Phillips, Surrey
Douglas Rooff, East Anglia
Matt Scobie, Surrey
Mike Seaton, Surrey
Neil Ward, Sussex

South West/South Wales Region
Kyle Knight, South West
Stephen Milton, South West
Paul Neilson, South Coast

Northern Ireland
Ian Moore, Northern Ireland

Overseas
Giles McDonagh, Republic of Ireland
Benjamin Lovett, Turkey
Guizhou Peng, Far East
If he hadn’t become a greenkeeper, Richard Larkin might have been running his Dad’s business by now...either that or playing for Millwall FC! If he hadn’t become a greenkeeper, Richard Larkin might have been running his Dad’s business by now...either that or playing for Millwall FC! If he hadn’t become a greenkeeper, Richard Larkin might have been running his Dad’s business by now...either that or playing for Millwall FC!

Name: Richard Larkin
Age: 20
Club: Tenterden Golf Club Kent
Position: Greenkeeper
Nickname: Granny!

1. How long have you been greenkeeping?
Two years

2. What was it about the career that attracted you?
Originally worked in the Pro Shop but soon wanted to get out on the course.

3. If you weren’t a greenkeeper what do you think you’d be?
Not sure but would probably be helping with my Dad’s business. Always wanted to be outdoors and active.

4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why?
Cutting the rough, gives me time to think, plus the odd golf ball.

5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why?
Bunker raking especially after a bad storm.

6. What one thing - other than a pay rise - would improve the greenkeepers’ lot?
There is always room for improvement. Perhaps one day in the distant future we could be able to control the weather!

7. Hobbies?
Playing golf (5 handicap), football and clubbing.

8. Favourite Band?
Various bands but particularly like Garage/Dance music.

9. Which team do you support (football or otherwise)?
Charlton Athletic FC and Millwall FC – I played for Millwall Juniors.

10. What is your claim to fame?
Played football with one or two Millwall up and coming stars and golf with European Tour Player Benn Barham. But watch this space!

Patrick Vivers, of Etesia comes under the spotlight

1. What is your position within the company?
President of Etesia SAS and MD of Etesia UK Ltd

2. How long have you been in the industry?
I joined Outils Wolf in Wissembourg, France in 1976; then started with Etesia in 1988, when the Wolf family decided to invest in a new factory/product/brand.

3. How did you get into it?
One of the Directors of Outils Wolf was introduced to me by a German Politician during a study-exchange with the of University of Saarbrücken and my Business School in Chambery.

4. What other jobs have you done?
Sales & marketing were always my main activity. Since I joined Etesia I have added export to my favourite activities, as I am fluent in French, German, English and Italian. Export nowadays represents 50% of Etesia’s business, whilst Etesia UK is our second biggest export country.

5. What do you like about your current job?
What I like most is the diversity, with all management aspects including R&D, production, sales & marketing, after-sales, finance...Secondly the fact I work for a family-owned company where return on investment is seen as long term, with very little shareholder pressure.

6. What changes have you seen during your time in the industry?
Modern distribution, Chinese imports and pressure on price, production de-localisations and new manufacturing technology.

7. What do you like to do in your spare time?
Motorcycling, walking

8. Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?
Drawing my pension, and maybe set up a new own-business with my sons (25 year old twins)

9. Who do you consider to be your best friends in the industry?
I’m not sure we can talk about friends in business, but I do have many good work colleagues. Of course, over the years some excellent relationships have been built with dealers and suppliers.

10. What do you consider to be your lucky number?
Seven, my birth month
Unlock the potential of greenkeepers

Become a key sponsor

The funding provided by Golden and Silver Key supporters means that BIGGA can continue to produce training and career aids including DVDs, CD ROMs, field-guides, as well as refunds for training fees, subsidised learning and development courses, the lending library, careers advice, posters and manuals.

To find out more, contact BIGGA HOUSE on 01347 833800

I really wanted to develop my education but had to fund my own training, so I contacted BIGGA to ask for financial support. A refund of my course fees has enabled me to complete my chainsaw maintenance and cross cutting, felling of small trees and my PA6 spraying certificates. I really do appreciate what BIGGA, with the support of the Golden and Silver Key Companies, has done for my career.

Murray Mannall, Greenkeeper

The support for this fund has enabled BIGGA to enhance the value of being a member, and it has previously given many greenkeepers the opportunity to further develop their careers. As an association we owe our Golden and Silver Key sponsors a huge vote of thanks.

John Pemberton, Chief Executive

Current members of the Fund are:

Gold Key Individual Members: Andy Campbell MG CGCS; Sam Langrick; Christopher Lomas MG; Iain A Macleod; Frank Newberry; W J Rogers; Tom Smith; Lee Stutt MG
Silver Key Individual Members: Ade Archer; Iain Barr; Hamish Campbell; Steve Dixon; Paul Jenkins; Robert Malbusch MG; Richard McGlynn; Stephen Pope; Jason Sama; Steven Tierney; Neil Whitaker; Graham Wylie
Our monthly puzzle page to keep you entertained when you’re forced indoors.

CROSSWORD

Across
1 4th letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
4 Mountain range of Afghanistan, extending into Pakistan and India (5,4)
9 1990 film starring Arnold Schwarzenegger as detective John Kimble (12,3)
10 Marine creature also known as horsehead and opah (4-4)
11 Overshadow, make to look small (5)
13 Severe shortage (6)
14 More blasphemous (8)
17 In a coarse, contemptible manner (8)
18 Hindu/Muslim practice of secluding women from the sight of strangers (6)
20 Relating to birth (5)
22 Chrysanthemum relative used in traditional medicine (8)
24 British Prime Minister 1963-4 (4,7-4)
25 Comedian, 1931-93, famed for mother-in-law jokes (3,6)
26 North African country bordering Libya (5)

Down
1 1/12 Title currently held by HRH the Prince of Wales (4,2,8)
2 Welsh anthem - properly, Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau (4,2,2,7)
3 Mountain range forming the backbone of Italy (9)
4 Traditional Scottish delicacy (6)
5 --- soul, music genre made popular at venues such as Wigan Casino (8)
6 Overturn, tip over (5)
7 Hy Zaret / Alex North song, one of the most recorded of the 20th century (9,6)
8/23 Keep one’s fingers crossed (4,3,3,4)
12 See 1
15 Glow, emit light (9)
16 Hands and knees (3,5)
19 Mythical island where the sword Excalibur was forged (6)
21 Iron Age kingdom of Asia Minor (5)
23 See 8

QUICK ‘NINE HOLE’ QUIZ

1. David Beckham is clocking up the caps but whose record of most England caps does he have in his sights?
2. What is the name of the player at the centre of Rugby Union’s Bloodgate scandal?
3. Talking of scandals. Which motor company owns the team that Flavio Briatore was in charge of before he resigned?
4. More scandal. What is the name of the South African 18 year old 800 metre runner caught up in the gendergate scandal?
5. Over which course was this year’s Walker Cup played?
6. Name the 17 year-old tennis player from Guernsey who won the Girls’ Open at the US Open at Flushing Meadows.
7. Which football team plays at Pittodrie Stadium?
8. Name the English athlete who won the Heptathlon at the recent World Athletics Championships.
9. Name all five managers of the UK and Ireland national football teams

MONSTER SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 4x4 box contains the numbers 0 to 9 and the letters A to E.

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 9 box shape contains the numbers 1 to 9.

in the shed

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Ade Archer; Iain Barr; Hamish Campbell; Steve Dixon; Paul Jenkins; Robert Maibusch MG; Richard McGlynn; Stephen Pope; Jason Sarna; Steven Tierney; Neil Whitaker; Graham Wylie

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KEY SPONSORS_FP NEW.indd   1

Puzzle Answers on page 73
Waste2water “One-Stop Shop”

With environmental concern at the top of everyone’s agenda now is the time to be planning to make sure your facilities are in compliance with the new EU Water Framework Directive.

Did you know Waste2Water’s system is designed to enable an easy low cost upgrade of your existing wash-off facilities to ensure you are complying with the new legislation? More importantly, did you know the company supplies everything you need to upgrade your wash pad?

Waste2Water Supplies & Installs:
- Waste2Water Recycling Wash-Off Systems
- Waste2Water Chemical Stores
- Waste2Water Chemical Mixing Tanks
- A wide range of Diesel Fuel Stations
- Above Ground Petrol Tanks
- Wash Pad Construction

Installing a Waste2Water System enables the end user to undertake all potentially polluting activities (eg equipment wash-off, rehousing, degreasing, chemical mixing etc) on the controlled wash pad area, removing any pollution concerns as all these activities are reliably treated by the Waste2Water system. Better still, the Waste2Water Recycling Wash-Off System also reduces water usage by a massive 90%!

With the “Waste2Water One-Stop-Shop” everything is done to bring maintenance facility operations right up-to-date ensuring compliance with the ever-increasing environmental legislation!

Waste2Water will be delighted to arrange a free site visit and assist at a facility design, often being able to upgrade existing facilities at minimal cost - making an upgrade even more affordable.

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the surfaces are usually fully carried out are very important, as maintenance operations are timing and speed at which the surface, natural or artificial, the view as a problem, but as a...be able to access where we have to say a built up area, they can be...sustain, such as a...receive lots of...constructed for year round play, training facilities. There are lots of pros and cons...Artificial surfaces are usually...I have also been surprised at...Some...of artificials is where I step in at...What is apparent is that no two...Kirstin on 01347 833 832...BIGGA Members - Register Now...www.gkwear.co.uk...Call David on 01428 727 685 or email: david@lovelldk.fsnet.co.uk...www.pitchcare.com...To subscribe to pitchcare magazine log on to...Contact Kirstin on 01347 833 832 or email kirstin@bigga.co.uk
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