self-deprecating to name them, did not.

The semi-finalists in the Surrey Bowl are Gareth Roberts and Paul Bacon v Ron Christie and Roger Tydeman and Gary Ogilvie and Neil Gilham v David Worsfold and Jamie McEnroy.

I had thought that this last paragraph ought to contain a list of my birthday presents and friends and family who sent cards, but so much excitement in one edition could be too much for our more senior members to take, so I’ll just say goodbye until next month.

Brian Willmott

Essex

It’s 10 years since we last played at Burnham-on-Crouch Golf Club and what a difference it was. Last time we experienced every weather condition that could be thrown at us and this time the Gods were kind. The sun shone and the winds stayed moderate, which was lucky as Burnham is on the banks of the River Crouch with open plains to the west and south so when it blows, it BLOWS.

The Course was in fantastic condition, the 36 plus starters enjoyed a great day’s golf. No hold-ups and around in just over the four hours. Praise must go to Course Manager, Robert Coughlan, and his team for the condition, consistent pace on the greens and a well-manicured course, trouble if you were wild and forgiving if you weren’t.

Scores were interesting but the best didn’t disgrace themselves.

Overall winner of the Summer Trophy. Plus entrance to the BIGGA National Championship was Sam Cook, Colchester Golf Club; he joins Adam Millward and Mark Stopps on the Essex Team; he thanks the club and staff and presented the prizes, John Smith, Essex Captain’s Captain welcomed all the players and presented the prizes, he thanked the club and staff for their hard work and which regrettably was slightly spoilt by the weather. The Captains won 13-7 on the day.

I will not be able to give an account of the “Essex Trophy” which is to be held at Canons Brook Golf Club, Wednesday, August 19 until September’s edition of this magazine. If you have not yet entered there is still just time to get in, I hope to see you there. As I stated last month we have re-named this event.

That’s all for this time. Holidays and work are keeping us all busy and not much news is coming my way.

If you do have any news for the website or for GI International please contact me on 07764-862.337 or via e-mail essexbigga@talktalk.net

Arnold Phipps-Jones
Press Officer

It’s hard to believe that we are into September already and planning for Harrogate Week is starting to dominate time in the office. The education programme goes to print this month and will be available both in hard copy and on-line in a couple of weeks time.

Keep an eye on www.harrogatweek.org.uk for full details or follow the link at the top of the BIGGA web site Home Page. While bookings from exhibitors are reasonably good for this time of the year there is no doubt that the downturn in the economy has taken its toll. It is noticeable that there are a number of regular exhibitors that have not rebooked due to cash flow problems and that have opted to wait and see how things go this summer before committing. This is, of course, of concern, however, traditionally we have always had a flurry of bookings after SALTEX and through into December. The sales team is working hard to try to ensure that this happens again this year as well as exploring new avenues.

There is no doubt that exhibitions generally are under threat and I have heard of several around the country that have been cancelled this year, I’m sure that members will be aware of some of these.

Harrogate Week is not only a vital source of revenue for the Association but also the best opportunity, arguably in Europe, for members and their peers to meet suppliers, access bespoke education and to network within the sports turf industry. More and more companies are having their budgets either cut or frozen and so are therefore looking closely at how they spend their money. There are a number of publications within the industry, all competing, and some often almost giving advertising away to fill pages. BIGGA’s advertising revenue in Greenkeeper International and on the web has suffered in no small way and as I have reported previously we have reduced staffing levels at Headquarters by three as a direct consequence. All I ask is that you support your association that is there to support you.

With that in mind we are rapidly approaching the time of year when Sections hold their AGM’s and often elect new committee members. I know that it is very difficult to balance work, home and outside interests but please try to give some of your time to your Section, even if it is not on a regular basis. All I ask is that you support your association in no small way and as I have reported previously we have in Greenkeeper International and on the web has suffered advertising away to fill pages. BIGGA’s advertising revenue in Greenkeeper International and on the web has suffered in no small way and as I have reported previously we have reduced staffing levels at Headquarters by three as a direct consequence. All I ask is that you support your association that is there to support you.

Around The Green

John Pemberton
Chief Executive

John Pemberton
Chief Executive
BIGGA Policy on Courtesy Golf

Over the last few months the membership department have received telephone calls from members and golf clubs enquiring about the use of courtesy golf.

The guidelines below are to clear up any confusion among BIGGA members and golf clubs. We are aware the majority of members do behave sensibly when seeking courtesy golf.

**Guidelines**

- Only those with full membership should seek courtesy golf.
- Courtesy golf is only given at the discretion of the individual golf club and is not an automatic benefit of membership.
- Members wishing to seek courtesy golf at a club should contact the club at least 24 hours in advance of wishing to play.
- On arrival at the club, members should report to the Secretary/Pro Shop and follow normal procedures for playing golf.
- Members should always produce a valid membership card as proof of status to the club.
- Members should make a point of thanking the club for their courtesy on completion of their round of golf.
- Members should not seek courtesy golf at any one golf club more than twice per year.

Golf Clubs wishing to verify membership or requiring further details should contact the Membership Department directly.

All suspected abuses of the card should be reported immediately to BIGGA headquarters where such complaints will be investigated and appropriate action taken.

Open Support Team

Well done to all those who were part of the Open Support Team at Turnberry in July. As always, the team assisted the home greenkeeping staff in their usual professional supportive way.

Being part of the Open Support Team is one of the great benefits of being a full member of BIGGA, as Richard Saunders, Course Manager at Mowsbury Golf Club, Huntingdon found out:

“To be a member of the Open Support Team is an honour and a privilege…..as a member of the team we get to see behind the scenes as it were – with the staff out on the course early in the morning and late at night – the side the public doesn’t see…..I just hope I am lucky enough to be selected to be a member of the team in future years”.

**BIGGA Membership Benefit of the month - Telephone Debt Advice Helpline**

Managing money well is sometimes overlooked in the pressures of our daily lives.

Full Members of BIGGA can now talk about any financial concerns or worries through the Arc Legal 24/7 Debt Advice Helpline.

Expert confidential help is at hand through their trained independent counsellors ready to assist with counselling, support, advice and help.

If your debt is complicated the counsellor can also direct your call to specialist debt experts who will talk through the stages of prioritising the debts and steps to resolution.

Importantly once you are managing your money concerns the support of the counsellors is available 24/7 to help you find better ways to control future spending and deal with money related issues.

Call the Debt Advice Helpline on 0800 174 319 24 hours a day 7 days a week a week 365 days of the year, have your membership number to hand.

**Contact Details**

Tracey Maddison  
01347 833800 (option 1 for Membership)

**Regional Administrators**

Clive Osgood  
Tel: 01737 819343  
cliveosgood@yahoo.co.uk

Jane Jones  
Tel: 01347 833800  
janemaddison@btconnect.com

**Northern Region**

- Matthew Eastwood, Northern Brendan Hardman, North West  
- Stuart Murphy, North Wales  
- Neil Myatt, North West  
- Barry Parsons, North East

**Midland Region**

- Matthew Eastwood, Northern  
- Brendan Hardman, North West  
- Stuart Murphy, North Wales  
- Neil Myatt, North West

**South East Region**

- Clifford Anderson, Kent  
- Craig Betts, Surrey  
- Adam Constable, Surrey  
- Paul Curtis, East Anglia  
- Stan Harrison, London  
- Paul Holloway, Essex  
- Nicholas Kirkland, Essex  
- Mark Logan, Surrey  
- Fabian Micken, Surrey

**South West Region**

- Christopher Allen, South West  
- Gerald Clements, South West  
- Laurence Davis, South West  
- Matt Hubbard, South West  
- Matthew James, South West  
- Ryan Marshall, South West

**Overseas**

- Tom Stephen, Canada  
- Graham Johna, Sweden  
- Graham Johna, Sweden
Michael McLerie, follower of both AC Milan and Celtic football teams, is the subject of this month’s interrogation...

**Name:** Michael McLerie  
**Age:** 27  
**Golf Club:** Haggs Castle  
**Position:** First Assistant  
**Nickname:** Mick

**How long have you been greenkeeping?**  
10 years.

**What was it about the career that attracted you?**  
My uncle was a greenkeeper and that gave me my first taste of greenkeeping. I play golf and enjoy the outdoors.

**If you weren’t a greenkeeper what would you be?**  
College lecturer in greenkeeping.

**Which task do you enjoy and why?**  
Preparing the course for a tournament, because it gives you a lift to see the course at its best.

**Which task do you least enjoy doing and why?**  
Although necessary, I hate the mess of greasing machinery.

**What one thing other than a pay rise would improve the greenkeepers lot?**  
That greenkeeping technology continues to improve, leading to better machinery for the greenstaff and playing conditions for the golfer.

**Hobbies?**  
Golf, online gaming, reading, music.

**Favourite Band?**  
The Beatles

**Which team do you support?**  
Celtic and AC Milan

**What is your claim to fame?**  
Meeting and shaking Billy McNeil’s hand.

---

**What’s your number?**

Our regular and random profile of an industry figure continues with this month’s lucky number...

**Duncan Bagshaw of Nomow Golf comes under the spotlight**

**What is your position within the company?**  
Nomow Golf - National Sales Manager

**How long have you been in the industry?**  
I’ve been involved with golf for over 20 years, but Nomow has only just jumped into the market, we’re Europe’s largest installer of artificial grass.

**How did you get into it?**  
I’ve been a specialist short game teacher for a few years, but wanted to get back into a business environment.

**What other jobs have you done?**  
Golf Professional, Housemaster, Youth & Drugs worker for The Princes Trust, Business Development Manager.

**What do you like about your current job?**  
Working with genuine people and so far the industry seems full of them.

**What changes have you seen during your time in the industry?**  
In golf it has been the big headed drivers and development of the golf ball which “should” have made it easier for everybody

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**  
All sports, but my main enjoyment now comes from raising money for cancer charities through running. I’m currently training to run three marathons in three days in three countries!

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?**  
Coaching Scotland to Rugby Union success or getting ready to caddie for my son when he turns pro at 15.

**Who do you consider to be your best friends in the industry?**  
Difficult to say because everybody so far has been extremely helpful, but obviously Scott and Kirstin of BIGGA.

**What do you consider to be your lucky number?**  
3. It’s a magic number

Duncan has chosen Richard Fry, of Greenlink.
in the shed

Our monthly puzzle page to keep you entertained when you’re forced indoors.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 International yachting regatta last held in 2003 (8,3)
7 Prevent from speaking (3)
9 US comic actor who played Coach Calhoun in the Grease films (3,6)
10 From that time (5)
11 Snow sport transport (3-4)
13 Greek letter, equivalent of O (7)
14 Composition by George Gershwin – anagram of PRUDISH BALONEY (8,2,4)
16 Fictional detective whose brother is called Mycroft (8,6)
20 Put into practice (7)
21 Star Trek craft captained by Kathryn Janeway (7)
22 Diacritical mark used to indicate short vowel sound (5)
23 Strips of timber typically used in N American house construction (9)
25 The band famous for “There She Goes” (3)
26 US national park located primarily in Wyoming (11)

DOWN
1 Help, be of service (6)
2 1978 Alan Parker film whose title is prison slang for an attempted escape (8,7)
3 Traditional Scandinavian rug (3)
4 Kingdom surrounded entirely by the Republic of South Africa (7)
5 Hasty, perfunctory (7)
6 Traditional Lent performance (7,4)
7 Argentine battleship sunk during the Falklands conflict (7,8)
8 Channel Island whose capital is St Peter Port (8)
12 Without caution (11)
15 City whose soccer teams include Galatasaray and Fenerbahce (8)
17 Supplement to a will (7)
24 Form of public transport (3)

QUICK ‘NINE HOLE’ QUIZ

1. Tiger Wood’s won the Bridgestone Invitational to bring up a significant number of wins on the PGA Tour. Was it 50, 60 or 70?
2. In the days of the old football stadia – who played at Roker Park, Highfield Road and Muirton Park?
3. Which World Heavyweight Champion had an unbeaten record of 49 wins?
4. Which was the last club Fabio Capello managed before joining England?
5. Who holds the record for the most successful consecutive kicks in international rugby union?
6. Which two sports have been recommended to become Olympic Sports in 2016?
7. Which of these courses has not hosted an Open Golf Championship – Musselburgh; Royal Portrush; Royal Dornoch or Prestwick?
8. Who are England’s leading Test Cricket run scorer and wicket taker?
9. Name Britain’s last five Formula 1 World Champions.

MONSTER SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 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 3x3 box shape contains the numbers 1 to 9.

Puzzle Answers on page 61
For the Turf Management and Groundscare Professional

Exhibition
Tuesday 19 January 2010
Wednesday 20 January 2010
Thursday 21 January 2010

Education
17-21 January 2010

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The company’s customer base reaches the length of Scotland from Musselburgh in the South to Dornoch in the north.
debate, and that is a discussion in the natural verses artificial club or school. carried out are very important, as challenge. As with any playing viewed as a problem, but as a pitch with the machinery. be able to access employ a crane to up, to the point exactly that, built area, they can be say a built up area. And, when I local authority sustain, such as a surface could not natural turf wear, which a receive lots of and can be constructed for year round play, depending on more than the skill of surface, I could not say, as it one provides the best playing that could go on and on. Which The development of new spaces! developing, are can’t explain sensitivity, I Sweepfast but, received. Research into the surfaces are the same, and the located, and how much wear they build quality, the budget allocated depends on more than the skill of surface, I could not say, as it one provides the best playing that could go on and on. Which In cases like this, it is not looking like a basket case, can be ignorance, that you can’t actually surfaces specialist where it the point maintained been poorly surface has been poorly surface has been poorly surface has been poorly surface has been poorly. If it’s drainage, it has to be Duncan Ross! Scotland Based Meiklem Drainage Contractors Ltd Sportsturf Drainage Specialists Golf Courses - Sportsfields Drainage * Construction * Silting/Banding Contact Meiklem Drainage on: T: 01383 830217 M: 07806 897 300 E: Meiklem@btopenworld.com
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