Devon and Cornwall

Our November meeting was held at Bovey Tracey GC, in Devon. A total of 25 attendees braved what was testing weather conditions for both the golf and the course walk. Despite the weather, the course stood up very well. The Course walk was led by Brian Summers, Paul Senior, Course Manager, and Steven Pope, Course Manager. Brian explained how the course was owned by the Bred Holocaust Group and how the greenskeeping team structure was dictated by the owner’s wishes. The majority of the area of the course is the responsibility of an individual i.e. one person in charge of greens, one in charge of fairways and so on.

This structure has been put in place so that each person can be held accountable for their area. Steven explained how this can be very frustrating and they are hoping to revert back to a more holistic approach where all staff can multi-task and be involved with maintaining all areas of the course.

There were many interesting pictures of the course including the remnants of old mine works throughout the course. A big thank you to Brian and Steve for their time and enthusiasm in leading the course walk.

Duchy College is offering a one day update training session for Greenkeepers at Bovey Tracey in Devon and Cornwall. This is for all Greenkeepers who really hold the D32/33 or A1 qualifications to meet the new requirements. This is a part of the Greenkeeper Industry Liaison and Guidance Group who is taking place at Stoke Climsland in HE on 14th November from 9:30 to 4:15pm (lunch provided). To make an appointment to book your place, please contact Karen Davey 01577 9372220.

Our next meeting is our annual Christmas meeting at Knightshayes Heath, in Torrington. The format for the day will be to either play golf or attend the course walk, this will be followed by a Christmas lunch.

Simon Beard, east Midland

BIGGA welcomes the following new members

Scotland

Alistair Morrison, Central Section

Christopher Wright, West Section

Alastair Moore, Kent

Joseph Blake, Surrey

Joshua Pickersgill, Surrey

South Coast

December is here and we can look back on what has been a very challenging year and look forward to a better one. The next year will be much kinder. The Section has been busy with a few people moving on and others taking up new positions. Steve Richardson moved from the New Course at Sunningdale Golf Club to Parkstone Golf Club and we welcome him to the Section and wish him well. Roger Myatt has moved from Knightshayes Heath Golf Club to Goostrey Golf Club and again we wish him well in his new position.

Alastair moves from Remedy Oak and is the new Course Manager at Knightshayes Heath. We congratulate him on his first appointment in that position. I have worked with Alastair and know he will be a great asset to the club.

Alastair has moved on there have been promotions in the Remedy Oak team. Ed Carey has been appointed First Assistant and David Brindley has been appointed Deputy Course Manager and Rob Wills has been appointed Course Technician, congratulations to you all.

Finally, Graham Bugden, Heavy Maintenance Assistant, at Remedy Oak Golf Club has decided on a career change leaving the industry. Graham has been an important part of the Alresford Golf Club, having been appointed Head Greenkeeper, again his first appointment in this position. Congratulations Graham. We wish you well and every success!

I know Robert spoke about going in to retirement but a gentle reminder to the effect to attend the steel head conference. Further education package covering every aspect of your job and the new TIG training. If you expand your own base and help others share their knowledge and experience, you will get asked to share your knowledge and experience.

It was a privilege recently to attend both the South East Region and West and South West Region Conferences. Education was uppermost all day, especially as this does so it was heartening to see that the turnout at both Conferences was excellent and there was a well attended section of age and experience present. The format at both conferences allowed for interesting and thought provoking presentations including insights from turf managers in other sports. Importantly there also was time for question and answer sessions, along with sufficient breaks to allow Members to discuss the presentations as well as the hot topics currently affecting their own facilities.

A recurring theme was the challenge everyone faces to produce the playing surface required by the members or owners of each facility. This will be true regardless of whether it is professional or amateur owner. The added knowledge not only provides Members to discuss the presentations heard as well as the opportunities in this area. We also have a new Facebook page for the South West Section, I hope you like and will continue to engage with.

GBIGA Regional Conferences

Northern

October 2011

Cookridge Hall Golf Club

11th December 2011, Birchwood Golf Club, Knutsford

South East

28th November 2011, Stock Brook Manor Golf Club, Hampshire

South West & Wales

16th November 2011, Llanelly Golf Club

Tattershall Golf Centre, Lincolnshire

16th November 2011, Oaktree Arena, Highbridge

22nd December 2011, Swindon

6th March 2012, Carnegey Conference Centre, Cornwall

For more information on new members log in to the members area of the BIGGA Website.

Jim Croxford

Executive

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Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – start your year by organizing your visit to…

Harrogate Week 2012
After a fantastic Harrogate Week 2011 (see right) we were left with the challenge of trying to better the Continue to Learn Programme, enhance the Exhibition and continue to provide Europe’s largest turf management event.

We think we have done this for 2012…
Be one of 6,000 visitors to visit Harrogate the home of HTME, Continue to Learn and ClubHouse and join visitors from around the world to attend an education event, which many industries can only envy, and an exhibition packed with experts showcasing the latest turf care technologies.

Continue to Learn 2012…
…comprises one, two and three day Workshops, a Conference and seminars presented by a combination of Course Managers, industry specialists and companies exhibiting at the HTME exhibition.

The Turf Managers’ Conference
…makes its return and features presentations from Dr Frank Rossi, from Cornell University, and Lesley Wool, a Social media specialist.

New workshops include Successful Wood, a Social Media specialist, presenters from Dr Frank Rossi, the R&A Greenkeepers Association, and the R&A will talk about GEO Certification on Wednesday amongst many others. See the Continue to Learn 2012 brochure or visit the BIGGA website for up-to-date information.

BIGGA’s 25th Anniversary and 100 Years of Greenkeeping Associations
BIGGA will be celebrating 25 years since it was formally created on January 1, 1987 from an amalgamation of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association, The English and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and The Scottish and International Golf Greenkeepers Association. We will also be celebrating the centenary of the formation of the first Greenkeeping Association with a display at HTME.

Whatever your reason for visiting HTME 2012, you will be guaranteed one thing – you will expand your network. This is a brilliant opportunity to sound out the minds of those who have already been there, gained the experience and been at the face of the good and the bad in the industry, pick their brains, there is no point in re-inventing the wheel!

Don’t forget to stop by the BIGGA Stand (Hall B Stand 23) and have a chat with the BIGGA Staff.

We would welcome any feedback you have on membership issues, learning and development in fact anything you want to give feedback at or just stop by to say ‘hello’. BIGGA AGM – Wednesday, January 25 2012 at 5.15pm, Queens Suite
Open to all Members of BIGGA however, only FULL Members are entitled to vote.

Whether its up-market, mid-market, mass-market, niche-market, new products, new technology or new materials you’ll find it all at Harrogate International Centre from 24th – 26th January 2012. I look forward to seeing you there.

Finally…
Help your Association grow by sharing the value of your BIGGA membership with your friends and colleagues and encourage them to join.

Every time you recruit a new member, you strengthen BIGGA.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the BIGGA Staff.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking you all for your input, feedback, help and encouragement but mostly for your support, thank you and here’s to 2012.
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We think we have done this for 2012...
Be one of 6,000 visitors to visit Harrogate the home of BTME, Continue to Learn and ClubHouse and join visitors from around the world for a day Workshops, a Conference and a 2 day Exhibition, located next to the BIGGA HQ on 01347 833800.

BIGGA 25th Anniversary and 100 Years of Greenkeeping Associations
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**Contact Details**
Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update
Tel: 01347 833800
traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk

**Debt Counselling Helpline**
0800 174 319

**Personal Accident Helpline**
(Full Members only)
0800 177 7891

**Farmers Helpline**
0800 177 7891

**Support Services**
0800 177 7891

**Assistance**
0800 177 7891

**Regional Offices**
Scotland & Northern Ireland
Tel: 0141 616 3440
Mobile: 07841 948410
Email: peterlarter972@aol.com
Tel: 01476 550115

Northern & Midlands
Tel: 01959 575575
Email: jane@jonallbutt.co.uk
Tel: 07732 503855 or email: adam.matthews@hotmail.co.uk

South East
Tel: 0141 616 3440
Mobile: 07791 695768 or email: inpemerton@btme.com

South East
Tel: 07478 930510
Email: alex.mccombie@btme.com

South West & Wales
Tel: 07732 503855 or email: gerald@trelfoyne.com

**Diary of Events**
Details of your Section’s forthcoming events in 2011/12 can be found here...

**Date**
DECEMBER 2011

**Event**
DEC, 5th
5-day Chainaw Course CS30/CS31
Dedswell Manor Farm
Dimbleby

DEC, 6th
Surrey Section AGM and Turkey Trot
Hamley Common Golf Club
Rom Christe
Tel: 07778 170077 or email: layyas aston@bigga.co.uk

DEC, 6th
Essex AGM and Team Event
Onslow Golf Club
Ian Wood
Tel: 07952 470861 or email: ian.wood@ romfordgolfclub.co.uk

DEC, 7th
South Coast Section Winter Competition
High Post Golf Club
Alex McComb
Tel: 07561 001299 or email: southcoastsecretary@gmail.com

DEC, 7th
Northern Section Christmas Golf Day
Selby Golf Club
Andrew Springsby
Tel: 07506 407867 or email: ylnslingby@sky.com

DEC, 8th
East of England Section Event
Belton Park Golf Club
Bruce Hicks
Tel: 07931 714922 or email: brucexbicka1@gmail.com

DEC, 13th
Cleveland Section Bring a Bottle Christmas Golf Day
Cleveland Golf Club
Ian Pemberton (Pembo)
Tel: 07791 695768 or email: inpemerton@btme.com

DEC, 14th
South West Section Christmas Tournament
Burrleham and Berrow Golf Club
Adam Matthews
Tel: 07732 503855 or email: adam.matthews@hotmail.co.uk

DEC, 15th
South Wales Section Winter Competition
Royal Porthcawl Golf Club
Gareth Knight
Tel: 07959 988512 or email: gareth.knight@ trefloyne.com

DEC, 15th
Devon & Cornwall Section Event
Ashbury Manor
George Pett
Tel: 07929 754401 or email: garris@ yehertons@gmail.com

Jan, 9th
First Aid at Work
Berkimhamst Golf Club
Gerald Bruce
Tel: 07774 921606 or email: gerald@ berkimhamstodge.co.uk

Jan, 10th
3-day PA1/2/6A Pesticide
Kingwood Golf Club
Jane Glassett
Tel: 01959 575575 or email: jane@jonallbutt.co.uk

Jan, 12th
Devon & Cornwall Section Event
Treose Golf Club
George Pett
Tel: 07929 754401 or email: garris@ yehertons@gmail.com

Jan, 22nd
– January 26th
Continue to Learn
Harrogate
Bigga AGM
Tel: 01347 833800

Jan, 24th
– January 26th
BTME
Harrogate
International Centre
Bigga AGM
Tel: 01347 833800

**Membership**
Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

**New for 2012 – Showfloor Theatre**
A new initiative for this year’s exhibition, located next to the BIGGA Stand, is the Showfloor Theatre. Steve Isaac from The RHA will be talking about the RHA Greenkeeping Scholarships on Tuesday, and Jonathan Smith, from Golf Environment Organization, will be talking about GEO Certification on Wednesday amongst many others. See the Continue to Learn 2012 brochure or visit the BIGGA website for up-to-date information.

**BIGGA’s 25th Anniversary and 100 Years of Greenkeeping Associations**
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If you are to attend any exhibition in 2012 make sure it is BTME with FREE entry and a simple advance registration process, it is easy. Register at www.harrogateweek.org.uk.

**Other Useful Numbers**
(*Full Members only*)

Personnel Agricultural
07807 800129

Environmental Legal
07732 96004

Dick (177 7861)

Sustaining Support Services
07771 174278

Tel: 0171 743583
in the shed
Our monthly puzzle page to keep you entertained when you’re forced indoors.

**CROSSWORD**

Across

1. Song issued as a double A-side with Eleanor Rigby (6,9)
2. Evolve (7)
3. Stripped (2,7)
4. Enrobes (7)
5. Name the two-time US Open Champion whose nickname is often seen on the Christmas table.
6. Who is the English international striker who plays for Aston Villa and who is the club’s second highest Premier League scorer?
7. What was the name of the greyhound owned by The Simpsons?
8. This golf club takes its name from the extremely festive Australian island on which it is built.
9. Name the horse with the Christmas-related name which won the 1964 Derby.

**Puzzle Answers on page 73**

Down

1. So on and so forth (5,5,5)
2. 10 Alesha Dixon’s original group (3,4)
3. A Little hoolie (5)
4. Egyptian pharaoh, known also as Ozymandias and The Great Ancestor (7,4)
5. Professor Brian Cox’s former band (1-4)
6. Where an operation is undertaken if it is not outsourced (2,3)
7. A raised area of flat terrain (7)
8. Running competition involving transporting an ovoid in a small, handled bowl (3,3,5,4)

**MONSTER SUDOKU**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 9x9 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 9x9 box shape contains the numbers 1 to 9.

**QUICK ‘NINE HOLE’ QUIZ**

**Festive Fun**

1. What is the name of the UK drug racing track?
2. In 1965, which jockey was the first US track star to win three Olympic Gold medals at the same Games?
3. Which Paraguayan striker was transferred from Blackburn to Manchester City and has since moved to Real Betis?
4. Which Northern Ireland goalkeeper had a long spell with Manchester United?
5. Name the two-time US Open Champion whose nickname is often seen on the Christmas table.
6. Who is the English international striker who plays for Aston Villa and who is the club’s second highest Premier League scorer?
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**GREENKEEPER TRAINING**

**A guide to the range of training provided throughout the UK**

BIGGA is actively involved in raising the standard of Greenkeeper Training. The Association is a member of the Greenkeepers’ Training Committee and strives to enhance the level of education through various means, including Section, Regional and National workshops, seminars and conferences.

The range and quality of training now available throughout the UK means there is a training course for every greenkeeper. This should improve the quality of greenkeeping and help to produce better quality golf courses to the benefit of all within the industry. Golf Course Managers should ensure that their staff are trained to the highest standards. This begins by selecting a training provider that meets the criteria laid down by the GTC. There is a clear link between education, training and economic success and all clubs should invest in the education of their staff.

**Noroso Certification/Courses.**

- Chainsaw, Tree Climbing and Rescue Techniques, Spraying and Abatement Wheel, BTLIA/NPTC Irrigation Course, Abrasive Wheel, BTLIA/NPTC Irrigation Course, Chainsaw, Tree Climbing and Sturcie Techniques, Spraying and Noroso Certification/Courses.

**GTC QUALITY ASSURED CENTRES AND TRAINING PROVIDERS**

There are now a number of GTC Quality Assured Centres and Training Providers identified by the GTC Quality Assured logo.

**BIGGA**

01347 833800
sami@bigga.co.uk
www.bigga.org.uk

**GTC QUALITY ASSURED**

25 Brook Street, Glasgow, G44 2AB
Contact: Lesley Lowrie 0141-566-3999
Fax: 0141-566-4999
learn@gostatraining.co.uk

A full list of GTC approved training providers can be obtained from the GTC. The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of centres and training providers offering greenkeeper training courses.

For more information contact the GTC on:
01347 838640 or visit: www.the-gtc.co.uk

**GTC QUALITY ASSURED CENTRES AND TRAINING PROVIDERS**
Askham Bryan, York, North Yorkshire
Contact: Central admissions 01904 772211
enquiries@askham-bryan.ac.uk www.askham-bryan.ac.uk

Extended Diploma and Subsidiary Diploma in Horticulture, Foundation & Extended Foundation Degrees in Sports Surface Management, Horticulture, Landscape and Garden Management or Arboriculture. All available full or part-time.

Merrist Wood

Worpleston, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE www.merristwood.ac.uk

Contact: Philip Moyes 07996 67 47 89 pmoyes@guildford.ac.uk or Andrew McIvor 07906 67 47 86 a mc ivor@ guildford.ac.uk

Part-time courses: New Sports Management NVQ Level 4 - on-line distance learning. Sports Turf Apprenticeship Diploma Level 3, Greenkeeping Apprenticeship Diploma Level 2, Groundsmanship Apprenticeship Diploma Level 2, Automatic Turf Irrigation Systems NPTC Certificate, NPTC courses including Safe Use and Operation of Mowers, Tractor Driving, Hedge Trimmers, PEPA Spraying and others. Please contact us for up-to-date listings, qualifications and advice on courses and funding. Open evenings are held regularly at the College.

Myerscough

Bledlowend, Preston, Lancashire PR3 9HY

Contact: Stewart Brown 01995 642305 www.myerscough.ac.uk

Myerscough College is a pioneering centre for Sportsturf Education and Horticulture. Short courses include pesticide application, chainsaw operation, safe use of mowers. Bespoke courses and overseas programmes available on request. Campus facilities include a commercial golf course, rugby and football pitches and Crowe Alexander training grounds.

Oaklands College

Smallford Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL4 0JA

Contact: Andrew Wight 01727 737735 andy.wight@oaklands.ac.uk www.oaklands.ac.uk

Full-time courses: City and Guilds Level 2 Diploma options in Greenkeeping/Sports turf and Horticulture. Work Based learning - Level 2 and 3 Diploma in Greenkeeping and Apprenticeship routes. Short courses: NPTC PA 1/2/6

Plumpton College

Ditchling Road, Plumpton, Nr Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 3AE

Tel: 01273 900486 Fax: 01273 900701 enquiries@plumpton.ac.uk www.plumpton.ac.uk


Warwickshire College

Morton Morrell, Warwickshire CV35 5HL
Contact: Laura Savage 01926 313861 Fax: 01926 313850 employers@warwick.ac.uk www.warwickshire.ac.uk

Warwickshire College offers apprenticeships in Sports Turf Management with routes in groundsman and groundkeeper. Apprenticeships are a great way for students to earn and learn and a fantastic opportunity for employers to take on a member of staff who is still in training. The college also offers short courses in pesticide application including the PA2 for amenity users, chainsaw certificates, landscape design, first aid and many more. Bespoke training packages are also available for employers on request.
Block release courses: WBL Diploma Levels 2 & 3 Greenkeeping or Arboriculture. All available full or part-time.

Management, Horticulture, Landscape and Garden Management
Askham Bryan, York, North Yorkshire, Yo23 3fr
machinery, vehicles, forestry and arboriculture.
Level 1,2 and Advanced Certificate. We also offer Institute of Leadership and
(Including Sustainable Horticulture) FdSc and BSc (Hons) Horticulture. RHS
Contact: liz Clarkson 01579 372345/07785 105087
duchy College, rosewarne, Camborne, Cornwall, tr14 0aB
stoke Climsland, Callington, Cornwall, Pl18 8PB
Full-time and online study
range of Degree courses starting in September 2012.
Foundations Degree in Sportsturf
BSc (Hons) Sportsturf Science and Management
Top-up programmes for students with an HND or Foundation Degree
"How To..." guides are now available exclusively to BIGGA Members, on a range of Human Resource topics.
These short, handy guides provide practical, step by step guidance on a range of subjects. The guides can be downloaded and used to help you develop your knowledge and implement new processes within your workplace.
To access the "How To..." guides, log on to the BIGGA Members Area at www.bigga.org and click on Member Resources.
Myerscough College is a pioneering centre for Sportsturf Education and
Part-time courses: New Sports Management NVQ Level 3, Work Based Diploma in Horticulture / Greenkeeping and Apprenticeship. Also: NVQ Level 4 Sports Turf Distance Learning and apprenticeships plus full-time Level 2 / Level 3 Diploma in Horticulture. Short courses include pesticide application, chainsaw operation, safe use of mowers, mowers, mowers and overuse programmes available on request. Courses are available at all levels from Introductory Diploma to Honours Degrees in Sportsturf Science and Management. There are options for full-time and part-time studies, including on-line, part-time and evening study. We also offer Institute of Leadership and Management courses and short courses in pesticides. Plaques, machinery, vehicles, forestry and arboriculture.
Ditchling Road, Plumpton, Nr Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 3AE
Tel: 01273 890484 Fax: 01273 890071
enquiries@plumpton.ac.uk
www.plumpton.ac.uk
Download and learn
How to conduct a one-to-one meeting
How to conduct a team briefing
How to prepare for an appraisal
How to recruit the right staff
How to write a job description
Your training provider could appear here, as an advert or listing, in our next edition of Greenkeeper Training Get in touch with our Sales team on 01347 838800 to find out more
Welcome to
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Morcote Morrell, Warwickshire CV35 9HL
Contact: Laura Savage 01926 318361 Fax: 01926 318300
employers@warvelcol.ac.uk
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**Turfdry**

- Golf course drainage specialist Turfdry has just completed further golf-green drainage installations for the 16th and 18th greens at Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol, for Head Greenkeeper, James Braithwaite, following the success of the earlier Turfdry (Green) Drainage System installations for the 8th and 15th greens at the course in 2009.

The unique Turfdry Drainage System, using Hydraway Sportsdrain, had already been proven on the course for fairway drainage as far back as 1998, when two new holes on the course, 7th and 8th, needed comprehensive drainage systems, and the Turfdry Drainage System was chosen because it could provide a highly effective post-construction drainage solution, with minimum disturbance to the newly constructed fairways.

The width of Hydraway Sportsdrain is considerably less than the diameter of a golf ball, and it can therefore slot into very narrow trenches. At the same time, it has a much greater surface area than a conventional 80mm plastic land drainage pipe and collects water far more efficiently.

The company slogan for its unique Turfdry Drainage System is “Maximum Efficiency with Minimum Disruption”.

The Turfdry Drainage System has a proven-track record in UK golf courses stretching back over 16 years, and the System is “Maximum Efficiency with Minimum disturbance to the newly constructed fairways.”

Drainage was chosen because it could provide a highly effective post-construction drainage solution, with minimum disruption to the bunkers and lawns professionally designed and installed.

Turfdry operates a friendly in-house team of experienced operators using modern equipment with laser-grading facilities.

The Turfdry (Green) Drainage System was also introduced in 1995. Turfdry’s close liaison with its customer operatives using modern equipment with laser-grading facilities.

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The unique Turfdry Drainage System, using Hydraway plastic land drainage pipe and collecting water far more efficiently than traditional drainage systems, and the Turfdry Drainage System installed back then are still working just as effectively and less disruptive to install. Turfdry operates a friendly in-house team of experienced operatives using modern equipment with laser-grading technology.

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