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Golf’s turn in the spotlight

I want to begin this month by congratulating BIGGA’s chairman Andrew Mellon on his new position in the Middle East. Having worked closely with him now for more than a year I know he has the business acumen and deep knowledge of the industry that will enable him to succeed in his new challenge. I must also thank him most sincerely both personally and on behalf of all the staff for the enormous commitment to the Association he has given during and before his time as chairman.

The first time I came in to contact with him it was clear that he was passionate about the Association and its members and he has worked tirelessly with his colleagues on the Board of Management to drive BIGGA forward whilst keeping the interests of the membership firmly at the forefront. I am sure you will join me in wishing Andrew all the very best for the future.

Andrew’s successor Tony Smith is a true BIGGA man with huge experience at all levels of the Association and its members and he has proved to be entirely unpredictable and with a grand total of 205 bunkers for the competitors to contend with I’m sure the Team will have a challenging but satisfying week. I’m delighted that Paul and the Championship organisers continue to embrace the experience and skill contained within the Support Team and will utilise it to the full.

Finally it would be remiss of me not to mention three of our most illustrious members who within the last month have begun very well earned retirement. Congratulations to Iain Carson (Nairn), Chris Kennedy (Wentworth) and John Philip (Carluke) who between them boast of over a century of greenkeeping experience. That experience has been hard earned but generously passed on to many, many colleagues and associates over the years. All three leave a legacy far beyond the great courses they have managed.

Enjoy the read.

Jim Croxton
Chief Executive

The official monthly magazine of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Limited

Tel – 01347 833800 | Fax – 01347 833801
www.bigga.org.uk
YO61 1UF
BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York
OBE
Sir Michael Bonallack, President
Past Chairman
Tony Smith
Vice Chairman
Andrew Mellon
Chairman
Board of Management
Chris Kennedy, Kenny MacKay, George Barr
Chris Sealey, Gary Cunningham, Stuart Hughes
Sami Collins
Head of Learning & Development
Tom Campbell
Production editor
Jill Rodham
executive Business Development
Tom Worster
Past Chairman
Andrew Murray has made it through to the second week of Wimbledon.

Our thoughts now turn to golf’s turn in the spotlight – The Open Championship. Royal Lytham and St Annes Golf Club’s head greenkeeper, Paul Smith provides a fascinating insight in to the preparations for this year’s Championship in this magazine, meanwhile the BIGGA Open Support Team are sterling and ready to play their part in the world’s greatest golf tournament. So far this year Mother Nature has proved to be entirely unpredictable and with a grand total of 205 bunkers for the competitors to contend with I’m sure the Team will have a challenging but satisfying week.

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Andrew’s successor Tony Smith is a true BIGGA man with huge experience at all levels of the Association and I am very much looking forward to working closely with him to implement the Board’s vision.

At the time of writing Spain has just retained the European Championship title and Andrew Murray has made it through to the second week of Wimbledon.

Our thoughts now turn to golf’s turn in the British sporting spotlight – The Open Championship. Royal Lytham and St Annes Golf Club’s head greenkeeper, Paul Smith provides a fascinating insight in to the preparations for this year’s Championship in this magazine, meanwhile the BIGGA Open Support Team are sterling and ready to play their part in the world’s greatest golf tournament. So far this year Mother Nature has proved to be entirely unpredictable and with a grand total of 205 bunkers for the competitors to contend with I’m sure the Team will have a challenging but satisfying week.

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Markus Klausmann: Student of the Year for GOSTA

As John Philip retires from Carnoustie he leaves a great legacy, writes Gordon Moir, Director of Greenkeeping at St Andrews Links Trust

John began his career at his home town club of Pitravie in Dunblane. Before a spell there learning his trade, he moved to Newmarket GC and Greenkeeper/Professional, for a number of years before coming back to Scotland as Links Supervisor at St Andrews in 1979. Many people perhaps don’t realise that John was quite a proficient golfer in his day. In 1985 he moved to Carnoustie Golf Links, which was in extremely poor condition at the time, as Links Supervisor. It had hosted the Open in 1975 but because of the condition and other factors had dropped off the rota. John, with the support of Jock Calder, Chairman of Carnoustie Golf Links Management Committee, turned the Championship course around into the condition it is today, where it has been recognised to have set the benchmark for Open Championship venues in 1999 and 2007.

His outstanding work on restoring the Championship course is well documented but what must also be remembered is that he played a similar role in improving both the Turnberry and Biddon courses. While not involved in the construction of the Biddon Course, which was built in 1979, he has since rebuilt 16 of the greens.

He has been a regular speaker at various greenkeeper seminars and conferences of the years both in the UK and abroad and has also assisted Elwood College where he has given presentations and field studies on grass species and identification.

In his time at Carnoustie he has also trained and inspired a number of staff who have gone on to become Course Managers at some of the most prestigious courses in the UK and Ireland. Alan Bunchan at Waltons Heath and Gary Johnstone at Portmarnock are two that come to mind.

His training has also been recognised by Carnoustie as they have promoted the Championship Links head greenkeeper Sandy Reid to his present position.

He has also always been willing to discuss many matters with Course Managers and greenkeepers at all nearby clubs. Many a time I have turned up at Carnoustie on a Sunday morning in winter to drop my sons off at their football and wandered down to the course where I would find John busy on the course. I would always end up missing the first goal after getting into some technical discussion or other.

In 2000, his services to greenkeeping were recognised when he was awarded the MBE, an honour he received from the Queen.

BIGGA’s chairman, Andrew Melson is leaving his position as Golf Operations Manager at Elmwood College having been appointed as General Manager of the Open for Hydroturf International in Qatar. Hydroturf are the Middle East’s leading golf course and landscape supply company.

Andrew who will take up his new post on September 1st has been with Elmwood for nearly 12 years, having been a student greenkeeper initially and then working through from Greenkeeper Instructor to his present position.

At the latest BIGGA Board of Management meeting Andrew informed the Board of his circumstances and it was agreed that he will step down from his role of BIGGA chairman during the Open Championship at which time Tony Smith of Trenside Golf Club, the current vice chairman, will take over for the year beginning his intended full year of office at the AGM in January.

In the two and a half years Andrew has been involved on the Board of Management he has served the membership with great drive, passion and commitment. The entire board and staff of the association wish to recognise his huge contribution to BIGGA and wish him all the very best with his new challenge.

Andrew said, “BIGGA has always been a great support to me, from the very first day I became a Greenkeeper, and I will be in my current role. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve on the Board. I wish BIGGA all the best during his term as Chairman. The professionalism, the passion, and the friendship I’ve witnessed during my time at BIGGA from the members, the staff, and the Board has helped me understand why BIGGA is so important within this industry. I’m confident it will go from strength to strength under the current leadership and continue to further develop its support to the membership.”

I’ve made many good friends and I hope to keep in contact. I am sad to be leaving, but excited at the new opportunity I have. I’d like to thank everyone for their support to me, and wish everyone the very best going forward.”

Hole in honour

Earlier this year when it was announced that John was retiring, Carnoustie Golf Links Management Committee agreed to host the 11th hole on the Championship course after him, this is an extraordinary honour to bestow on an extraordinary man who has been the subject of a full report in the next issue.

PLAYER SALUTES LA MANGA ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY

South African legend Gary Player has delivered the opening address at the four-day Shaw Trust Colonial Golf Challenge, to mark 40 years of La Manga Club’s membership as a premier European golf destination.

Gary Player, who was a member of the Shaw Trust’s Carlton Golfing Society’s inaugural team in 1972, is a successful advocate of the Shaw Trust’s work over many years. He went on “by sticking to my aim of continuing to help others, I’ve witnessed the Shaw Trust grow from a small group of golfers into one of the largest suppling companies in the golf industry.”

Derek Gould & Duncan Herd

BIGGA’s is proud to have recently learnt of the sad news of the passing of Mr Derek Gould and Mr Duncan Herd.

Derek, who lived in Sheringham, Norfolk was a long standing member of BIGGA and BIGGA Dunedin who resided in Longniddry, East Lothian, was a long standing member of the BIGGA and BIGGA Dunedin.

In the two and a half years Andrew has been involved on the Board of Management he has served the membership with great drive, passion and commitment. The entire board and staff of the association wish to recognise his huge contribution to BIGGA and wish him all the very best with his new challenge.

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John began his career at his home town club of Pitreavie in Dunfermline and after a spell there learning his trade, he moved to St Andrews Links Trust in 1979. Deputy links Supervisor at his home town club of Pitreavie, he moved to a spell there learning his trade, he moved to his trade, he moved to Dunfermline and after a spell learning at the home town club of Pitreavie, he has since become a proficient golfer in his day. His outstanding work on restoring the Championship course is well documented but what must also be remembered is that he played a similar role in improving both the Hurdane and Buddon courses. While not involved in the construction of the Buddon Course, which was built in 1979, he has since rebuilt 16 of the greens. He has been a regular profiler at various greenkeeper seminars and conferences of the years both in the UK and abroad and has also assisted Elmwood College where he has given presentations and field studies on grass species and identification.

In his time at Carnoustie he has also trained and inspired a number of staff who have gone onto become Course Managers at some of the most prestigious courses in the UK and Ireland. Alan Strachan at Walton Heath and Gary Johnstone at Portmarnock are two that come to mind.

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Fond Farewell to BIGGA Chairman 2012

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Fond Farewell to BIGGA Chairman 2012
The 2012 Scottish National Tournament took place at Ratho Park Golf Club on Wednesday, 20th June.

Ratho Park, situated 30 minutes from Edinburgh city centre, provided an excellent setting for the competition. The parkland golf course, designed by James Braid was first established in 1928, although the history of the club can be traced back to the 19th Century through a merger with Corstorphine Golf Club on land that is now part of Edinburgh Zoo.

In 1955, the club purchased the estate of Ratho Park with the mansion house transformed into a magnificent clubhouse.

Playing conditions were excellent for competitors considering June’s inclement weather.

The course was actually reopened over the previous weekend, and Billy Hudson and his team are to be congratulated for producing a course in hard work of all greenkeeping staff and the Captain, who then paid tribute to the hard work of all greenkeeping staff and remarked that the club was delighted to host the tournament.

Congratulations to all who took part and we hope to see everyone next year at Link’s Golf Course for the 2013 tournament.

Although playing numbers were down on the previous year, a very competitive field assembled for the tournament. This was highlighted by an extremely close and hard-fought duel between 3 times winner David Simpson of Crieff Golf Club and Scottish Regional Chairman, Stuart Taylor of Glasgow Golf Club for the Scottish Championship. Both returned an excellent one under par score of 68 with the Chairman prevailing on count back over the last nine holes. Kenneth Mitchell from St Andrews Links Trust won the Friendship Trophy for the best nett score of 67 using his handicap of 5 to good effect.

After receiving the Scottish Challenge Cup, Stuart Taylor thanked Vice Captain, John Dea, the committee and members of Ratho Park for their hospitality and for the courtesy offered to players.

A Quaich was presented to the Vice Captain, who then paid tribute to the hard work of all greenkeeping staff and remarked that the club was delighted to host the tournament.

Congratulations to all who took part and we hope to see everyone next year at Ratho Golf Course for the 2013 tournament.

The 2012 Scottish National Tournament Prize List

### SGCA Challenge Cup (Scratch Champion)
- Stuart Taylor, Glasgow GC - 68

### Friendship Trophy (Net Champion)
- Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews Links Trust - 72 5 67

### Ransoms Trophy - 1st Class
1. David Simpson, Crieff GC - 68 +1 69
2. Paul Murphy, Fife Golf Trust - 78 3 75
3. Gavin Neil, St Andrews Links Trust - 81 6 75

### Pattison Trophy - 2nd Class
1. Graeme Bolton, G West - 78 9 69
2. Ian MacLeod, Tain - 78 7 71
3. Thomas Adlam, Crieff GC - 83 12 71

### STAG Trophy (St Ives Rubble) - 3rd Class
1. Dale Robertson, Newsamacher GC - 83 15 68
2. Gerard Broadley, Glasgow GC - 94 17 77
3. Bryan Bannery, Glasgow GC - 94 16 78

### Dick Aitken Trophy - Best Head Greenkeeper
- Euan Grant, Turnberry Golf Courses - 83 14 69

### M&M Trophy - Best Assistant
- Craig Berry, Leven - 77 7 70

### SGCA Trophy - Best Veteran
- Charles Macdonald, Crieff GC - 73 3 70

### St Mungo Trophy - Section Team Winners - Central Section
- Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews - 67
- David Simpson, Crieff - 69
- Graeme Bolton, G West - 70
- Charles MacDonald, Crieff - 70
- TOTAL - 275

### QAICHI – Trade Prize
- Kevin Brunton, Greentech - 74 0 74

### National Championship Qualifiers
- Scratch: Stuart Taylor, Glasgow GC
- Net: Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews Links Trust

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**A First for Two Clubs with Green Credentials**

Coventry GC First in England to be GEO Certified™

Coventry Golf Club is the first golf club in England to be awarded the international ecolabel GEO Certified™ in recognition of outstanding sustainability efforts.

Established in 1887, the club celebrated its 125th anniversary this year and also the centenary of the re-location of the course to Finedon Road.

Many of England’s nearly 2000 golf courses are community based clubs like Coventry, many of which are community based clubs like Coventry, many of which operate on a budget that is insufficient to fund the maintenance costs for the course. Coventry GC has therefore embarked on a long-term plan to become a fully green and sustainable club through the use of new technology, sustainable practices and the development of their own eco-friendly initiatives.

The club has already achieved significant improvements in the three years since becoming GEO Certified™, including a reduction in energy consumption by 40%, a 25% reduction in water usage, and a 50% reduction in carbon emissions.

The announcement followed a year of hard work by the club’s management team, who worked closely with authorities and the surrounding community to create a sustainable and environmentally friendly golf course.

“The GEO Certified™ Programme is a great way to follow and make sure we are think about the wider range of practical aspects and there were suggestions for improvements as we went along. The on-site verification with Matt Johns was extremely constructive and led to new ideas and motivation for the future. We will fly the GEO Certified™ flag with a great deal of pride.”

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**GI NEWSDESK**

**SCOTLAND NATIONAL TOURNAMENT**

**CHAIRMAN TRIUMPHS AT RATHO PARK GC**

John Young, BIGGA’s recently appointed RA for Scotland, reports from the Scottish National Tournament 2012

The 2012 Scottish National Tournament took place at Ratho Park Golf Club on Wednesday, 20th June.

Ratho Park, situated 30 minutes from Edinburgh city centre, provided an excellent setting for the competition. The parkland golf course, designed by James Braid was first established in 1928, although the history of the club can be traced back to the 19th Century through a merger with Corstorphine Golf Club on land that is now part of Edinburgh Zoo.

In 1955, the club purchased the estate of Ratho Park with the mansion house transformed into a magnificent clubhouse.

Playing conditions were excellent for competitors considering June’s inclement weather.

The course was actually reopened over the previous weekend, and Billy Hudson and his team are to be congratulated for producing a course in hard work of all greenkeeping staff and the Captain, who then paid tribute to the hard work of all greenkeeping staff and remarked that the club was delighted to host the tournament.

Congratulations to all who took part and we hope to see everyone next year at Link’s Golf Course for the 2013 tournament.

Although playing numbers were down on the previous year, a very competitive field assembled for the tournament. This was highlighted by an extremely close and hard-fought duel between 3 times winner David Simpson of Crieff Golf Club and Scottish Regional Chairman, Stuart Taylor of Glasgow Golf Club for the Scottish Championship. Both returned an excellent one under par score of 68 with the Chairman prevailing on count back over the last nine holes. Kenneth Mitchell from St Andrews Links Trust won the Friendship Trophy for the best nett score of 67 using his handicap of 5 to good effect.

After receiving the Scottish Challenge Cup, Stuart Taylor thanked Vice Captain, John Dea, the committee and members of Ratho Park for their hospitality and for the courtesy offered to players.

A Quaich was presented to the Vice Captain, who then paid tribute to the hard work of all greenkeeping staff and remarked that the club was delighted to host the tournament.

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In 1955, the club purchased the estate of Ratho Park with the mansion house transformed into a magnificent clubhouse. Playing conditions were excellent for competitors considering June’s inclement weather.

The course was actually unplayable over the previous weekend, and Billy Hudson and his team are to be congratulated for producing a course in superb condition for the tournament. As with all golf tournaments, the weather plays a significant role in competition scoring and the enjoyment for players. With the exception of a couple of light showers in the afternoon, the weather was excellent and very much welcomed by all.

Although playing numbers were down on the previous year, a very competitive field assembled for the tournament. This was highlighted by an extremely close and hard-fought duel between 3 times winner David Simpson of Crieff Golf Club and Scottish Regional Chairman, Stuart Taylor of Glasgow Golf Club for the Scottish Championship. Both returned an excellent one under par score of 68 with the Chairman prevailing on count back over the last nine holes. Kenneth Mitchell from St Andrews Links Trust won the Friendship Trophy for the best nett score of 67 using his handicap of 5 to good effect.

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Congratulations to all who took part and we hope to see everyone next year at Largs Golf Course for the 2013 tournament.

**THE 2012 SCOTTISH NATIONAL TOURNAMENT PRIZE LIST**

**SOEGA CHALLENGE CUP (SCRATCH CHAMPION)**
Stuart Taylor, Glasgow GC

**FRIENDSHIP TROPHY (NETT CHAMPION)**
Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews Links Trust

**RANSOMES TROPHY – 1st CLASS**
1. David Simpson, Crieff GC 68 +1 69
2. Paul Murphy, Fel Golf Trust 78 5 73
3. Gavin Neil, St Andrews Links Trust 81 6 75

**PATITSON TROPHY – 2nd CLASS**
1. Graeme Bolton, G West 78 9 69
2. Jan MacLeod, Tain 78 7 71
3. Thomas Adams, Crieff GC 83 12 71

**STRI TROPHY (ST. IVES & RIBBELER – 3RD CLASS**
1. Dale Robertson, Newmacher GC 83 15 68
2. Gerard Broadley, Glasgow GC 94 17 77
3. Bryan Barnsay, Glasgow GC 94 16 78

**DICK ATTGER TROPHY – BEST HEAD GREENKEEPER**
Euan Grant, Turnberry Golf Courses 83 14 69

**M & M TROPHY – BEST ASSISTANT**
Craig Berry, Leven 77 7 70

**SOEGA TROPHY – BEST VETERAN**
Charles Macdonald, Crieff GC 73 3 70

**ST MUNO TROPHY – SECTION TEAM WINNERS – CENTRAL SECTION**
Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews 67
David Simpson, Crieff 69
Graeme Bolton, G West 70
Charles MacDonald, Crieff 70
TOTAL 275

**QUAICH – TRADE PRIZE**
Kevin Brunton, Greenock 74 0 74

**NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS**
Scratch, Stuart Taylor, Glasgow GC
Nett, Kenneth Mitchell, St Andrews Links Trust

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**GI NEWSDESK**

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**SCOTLAND NATIONAL TOURAMENT**

**CHAIRMAN TRIUMPHS AT RATHO PARK GC**

John Young, BKGGA’s recently appointed RA for Scotland, reports from the Scottish National Tournament 2012

Widespread recognition of golf’s positive social and environmental impacts is gathering pace – and is being led by a group of clubs who have shown the way toward ever-strengthening achievements and credible communications through the GEO Certified™ ecolabel.

Sweden’s Forsgårdens Golf Club is a leader among leaders, stepping up in 2009 as one of the very first golf clubs to become GEO Certified™. Three years later, they are the first club in the world to be re-certified by the Golf Environment Organisation. Re-certification is a vital point of credibility for all ecolabelling, demonstrating how sustainability can extend deeper into decision-making and communications over time, and affirming the important ‘continual improvement’ principle that makes sustainability a mindset and a journey rather than a static destination.

The announcement represents a milestone in golf’s sustainability movement; the first time that any golf club, anywhere in the world, has been re-certified via a dedicated, third-party verified and transparently reported programme for golf.

Gordon Shepherd, GEO Board Member and former Head of Global Policy for WWF international recognized the significance:

>“Having worked on the development of many industry certification programmes and ecolabels, from forestry to fisheries, I have seen landmark points in time, when something significant demonstrates a clear path to a more sustainable future. This is one of those moments.”

>“GEO was founded to support clubs in their sustainability actions and bring forward real, transparently reported results; steering away from one-time awards that risk bringing complacency, in favour of driving continual improvement.”

>“It is to Forsgårdens’ considerable credit that through this re-certification, they demonstrate clear and quantifiable improvements across a comprehensive range of issues. Amongst all the processes and protocols, we are reminded that it’s positive individual, personal engagement and action that environment and society needs.”

Ole Rager-Kusk, an independent verifier accredited by GEO, conducted the initial certification and the recertification and found that Forsgårdens upheld and strengthened a golden environmental performance.

Making more improvements in the three years since becoming GEO Certified™, especially around landscape and ecosystems, energy and resource conservation, waste management, and also more communications with authorities and the surrounding community.

Coventry GC First in England to be GEO Certified™

Coventry Golf Club is the first golf club in England to be awarded the international ecolabel GEO Certified™ in recognition of outstanding sustainability efforts.

Established in 1887, the club celebrated its 125th anniversary this year and also the centenary of the re-location of the course to Finham.

Many of England’s nearly 2,000 golf courses are community based clubs like Coventry, making this an important example of how sustainability can be embraced with positive results for the environment and the economic performance of the golfing industry.

Phil Weaver, Coventry’s Head PGA Professional & Course Manager and Chairman of the PGA of Great Britain and Ireland, was part of the driving force behind the journey through the programme that led to the GEO Certified™ ecolabel, and remarks:

>“We recognize the pressures on the environment at large and understand that golf clubs have an important responsibility to take their stewardship of the land seriously. In the last few years we have become much more aware and active, making sustainability a consideration in every decision we make.”

>“The GEO OnCourse™ programme was easy to follow and made sure we thought about a wide range of practical areas and there were suggestions for improvements as we went along. The on-site verification with Matt Johna was extremely constructive and led us with new ideas and motivation for the future. We will fly the GEO Certified™ flag with a great deal of pride.”

Weaver worked in close conjunction with colleagues Captain Keith Lindsay, Club member Professor Ian Foster, and past Captain and President Robin Bussell in drive the project forward and become the first Golf Club in England to achieve this prestigious award.
Changing Of The Guard

Following a dramatic conclusion to the 37th Curtis Cup, a ceremonial changing of the guard has taken place at The Nairn Golf Club. The handover, which marked the conclusion of an exceptional 31 year tenure, saw golf course manager Iain Carson pass on the reigns of the club's handpicked greenslepers tradition to Ritchie Elvan, his deputy of 25 years.

In a career spanning more than thirteen decades at the Highland course, Iain Carson mastered a Walker Cup, Scottish Amateur Championship, a Scottish Amateur Open and one of the most coveted contested Curtis Cups in recent times.

"One of the biggest changes has been the development of Nairn's from a relatively small club in the north of Scotland to one that is recognized throughout the world," he said. "We are all part of the same team and have been involved in bringing the club forward." The staging of the Curtis Cup coupled with the club's highest entry (23) in Golf World's recently published Top 100 Golf Courses in Britain & Ireland has ensured Mr Carson leaves on a high. "For me, having the Walker Cup here in 1999 and getting the Curtis Cup in 2012 has been a great honour. No other club in the north of Scotland has had both of these events and it means Nairn is one of only ten clubs to host both," he said. "It has been a fantastic adventure which I have enjoyed from the start."

In what many see as a continuation of what came before, the new greenkeeper of the greens will be tasked with ensuring the famed Highland links preserves its reputation for its exceptional greens. Discussing his new position, Ritchie praised his former boss and looked forward to the future. "It has been a privilege to work alongside Iain for the last 25 years," said the club's new golf course manager. "He has worked hard to achieve the playing surfaces that we have at Nairn which are admired by no many. This shows through in how the course is presented and the feedback we get from the members. My job will be to continue this tradition so that Nairn can be enjoyed long into the future."

It's not just the members who enjoy the club's smooth running greens. Former Ryder Cup Captain Colin Montgomerie is also a fan, describing Nairn as "one of the best links courses in our great country," while World Number One Luke Donald said he considered it a great test of links golf and one of Scotland's best courses.

Pyrford Retain Football Title

With the only goal of a cagey final which looked destined for penalties, Pyrford Golf Club saw off the challenge of West Hill Golf Club to retain the JSM Cup.

The preceding rounds of very competitive 5-a-side football were played out during one of the warmest days of the year. The commitment of all the teams led to penalties having to decide 2 of the quarter final matches as well as the semi-final in which Pyrford sneaked past Cuddington Golf Club. West Hill defeated Queenwood 2-0 in the other semi-final.

Before the presentations could take place a penalty shoot-out also had to decide the winner of the 'golden boot' for tournament top scorer. Zane Percival (Pyrford) narrowly defeated Ben Edwards (West Hill) during sudden-death penalties, both having finished level on 6 goals at the end of the final.

JSM's Managing Director David Cole remarked, "The commitment and standard of play has been great to see, particularly on such a warm day. Our football tournament is turning into a great social event and we must thank Toro/Lely UK for their support in making it such an enjoyable success'.

Entry to the JSM Cup was open to teams of greenkeeper's, groundsmen and other turf and landscape professionals from around the south-east. First played for in 2008, the competition is held biannually.

GTC ANNOUNCE NEW DATES FOR CHAIRMAN OF GREEN WORKSHOPS

The Greenkeepers Training Committee has announced three new dates and venues for their very popular Chairman of Green Workshops. Presented by Laurence Pithie MG the Workshops provide a first class introduction to the role and responsibilities of the Chairman of Greens and are a must attend for all golf club officials who have responsibility for liaising with the course management team.

Events will take place as follows:

- Thursday 13th September 2012 at Priory Barn, Birdwater College, Cumnor, Oxfordshire, OX5 2LS.
- Thursday 20th September 2012 at Conwy (Caernarvonshire) Golf Club, Moela, Conwy LL32 8ER.
- Tuesday 25th September 2012 at Llanishen Golf Club, Heol Hr, Cardiff CF14 9UD.

On Course Foundation Charity Golf Day Success

The On Course Foundation which seeks to find work opportunities for injured newcomers in the golf industry had a Charity Golf Day at Royal Birkdale. Alex Harrison, who is employed full time as a greenkeeper at Gainseorough Golf Club after being placed there by the Foundation, took part in the Chaully Properties Ltd team.

Entry was joined by Royal Birkdale Captain, Sid Ludlow, former Captain, Niall Roy and Peter Unsworth of Chaully Properties. Plattedd, from left to right are Niall Roy, Sid Ludlow, Bert Bedlow, Peter Unsworth and Alex Harrison.

For further information about the On Course Foundation email info@oncoursefoundation.com or telephone 0208 334 2010.

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