Congratulations to Paul Tevotlade on his recent hole in one at Arbroath GC. Paul hit a sparking 3 iron at the 154 yard 16th on his way to scoring 69 in the Links Championship qualifying. Good job it was downhill Paul, well done.

Congratulations also to Gary Twagg from Letham Grange on winning the Angus County championships at the 30th time of trying. Okay, I know Gary’s a North section member but he works and plays most of his golf in this section and so he’s worthy of the mention.

Unfortunately, neither Paul or Gary did so well in the Scottish Greenkeepers Championships at Laoghi where Kenny Mitchell was the only winner over a very enjoyable course which was in superb condition.

Good luck to everyone who has events coming up, the teams at Muirfield for the Open, Castle Stuart for the Scottish, St Andrews for the Weeopen and everywhere in between, whether is your Pro Am, Club championship or Glasses day. Let’s hope the weather is kind to everyone and we see some great examples of well-prepared golf courses.

East - Major drainage work in the form of a newly constructed burn/ditch is coming along nicely at Bathgate GC, this has been installed to improve drainage and to enhance a couple of golf holes.

North - An Educational Seminar was held at Dornoch Golf Club and this was attended by over 15 people mainly from the Dornoch, Tain and Brora area. I am sure they all enjoyed the day and hopefully we could have more in the future.

It was good to see section members making the long journey to the Scottish National Tournament at Largs Golf Club. Thanks to Billy Clark, Jim Commerford, Gary Test and Pat Allan for their company. I would also like to say a big thanks to Course Manager Andy Barr and his team for a really well presented golf course with superb greens.

West - Best wishes to David Carson who was going for a fight operation recently so I hope all went well. David Gall Junior has been unwell recently and I would like to pass on my best wishes to myself and all on the committee hoping he gets better and his treatment is a success.

Ryan at Glencorse Brown I hope your knee is better quickly after all the work on it, no more footy for you, and I hope Mike Donners will be allowed back in the country after getting her passport stolen while on holiday in Greece.

Section cutting was held at Buchanach Castle GC the first time I’ve played it and I think it first for an outing which is excellent, I just wish more clubs could volunteer their services. The course was in great condition for the time of year although the recent rains had caused a few soft areas like us all.

Ronnie Mills and his staff are to be congratulated for their efforts unfortunately Ronnie couldn’t attend but Mark his assistant fitted in handily, the warm welcome and service was first class and the club are to thanked for all their assistance.

The results (which you can see in the ‘Results’ section) have been on the blog for a few weeks now along with other information and I would encourage all members to keep up to date by visiting the site regularly, congratulations to our Chairman for his hard work in posting the information.

The outing was attended by 43 people - only 35 played but this is good and I would encourage more members to come along and play, have a chat about the weather and discuss the different courses and methods of presentation.

The other event was the annual match against the secretaries which was held at Douglas Park GC, a great day was had by all in attendance and the final result was a draw meaning the greenkeepers retain the trophy. Thanks to Dave for the course presentation and the club for allowing us the use of their facilities.

Movers & Shakers

Central - Lee Strutt has resigned from the Committee. Everyone would like to thank Lee for his contribution over the past few years and will gladly accept his offer to help out at events.

East - Congratulations to John Watson at Deer Park who has taken over as Course Manager with Stuart Cruickshanks now taking role of General Manager, the section wish you all the best.

North - New members this month are Craig Darling (Renaisance) and Neil Hogg (Bruntfield Links), welcome aboard guys.

Events Coming Up

Central - Next educational event is at Elwood on 23 July where John Kaminski of Penn State will be giving a talk on the recent Open at Merion GC. A flyer will be sent out shortly and details are on www.biggacentralsection.org.uk. The recent talk by Mike-Jowson on communication skills unfortunately was poorly attended with only 9 people present, thanks to those who did come along. We appreciate that Elwood isn’t the best venue for everyone but it’s difficult to get a golf club with a private room on an evening during the golfing season.

East - The Willie Woods Trophy will be played at Mortonhall GC on 21 August, this tournament is played in a Fourball better ball format.

North - The next event is the Norrie Whytock Trophy at Auchterarder on the 15 August so if you had a good round at Duff House Royal you might get a call. Robert is unable to make the event so he has asked myself Dale Robertson to Captain the team. I will be in touch with the other three members in due course to see if we can get a winning team together.

News

Central - Earth moving is well underway on the new course at Feddlinch by St Andrews which is calling itself the St Andrews International Golf Club. It will be interesting to see how the planning application for a new Links course between Elie and Leven materialises over the coming months.

Results

West - Outing at Buchanan Castle. Scratch prize; Gregor Sutcliffe (Carlile) 70; First class winner; Stuart Taylor (Kingspark) 37pts; Second Chris Prior (Braehead) 36; Third Douglas Macintosh (Cathkin) 35; Second class winner; David McBrindle (Yale of Leven) 35 J1b; Second Brian League (Yale of Leven) 35; Third Jack Strawbridge (Barholm) 33; Third class winner; John Barr (Cardross) 37; Second Gareth Rodgers (Fairways) 30; Third John Steele (Buchanan Castle) 25; Visitor prize Robert Hart (Stirling); Nearest pin 4th, John Barr; Nearest pin 8th Chris Prior.

Thanks to Sponsors

East - Thanks to Musselburgh Race Course for their recent hospitality afforded to our section at their last race meeting, unfortunately we had a low turnout on the night, but everyone had a good time and we look forward to a repeat US Open day at Mortonhall Thanks to Shoua Cunningham’s substantial winnings!

Welcome New Scotland Members

Gregor Mackintosh, Greenkeeper, Turnberry Hotel & Golf Course
Scott Thompson, Greenkeeper, Strathmore Golf Centre
Antoine Burritt, Greenkeeper, Balnagask Golf Club
Robert King, Assistant Greenkeeper, Muirfield Golf Club
Kyle Cruickshank, Greenkeeper, The Glenogle Hotel & Golf Courses
Christopher Miller, Assistant Greenkeeper, Scunec Golf Club
Lewis Fraser, Assistant Greenkeeper, Fairmont St Andrews
Liam McWilliams, Greenkeeper, Loch Lomond Golf Club
Craig Darling, Greenkeeper, Renaisance Club
Neil Hogg, Greenkeeper, Bruntfield Links Golfing Society
Paul Miller, Affiliate Member, 8RUC (Elwood)
John Bowens, Greenkeeper, The Golf Club House Elle
Nigel Buchanan, Greenkeeper, Drumoig Golf Club

Events Coming Up

North East - The summer stabilised cup on Percy Wood is on 21 August NOT 17 August as previously mentioned. Booking forms will be sent out to all members

Northem - The invitation day at Wetherby is on 12 August NOT 19 August as quoted in last month’s notes. The Sheffield match-up is at Howley Hall on 31 July.

North Wales - Apologies to everyone who was looking forward to playing in the North Wales North West match at Lymm GC but the fixture had to be cancelled, further information as to whether it will be rescheduled has not made it to me yet but keep watching our Facebook group or the main BIGGA website events area for updates. The North Wales v South Wales match is at North and Ynysa GC on 26 July, I believe we do have a team but if you want to check or be on stand by please contact Rhys Butler - contact details on your fixture list.

New Members

George McCoy, Greencare,Yale Royal Abbey GC; Brian Griffiths, Greencare, Baron Hill GC Ltd; Richard Malthouse, Greencare, Malton & Norton GC; Kevin Irving, Greencare, Carlile GC; Scott Baxter, Groundsman, Roxwood GC; Adam Mayr, Greencare, Meatham GC; Gay Welking, Greencare, Leyland GC; Charles Bevan, Greencare, Leyland GC; Lee Cadenhead, Scott Newton, Course Manager, Aysthorpe GC; Richard Birse, Affiliate Member, Shipley GC; Joshua Fowler, As Greenkeeper, Meltham GC; Chris Shalay, Greencare, Hessle GC; Philip Robinson, As Greencare, Close House GC; Graham Dawson, As Greencare, Close House GC; Peter Macnair, As Greencare, Macclesfield GC.
Results

Mid Anglia - Results from Spring Golf Day and National Qualifier held at Bedford & County GC. 1 A Butler 36pts, 2 G Hance 34, 3rd O Browning 33 with nearest Pin winners L.Owens and A. Butler. Our thanks go to Geoff Fenn and his team for providing us with the course in fantastic condition which was enjoyed by all who attended on a lovely day.

Thanks to Sponsors

Mid Anglia - Our long running supporters of our excellent calendar, now in its 6th year, this month is sponsored by North Staffs Irrigation Ltd. Please consider them for both your irrigation and drainage requirements. Email: NSIrig@gmail.com Tel: 01785 812 706.

Mid Anglia - A massive thanks goes to Vasgro Amenity, Rigg Taylor, Avoncrop Amenity, ALS, Antech and Headland Amenity for your continued support with funds towards the Mid Anglia Section.

Welcome New Midland Members

Alex Brougham, Assistant Greenkeeper, Trentham Golf Ltd
Jack Hawkins, Greenkeeper, Leamington & County Golf Club
Jeremy Saunders, Mechanic, Menstrowe Golf & Country Club
Simon Colebrook, Head Greenkeeper, Pitchforks USA Golf Club
Paul Foley, Assistant Greenkeeper, Whipsnade Park GC
Iareth Watkins, Greenkeeper, Greenham Valley Golf Club
Alex Porter, Greenkeeper, Greenham Valley Golf Club
Nico Geldenhuys, Greenkeeper, Groce Estate Golf Club
Daniel Harris, Greenkeeper, Tytherington Club
Christopher Horne, Affiliate Member, Globe Marking
Ian Burnage, Greenkeeper, Bedford & County Golf Club

Events Coming Up

BBiGAO - Summer Comp at Caversham Heath GC near Reading, 1 August. Shish kebabs with coffee and bacon rolls, free range balls and two course buffet dinner afterwards.

Smart casual attire required after golf. Event doubles as a qualifier for the BSGA National Team, 7-8 October. See www.bbogreenkeepers.co.uk for further details.

Mid Anglia - Summer Golf Day at Brookmans Park GC on 6 August.

Get your entries in asap to avoid missing out on this popular pairs event.

News

BBiGAO - Andy Essence, Course and Grounds Manager at the Buckinghamshire GC, is looking for support staff for the Ladies European Masters held on 26-28 July live on Sky.

Last year’s event was a great success and hopefully as many of you as possible will volunteer again to experience the work and involvement of a Professional Tour event. Andy can be contacted on 07732277902 or Andy.Emense@Buckinghamshiregc.co.uk.

East Berkshire played host to the Players Tour. Held over 36 holes the tour pros and club professionals the chance to play and win a place at the European Qualifying School. Conditions were ideal for scoring with warm sunny weather and a course in great condition. Scoring was tight with Lee Lauchan taking the event with a 2.

Section team beat the Kent Section 4-1 in the final of the Torr/Lely Home Counties Football Final held at Upton Park. Congratulations to both teams for a great game and especially to Larry Pearnard and Torr/Lley for sponsoring the event. A special mention must go to head groundman Shaun O’Hare for his patience on the quality of the pitch and presentation for the event.

Mid Anglia - The Centurion Golf Club in St Albans/Hemel Hempstead is very close to opening and looks to be a very fine course and a real challenge of golf so looking forward to its late summer opening.

Movers & Shakers

Mid Anglia - Congratulations to Neil Carter for being appointed as Head Greenkeeper at Mentmore GC - all the best for your role.

Photographs wanted

We would welcome any photographs to go into the new look Around the green section, so if you’re feeling snap happy, contact your Section correspondent...

Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the green...

Midland

Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the green...

South East

Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the green...

Events Coming Up

Surrey - McMillan Tankard at Sunningdale GC on 12 August. Course Walk at Sunningdale GC 16 July 2pm with a talk on Headland Management by Murray Long. Contact Scott Roberts - 07810 472067 – £10 includes lunch with numbers limited. On the BSGA open event will be held at Piltown Golf Club on 1 August with a 1pm start, with bacon rolls and a meal after with plenty of prizes for just £10! Please contact Pete Smith if you want to enter or for more information on 07748776761 or on pds1@btinternet.com.

After a successful opening, Corinthian Golf Club (formerly Fawkham Valley Golf Club) will be hosting a Foot Golf event in mid to late July.

Date to be confirmed but will be followed by barbecue and beverages at Redhill Golf Club next door. Date will be sent out via e-mail and text and will also be found on website and Facebook page.

News

Surrey - Seminars over the winter period are in the planning process, dates TBA, intention to have 5 or 6 educational events at Merrist Wood College.

Sussex - A good turnout of 27 for the Sussex section’s spring competition and national championship qualifier at the Dyke Golf Club. Although a challenging wind was blowing a good day was had by all on a wonderfully presented and maintained course, congratulations and sincere thanks go to Rob Hudson and his team.

Also thanks to Jim Croston for taking time away from the IMWG PGA at Wentworth to come along and introduce himself to our section. His attendance was appreciated and his company was far better than his golf! He will, from now on, always be known as “Just Jim” (pause) “on days like this!”

Movers & Shakers

Surrey - Girme Roberts has been appointed the new Deputy Head Greenkeeper at Tandridge GC.

Results

Surrey - Spring comp and National Qualifier; Division 1 nearest the pin, nobody! With notable praise to Pete Smith for showing the Division 1 boys how to do it, Nearest the pin in Division 2; Jon Cole (SSM); Nearest the pin in 2; Chris Wells (Seaford); Longest drive; Jim Russell (Bigga Roots)
Events Coming Up

**BBHo** - Summer Comp at Caversham Heath GC, near Reading, 1 August. Stableford with coffee and bacon rolls, free range balls and a two course buffet dinner afterwards. Smart casual attire required after golf. Event doubles as a qualifier for the National Qualifier held at Bedford & County GC. Andy can be contacted on 07732577952 or Andy.Ewence@Buckinghamshiregc.co.uk for further details.

**Mid Anglia** - Summer Golf Day at Brocksomb Park GC on 6 August. Get your entries in soon to avoid missing out on this popular pairs event.

**News**

**BBHo** - Andy Evans, Course and Grounds Manager at the Buckinghamshire GC, is looking for support staff for the Ladies European Masters held on 26-28 July live on Sky. Last year’s event was a great success and hopefully as many of you as possible will volunteer again to experience the work and involvement of a Professional Tour event. Andy can be contacted on 07732527792 or Andy.Ewence@Buckinghamshiregc.co.uk.

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**Mid Anglia** - A massive thanks goes to Vassago Amenity, Rigby Taylor, Avoncrop Amenity, ALS, Antech and Headland Amenity for your continued support with funds towards the Mid Anglia Section.

**New South East Members**

Kevin Francis, Greenkeeper, Lamberhurst Golf Club

Jamie Harman, Assistant Greenkeeper, Hardley Common GC

Simon Holland, Greenkeeper, Hardley Common Golf Club

James Watt, Greenkeeper, Lingfield Park Golf Club

Zach Halsey, Greenkeeper, Lingfield Park Golf Club

Alie Harrison, Assistant Greenkeeper, Playgolf Northwick Park

Robert Sutton, Greenkeeper, St Clements Golf Club

Nicholas Chace, Assistant Greenkeeper, RAP Marham GC

Alex Foreman, Affiliate Member, F Tuckwell Limited

Aaron Fitt, Greenkeeper, Bay View Golf Course

Nicholas Howes, Greenkeeper, RAP Marham Golf Club

Raymond Ward, William Wiclas, Ben Morris, Chris Pendry, Dan Martin, David Scott, David Bass, Jack Upton, James Grimme, Nathan Wolfe, Student, James Cross, Richard Larkin, Dan Clark, Daniel Burland – Hadlow College

Shaun Humphrey, Assistant Greenkeeper, Cowdray Park GC

Bradley Dalton, Affiliate Member, SX Building Specialist Ltd

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Richard Warlands, Greenkeeper, East Brighton Golf Club

Lucas Pierre, Greenkeeper, Sunningdale Golf Club

**Thanks to Sponsors**

**Surrey** – Winchester Garden Machinery for the Surrey Bowl.

**Sussex** – Thanks to all our sponsors of the Springcomp who allowed us to put on a fine day for just £10 a head.

**Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the green...**
We are again sponsoring a place at BTME, this is open for anyone to be nominated. Send your nominations along with merit and reasons to Alex McCombie at southcoastsecretary@gmail.com This can be anyone to put your thinking caps on! Finally, I had the pleasure of playing in the Basingstoke Bowl in early June, a truly great day, well done Colin and his team the course was at its best.

South Wales - Congratulations to Ian Kinley and his staff at Royal Portrush GC on hosting the fantastic Speedy Wales Seniors Open. The event was a huge success just a shame Ian Wonnacott couldn’t come on a home victory.

South Wales - Patrons Cup 4 July Radyr GC 1pm tee off, 2:30pm course walk with Julian the Head GC. All to sit down for a meal afterwards jacket and tie required - all paid for as a goodwill gesture by our patrons. The first two will be greatly missed. Thanks Jane and best wishes for the future, we look forward to catching up with you.

Thanks to Sponsors

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New South West & Wales Members

News

Devon & Cornwall - Last event was at The Point at Polzeath, North Cornwall. Superb weather added to a great day. The course was in great condition, thanks to Tom Collings (Head Greenkeeper) and his team. Winning the Golf was one of the team, Mike Ellis who will go on to enter into the BIGGA National Championship.

For further details, please see the BIGGA Bulletin Boards for further details.

Events Coming Up

South Coast - Forthcoming events Army GC 4 July. Match v 8 West at N Wilts GC on 26 September. Autumn Tournament at Mee Valley GC on 9 October and our Christmas Turkey trot at Weirbrook Park on 10 December. As always let Tony Gadd know if you are available to play in the match.

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South West & Wales

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South Wales – Patrons Cup 4 July Radley GC I join tee off 2:30pm course walk with Julian the Herd GC. All to sit down for a meal afterwards jacket and tie - required - all paid as a goodwill gesture for our patrons. The first two will be entered into the BIGGA National Championship.

28 July match at Borth and Ynyslas GC teams to be picked by match captain and last year’s winners.

South West - SW Section v South Coast Section at North Wilts GC on 26 September. Enquiries to Wayne Hopkins, Avoncrop, Inscapes, David Evans, Complete Weed Control, Divot Bag and Osprey; South West - Many thanks to all of our section’s patrons and HQ who contributed to a fantastic prize pool for the Summer Tournament’s participants.

New South West & Wales Members

Mark Jarrett, Greenkeeper, Thamesgolf South Golf Club
Philip Jonas, Greenkeeper, Newport (Pemb) Golf Club
Kevin Wilkins, Greenkeeper, Hilton Puckuck Hall Golf Club
James Morgan, Greenkeeper, Southend Golf Club
Paul Errington, Affiliate Member, Groundscare Products
Daniel Hardy, Deputy Course Manager, Cam’s Hall Estate Golf Club
Dominic Gilbard, Greenkeeper, Treborough Golf Club
Jack Hodge, Assistant Greenkeeper, Old Thorns Manor Hotel Golf & Country Estate;
Lee Mitchell, Greenkeeper, Milton Abbey School
Oliver Tanton, Assistant Greenkeeper, Royal North Devon Golf Club
Stephan Thorne, Greenkeeper, Rushmore Golf Club
Dan Ritchie, Assistant Greenkeeper, Gosport & Stokes Bay Golf Club

New International Members

Kevin-John O’Riordan, Brian O’Leary – all students at Colaiste Stiofin
Walsh, Michael O’Dwyer, Adam Phelan, Steven O’Leary, Francesco Danisi, Cricklade Hotel Golf Club.

Movers and Shakers

Devon & Cornwall – At Polurrian a presentation was made to Jane Jones (Regional Administrator) in recognition for all the work she has done for the Region and for the Section, Accommodation, a meal and golf at St M Mellon has been arranged for Jane along with some gifts on the day. On behalf of the Section, I would like to thank Jane for all the work she has done – she is most fondly thought of by the Section and will be greatly missed. Thank you Jane and best wishes for the future, we look forward to catching up with you.

Thanks to Sponsors

Devon & Cornwall – Thank you to Erinnis and Beel Grimming South West for sponsoring the event at The Point. A big thank you to Course Care for their ongoing support of the annual match against the secretaries. South Wales – Many thanks to all of our section’s patrons, and Mike Ellis who will go on to represent the Section at the National Championships.

South Coast – Congratulations to Ian Wootton for presenting the course in excellent condition. Results of the Summer Tournament will be in the Basingstoke Bowl in early June. A truly great day, well done Colin and his team the course was at its best.

South Wales – Congratulations to Ian Kirkley and his staff at Royal Portmouth GC on hosting the fantastic Speedy Wales Seniors Open. The event was a huge success just a shame Ian Wootton couldn’t hold on for a home victory.

Following our Summer Tournament at Kingsdown Golf Club on 12 June in weather conditions that truly sorted the men from the boys our Section representatives for the National Tournament in October have been selected. Net winner was Lee White from Boswood GC and gross winner was Paul Garland from Lansdowne GC, well done men and good luck at Frilford Heath. Mention must be made of second place net Darren Morris and second place net Tom Collings (Head Greenkeeper) and his team. Winning the trophy was hosted by Ashley Wood GC and gross winner was Ashley Wood GC and gross winner was Paul Garland from Lansdowne GC, well done men and good luck at Frilford Heath. Mention must be made of second place net Darren Morris and second place net Tom Collings (Head Greenkeeper) and his team. Winning the trophy was hosted by Ashley Wood GC and gross winner was Paul Garland from Lansdowne GC, well done men and good luck at Frilford Heath. 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A range of courses delivered throughout the South West. Levels 2 and 3 Work based Diplomas and Apprenticeships in Horticulture including Groundskeeping and Groundsmanship, NVQ 4 Ancillary Horticulture (Management). Level 2 and 3 Diplomas in Horticulture (including Sustainability). NVQ 4 Horticulture. Diploma in Horticulture and Landscape Design. RHS Level 1, 2 and Advanced Certificate. Also short courses in pesticides, plant machinery, vehicles, and chainsaws. Distance learning available via e平台.

Greenkeepers Training Committee (Quality Assured)

Hendricks College

GTC QUALITY ASSURED CENTRES AND TRAINING PROVIDERS

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 836640 or visit: www.thegtc.co.uk

Reducing your business costs doesn’t have to be difficult. It can be easy.

Contact: Liz Clarkson 01579 372345/07785105087

Rosewarne, Camborne, Cornwall, TR14 0AB

Stoke Climsland, Callington, Cornwall, PL17 8PF

Rosewarne

Stoke Climsland

Tombridge, Kent, TN11 0AL

City & Guilds work-based qualifications at Levels 2 and 3 in Groundskeeping, Groundsmanship and Landscaping for apprenticeships for all ages. We also offer a range of short courses, such as Health & Safety, COSHH, Chainsaw and Pesticide Application.

Contact: Andrew Wight 01727 737735

HADLOW COLLEGE

www.hadlow.ac.uk


Contact: Mike Dodd 01732 853163

Merritt Wood College

Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE


Part-time courses: New Sports Turf 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 Trimming, PIP 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.

Contact: Philip Mayes 07896 67 47 89

Merritt Wood College

Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE

www.merritwood.ac.uk

Plumpton College


Contact: 01732 853163

www.hadlow.ac.uk

Oaklands College

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

Oaklands College offers on demand, on-line learning in City and Guilds levels (2,3,4), NPTC Environment, Greenkeeping, Sports Turf Management and Horticulture throughout the South East. In addition we provide on demand work-based apprenticeships at Levels 2 and 3. Full time courses on offer include Level 2 in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management and Horticulture Entry 2 to Level 3. We also offer short courses for PA1, 2 and 6.

Contact: Andrew Wight 01727 737735

www.oaklands.ac.uk

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Contact: Andrew Wight 01727 737735

www.oaklands.ac.uk

Apprenticeships offered at Levels 2 and 3: Level 4: Horticulture. RHS Levels 2 and 3, both Theory and practical. Short courses available, including PPE Spraying and Chainsaw. Bespoke Training, e.g.: Manual handling, Mower use and Maintenance. Risk Assessment, Strimmers and Hedge trimmers.

Contact: Philip Mayes 07896 67 47 89

www.merritwood.ac.uk

Plumpton College


Contact: Philip Mayes 07896 67 47 89

www.merritwood.ac.uk

Plumpton College

Ditchling Road, Nr Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE. 01273 890456 www.plumpton.ac.uk

Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF

Study at: Pershore or Moreton Morrell Centre


Part-time courses: New Sports Turf 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 Trimming, PIP 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.

Contact: Course Enquiries team on 01995 642211

www.myerscough.ac.uk

Email: enquiries@myerscough.ac.uk

BE SEEN HERE

Your training provider could appear here, as a training listing, or in our next edition of Greenkeeper Training

Get in touch with our Sales team on 01347 833800 to find out more
Oaklands College
Smallford Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL4 0QA
Contact: Andy Wright 01727 737735 andy.wright@oaklands.ac.uk
www.oaklands.ac.uk
Oaklands College offers a demand, on-line learning in City and Guided levels (England), 1, 2, 3, combined with Fairfield Apprenticeship in Horticulture, Sports Turf Management and Horticulture throughout the South East.
Inclusions: we provide on-demand distance learning at Levels 2 and 3. Full time courses on offer include Level 2 in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management and Horticulture Entry 2 at Level 2.
We also offer short courses for P1, 2 and 6.

Merritt Wood College
Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE www.merristwood.ac.uk
Contact: Philip Mayes 07896 67 47 89 pmayes@guildford.ac.uk
www.merristwood.ac.uk
City & Guilds work-based qualifications at Levels 2 and 3 in Greenkeeping, Groundsmanship and Landscaping for apprenticeships for all ages. We also offer a range of short courses, such as Health & Safety, COSHH, Chainsaw and Pesticide Application.
Additionally full and part-time courses (post GCSE through to degree level) are available in horticulture and a variety of other land-based subjects.

Myerscough College
Lancashire
Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY
Contact: Course Enquiries team on 01995 642311
myerscough@myerscough.ac.uk
Myerscough College is a pioneering centre for Sportsturf Science and Training in Europe. Courses are available at all levels from Introductory Diplomas to Honours Degrees in Sportsturf Science and Management.
There are options for full time and part-time study with our FE and HNC Sportsturf Science courses available online via full time, part time and on-line. Please contact us for up-to-date listings, qualifications and advice on courses and funding. Open evenings are held regularly at the College.

Plumpton College
Plumpton College, Ditchling Road, Nr Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 3AE. 01273 890454 www.plumpton.ac.uk

Plumpton College
Plumpton College, Ditchling Road, Nr Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 3AE. 01273 890454 www.plumpton.ac.uk

Warwickshire College
Sports Turf Apprenticeship
Study at: Pershore or Moreton Morrell Centre, and day fortnightly.
Qualification: Intermediate/Advanced Apprenticeship in Horticulture, specialising in Sports Turf
The apprenticeships in Sports Turf Management have routes in groundsman and groundkeeper. Apprenticeships are a great way for students to earn and learn and fantastic for employers to have trained and skilled staff. Short courses are also available at both sites, covering PA1, 2, 6, Chainsaw, P & D, First Aid, Landscape design and many more.
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For more information contact the GTC on: 01347 838640 or visit: www.thegtc.co.uk

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This month David looks at why and how British educated and trained greenkeepers are still very much in demand worldwide and how international students are still looking to attend British colleges. Plus, how the GTC is now helping golf developing countries

It gives me great pleasure when I receive an email from a familiar name reminding me that they were a British apprentice and are now working abroad as Course Manager or Director of Golf.

It is very rewarding to see how the British greenkeeping education and training system has been the foundation for many, to not only progress to be Course Managers throughout Britain, but ply their trade overseas and enjoy the experience.

There are also many of today’s non-British Course Managers who have travelled from far and wide to gain knowledge from a British college and who have also enjoyed the experience of gaining skills from working on a British golf course.

The same can be said of young greenkeepers who have travelled abroad to gain new life experiences. We’ve heard how many greenkeepers have enjoyed the Ohio State University programme managed so expertly my ‘old friend’ Mr Mike O’Keefe, since the initiation started back in 1989. Mike only recently informed me that Greenkeeping Associations in Europe, Training Europe, it is apparent that with very few exceptions, many countries as yet have no formal greenkeeper education system.

Some countries do not have a golf club employer who benefits from having well trained staff and to have the major employer bodies around the table with the professional body for greenkeepers certainly has great benefits for all clubs and greenkeepers alike.

The Government still looks to employers to take the lead on establishing Occupational Standards for their particular sector. What follows are funding incentives such as apprenticeship allowances which in Britain have benefited many employers and greenkeepers over the years.

In summary, British trained and educated greenkeepers are operating in many countries and the sharing of best practices amongst golf organisations, associations, education establishments and companies within the sector must bode well for the future standards of golf course maintenance and management. For all the latest information on greenkeeper education, training courses visit the GTC’s website www.gtc.co.uk

“Turf college lecturers are now working closer than ever with Course Managers and Head Greenkeepers to develop apprentices to become the future custodians of golf courses”

David Golding, GTC Education Director, with a monthly update
This month David looks at why and how British educated and trained greenkeepers are still very much in demand worldwide and how international students are still looking to attend British colleges. Plus, how the GTC is now helping golf developing countries.

"Turf college lecturers are now working closer than ever with Course Managers and Head Greenkeepers to develop apprentices to become the future custodians of golf courses. Course Managers, Deputies and in fact all levels of greenkeepers have more access to knowledge and qualifications, as online learning becomes so much more accessible. A Degree in Sports Turf Surfaces is no longer just a dream for many greenkeepers, it is a reality. The Internet has obviously helped and communication across the world of greenkeeping appears to be going from strength to strength.

Having mentioned the formal qualifications, it may not be forgotten that the two key elements - knowledge and experience - are the very foundation which underpin any education structure.

Through my involvement in advising an increasing number of countries within my role as Standards Director to the European Greenkeeping Education Unit (or will soon become, Greenkeeper Training Europe), it is apparent that with very few exceptions, many countries as yet have no formal greenkeeper education system.

Some countries do not have a greenkeeping association, however, and qualifications. It is a success story and one we are sharing as a blueprint with other countries.

Ultimately, it is the golf club employer who benefits most from having well trained staff and to have the major employer bodies around the table with the professional body for greenkeepers certainly has great benefit to the clubs and greenkeepers alike.

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www.greenkeepertraining.com
www.egeu.eu
www.the-gtc.co.uk

Quick ‘Nine Hole’ Quiz

1) Name the 12 players who represented England in the 2005 Ashes.
2) Which League Two side play pre-season matches against the likes of Blackpool, Sheffield United and Huddersfield?
3) Which American tennis player was kicked out of Wimbledon in 1995 for verbally abusing an umpire?
4) Which Sheffield-based tennis player won last year’s Men’s Doubles at Wimbledon with partner Frederik Nielsen?

5) Which cricketer scored 766 runs in the last Ashes series?
6) Name the two tennis players involved in the record match at Wimbledon which ended 70-68 in the final set.
7) Who are the reigning County Cricket champions?
8) Name the five venues for this summer’s Ashes.
9) Who is the current Australian cricket captain?

Monsters 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.

Puzzle Answers on page 55
For over four decades MJ Abbott Ltd has expanded its scope of works to incorporate the installation of land drainage and irrigation systems, golf course construction and renovation, natural and artificial sports ground construction and maintenance and the installation of water supply and distribution systems.

Throughout steady growth, the company has evolved to become one of the UK’s leading specialist sports contractors. These specialist activities are carried out by directly employed staff to provide our clients with a comprehensive service based upon quality and reliability.

We have provided services to a variety of satisfied clients over the years. Examples of clients from the private sector for whom we have acted as principle contractor would include De Vere Resort Management, Ralph Trustees Ltd and many privately owned golf clubs including The Belfry, Sunningdale, De Vere Resort Management, Ralph Trustees Ltd and many more.

The company is pleased to offer the following services:

- Golf Course and Sportsground construction projects – will be completed by directly employed staff and company owned machinery.
- Golf Course and Sportsground grow in and maintenance – we employ several sports turf experts who have grown in many golf courses and sports fields. We can offer a maintenance service tailored to the needs of the client.
- Land drainage – we own specialist trenching equipment operated by experts in this field.
- Irrigation systems – we will design, supply and install irrigation systems based on the client’s requirements and budget.
- Water supply and distribution – we can design, supply and install potable water systems, foul water pumping and treatment systems, borehole prognosis and installation.
- Service support – we have a team of mobile engineers who are on call to provide emergency back up should a water supply system fail.
- Trade counter, pump sales and service, Web sales and product support via our on line store www.mjabbottdirect.co.uk