down the 5th and he said to me “we need to get rid of these trees”. It was a pine tree-lined fairway which I actually liked, so I was wondering if it was a trick question! I asked him why he would want to remove them. He replied “we don’t want to end up as a parkland course, we’re a heathland course” – and he was right. When the pines came down, you could see right across the heath with the beautiful heather and gorse and it was much improved.

“It is important to keep the work going in a consistent manner. Five year plans are very useful, so you end up having a balanced approach to your work and tick boxes as you progress over the years. It also means you have clear evidence to take to your committee and members to answer questions on what you’ve done and what’s still to do.”

It is clear the ecological work is encouraging local wildlife. On the morning of my visit, Philip revealed he had seen four deer and a red kite in the woodland on the course.

The clubhouse where we chatted featured a quirky circular dining room – and it was a quirky twist of fate that led Philip to embark on his greenkeeping career. But for a failed eye test, he could have spent his life on the high seas.

“I trained to be a river pilot at nautical college at Trinity House but my eyesight wasn’t good enough. I wear contact lenses which would be okay now, but in those days you had to have 20/20 vision to be accepted on the boats.”

“So I left to work as a greenkeeper on the site of the old Hessle Golf Club, before the Humber Bridge was constructed on it. I knew many of the members as I’d been a member there since I was 12 so it seemed natural to get a job there initially.”

“Obviously it was so different then. We cut the greens once a week, the wages were poor and there was no career progression – well, certainly not at that club anyway. So I went down to Kingston-upon-Thames and worked at the Holme Park Golf Club which was in the grounds of Hampton Court Palace before a spell at Beaconsfield Golf Club. I then got my first Head Greenkeeper’s role at Farnham Park Golf Club, then moved on to York Golf Club and had eight fantastic years there before moving to Alwoodley. I always used to say I would never work on the same golf course for more than seven or eight years, and of course I’ve ended up here for 25! I’ve been very fortunate.”

Philip does not have any greenkeeping qualifications in common with most greenkeepers of his generation, although he is particularly keen to impress the importance of training on his team. Alwoodley Deputy, Neil Horton, is working towards his Level 4 and another team member is on Level 2.

The Club are now looking forward to hosting the Yorkshire Amateur Championship later this year and the English Amateur Championship in 2015.

Philip concluded: “It’s a fantastic place to work, people tend to stay here for years. Everything we’ve done, we’ve done together. It’s all about a team here, and that includes all members of staff in all departments of the Club. We have carried out an awful lot of work over past years and it has undoubtedly been worth it, not to mention a privilege.”

ABOVE: Steve Bennett, Ben Robertson, Chris Hall, Tim Minns, Matthew Brightman, Neil Horton, Philip Taylor

Valuable horticultural properties
Fully analysed, sandy loam
Compliant to BS3882:2007

Ideal for
bunker construction

Call us now on: 0870 240 2314
www.bstopsoil.co.uk
Events Coming Up

Ayshire
Symbio seminar at Dumfries Golf Club on 18 February contact Jim Paton or a Symbio rep for more details.

Central
Although the Pairs competition for 2014 has still to be confirmed by the Section Committee expect to hear notification of it by the end of February along with entry details and the format. The Spring outing this year will be at Rockfield Hall in February with the exact date and details to be confirmed. Hyns have never been to Rockfield Hall it will well worth the trip.

Scotland
Although there have been a few wet and windy days over the past month, compared to many places around the country our coastal courses at least have made great progress with their winter work programmes. With the mild start to 2014 many of the coastal courses at least have made great progress.

Northern
Cleveland
Cleveland north east section course walk and guest speaker at Rockfield Hall in February with the exact date and details to be confirmed. Hyns have never been to Rockfield Hall it will well worth the trip.

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

Events Coming Up

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

Northern

ITINERARY

9.00am - 9.30am COFFEE & REGISTRATION

10.30am - 10.45am BREAK FOR COFFEE

11.45am - 12.45pm CAMPEY TURFCARE MACHINERY DEMONSTRATION

12.45pm - 1.45pm LUNCH

This event will qualify for 3 CPD Points and a Certificate of Attendance will be awarded.

LEEDS: 25/02/2014: Cookridge Golf Club

CHESHIRE: 26/02/2014: De Vere Mottram Hall

ROtherham: 27/02/2014: Grange Park Golf Club

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

News

Cleveland
Christmas golf day at Cleveland GC. The day was as good as ever with the course in excellent condition. Ian Pemberton and his staff did it again and produced a course that most people would be happy with in the summer let alone a couple of weeks before Christmas! Format of the day was a stableford team event with the best two scores counting.

I am sure a good few will be joining us and we hope to see you guys all the news and fixture updates over the season. Please send me this new number 07744 643497. I will store your details on this but you can still get me on my mobile.

Results

Cleveland
Christmas Golf Day was sponsored by TACT and was attended by the regional representative Nik Blesic. Sheffield
We would like to thank Mike Briers from Rigby Taylor for sponsoring our Christmas event held at Worksop Golf Club the day was well attended. We would like to thank Ben and his staff for the good condition of the course and also the catering staff for the Christmas dinner. Thanks to all the sponsors in 2013 for their support and hope they will support us in 2014! Thank You!

News

Welcome New Members

Events Coming Up

Ayrshire
Symbio seminar at Dunranald Golf Club on 18 February contact Jim Paton or a Symbio rep for more details.

Central
Although there have been a few wet and windy days over the Symbio seminar at Dundonald Golf Club on 18 February by the 10th

Scotland

Northern

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

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

Events Coming Up

North East
6 March Chester le Street GC - Seminar with speakers Greg Evans, Henry Bechelet, Lee Strutt MG and Pete Newton. This is limited to 50 places so book early to avoid disappointment.

Spring golf comp at South Shields GC on 12 March tee off from 12noon.

Cleveland
Cleveland north east course walk and guest speaker at Rockside Hall in February with the exact date and details to be confirmed. Hyun have never been to Rockside Hall it will well worth the trip.

Slightly off subject but on Friday 20 February there will be an England counties team playing Ireland’s club teams at the Darlington Mowden Park Arena. Tickets are £7 on the night. It would be great to see the Cleveland section there to support Ian Dunnable in his role as Head Groundsman.

I know this is a little early but we are looking for a venue for the autumn tournament. Any volunteers? If you have any news no matter what let me know and I’ll put it in. I can be contacted on 07974 458640 or amcgeough@aol.com

Northern

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

ITINERARY
9.00am - 9.30am COFFEE & REGISTRATION
9.30am - 10.30am THE IMPORTANCE OF OXYGEN/AERATION PRESENTED BY DAVID SNOWDEN
10.30am - 10.45am UNDERSTANDING FERTILISER APPLICATION & PLANT NUTRITION THE ROLE OF AN AGRONOMIST PRESENTED BY DAVID STANSFIELD
10.45am - 11.15am CANOPY TURF CARE/MACHINERY DEMONSTRATION - AIR 201/IMPRINT SHOCKWAVE & A / LIGHT LUNCH
11.15am - 11.45am 1.00pm - 1.30pm Q & A / LIGHT LUNCH

This event will qualify for 3 CPD points and a Certificate of Attendance will be awarded.

LEEDS: 25/02/2014: Cookridge Golf Club
CHESHIRE: 26/02/2014: DeVere Mottram Hall
ROtherham: 27/02/2014: Grange Park Golf Club

Results
Cleveland Christmas golf day at Cleveland GC. The day was as good as ever with the course in excellent condition. Ian Pemberton and his staff did it again and produced a course that most people would be happy with in the summer let alone a couple of weeks before Christmas! Format of the day was a stableford team event with the best two scores counting.

I am very happy to report that Tony Burge, retired Northern Region Conference is on Thursday 6 November with the theme of Greenkeeping. The morning will be awarded

News
Cleveland
Must be something in the water up here as we have another future greenkeeper! Matt Kerr and his better half Samantha are celebrating the birth of their first son Luca Solomon weighing in at 6lb 2oz, congratulations.

I have some very sad news regarding Tony Burge, retired Head Greenkeeper at Richmond Golf Club. He passed away on Tuesday 7 January after a long illness. Tony was my first Head Greenkeeper and as a baby faced 16 year old he took me under his wing and helped me get to the position I am at today. He was Head Greenkeeper at Richmond for over 25 years implementing countless improvements and will be missed by everyone in the greenkeeping industry. My sympathies go out to his sons Adrian and Simon. For details of the funeral you can contact me on amcgeough@iac.com

We have the section mobile up and running so we can send you guys all the news and fixture updates over the season. Please text me on this new number 07744 643497.

I will store your details on this but you can still get me on my mobile.

Thanks to Sponsors
Cleveland
Christmas Golf Day was sponsored by TACIT and was attended by the regional representative Nik Blesic from Sheffield.

We would like to thank Mike Bros from Rigby Taylor for sponsoring our Christmas event held at Workop Golf Club the day was well attended. We would like to thank Ben and his staff for the good condition of the course and also the catering staff for the Christmas dinner. Thanks to all the sponsors in 2013 for their support and hope they will support us in 2014 - Thank You!

Welcome New Members

All the latest news from your Section, in your new-look notes pages...

Section Notes
Readers are asked to send in news of their Section events to: Section Notes, 107 Middlefield Road, Coundon, Coventry CV1 5JY

Northern

News
Cleveland Christmas golf day at Cleveland GC. The day was as good as ever with the course in excellent condition. Ian Pemberton and his staff did it again and produced a course that most people would be happy with in the summer let alone a couple of weeks before Christmas! Format of the day was a stableford team event with the best two scores counting.

I am very happy to report that Tony Burge, retired Head Greenkeeper at Richmond Golf Club. He passed away on Tuesday 7 January after a long illness. Tony was my first Head Greenkeeper and as a baby faced 16 year old he took me under his wing and helped me get to the position I am at today. He was Head Greenkeeper at Richmond for over 25 years implementing countless improvements and will be missed by everyone in the greenkeeping industry. My sympathies go out to his sons Adrian and Simon. For details of the funeral you can contact me on amcgeough@iac.com

We have the section mobile up and running so we can send you guys all the news and fixture updates over the season. Please text me on this new number 07744 643497.

I will store your details on this but you can still get me on my mobile.

Results
Cleveland
Christmas golf day at Cleveland GC. The day was as good as ever with the course in excellent condition. Ian Pemberton and his staff did it again and produced a course that most people would be happy with in the summer let alone a couple of weeks before Christmas! Format of the day was a stableford team event with the best two scores counting.

I am very happy to report that Tony Burge, retired Head Greenkeeper at Richmond Golf Club. He passed away on Tuesday 7 January after a long illness. Tony was my first Head Greenkeeper and as a baby faced 16 year old he took me under his wing and helped me get to the position I am at today. He was Head Greenkeeper at Richmond for over 25 years implementing countless improvements and will be missed by everyone in the greenkeeping industry. My sympathies go out to his sons Adrian and Simon. For details of the funeral you can contact me on amcgeough@iac.com

We have the section mobile up and running so we can send you guys all the news and fixture updates over the season. Please text me on this new number 07744 643497.

I will store your details on this but you can still get me on my mobile.

Thanks to Sponsors
Cleveland
Christmas Golf Day was sponsored by TACIT and was attended by the regional representative Nik Blesic from Sheffield.

We would like to thank Mike Bros from Rigby Taylor for sponsoring our Christmas event held at Workop Golf Club the day was well attended. We would like to thank Ben and his staff for the good condition of the course and also the catering staff for the Christmas dinner. Thanks to all the sponsors in 2013 for their support and hope they will support us in 2014 - Thank You!

Welcome New Members
Mid Anglia
A massive thanks goes to ALS, Farmura, Avonmore Amenity, Amtech Amenity, Tuckwells Machinery, Inagro Amenity, Rigby Taylor Ltd and Headland Amenity for your continued support with funds towards the Mid Anglia Section which has made our section run successfully in 2013. Banks Amenity also sponsor our Golfer of the Year Trophy again this year so once again your support means a lot and please consider these suppliers for your requirements the coming months and beyond into 2014.

Welcome New Members

Events Coming Up
Mid Anglia
Now that STINE has been and gone we are hopeful that Mid Anglia Section are able to host an educational seminar sometime in the near future. If all goes ahead as planned a venue and a date with details of speakers and subjects will be with you all soon, please try to make it as is always good to meet up and learn something new.

News
BB&O
Alec MacIndoe has decided to step down as Chairman of the BB&O Section after 8 years.

Midland
It is my great pleasure to be able to report that Adam Jones (Handsworth Golf Club), and his fiancé Lucy have had a baby boy, Bobby Christopher Jones weighing 8lb 15oz on 13 December 2013. Congratulations to you both, and welcome Bobby.

Many belated congratulations to Andy Brougham for securing his first Head position as Head Greenkeeper at Wollaston Golf Club. Andy started in November and we all wish you the best of luck in your new position.

Andy’s replacement at Trentham is James Fox. Many congratulations to James who becomes Assistant Course Manager at Trentham Golf Club. Make sure you look after your boss James!!

Thanks to Sponsors
Midland
Adam Jones is represented again, as this month’s picture on your Section calendar features Handsworth Golf Club, which I must say is looking very good. The sponsors this month are our old friends ALS They provide many services within our industry, please consider them for your needs. Tel: 01952 641949, or Email: sales@amenetty.co.uk

BIGGA Refund of Fees
Do you have to pay for your own education and training? You could claim a refund of up to 80% of the fees (up to a maximum of £350)

For further information visit www.bigga.org.uk/education/funding-opportunities or call 01347 833800 (option 3)

BIGGA MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT
BIGGA HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

South East
Events Coming Up
London
We have educational days to offer in February. After the first on Chemicals and Tank Mixing which took place on 5 February at Mill Hill GC, the second is at Oaklands WGC on Tuesday 18 February titled the U’s. Cost £12.50, there are four speakers. Rob Philips Course Manager Sandy Lodge GC [under budget]. Jon Lockyer Course Manager Roehampton GC [U-turns] Murray Long Golf Course and Estate Manager Sunningdale GC [up in the rankings] and last but not least Stuart Yardwood MGI Course Manager Lytham GC [under construction] this is a day not to miss and great value for money!

Third one is again at Mill Hill GC on Thursday 27 February at 12.30 and the subject is Bands for Bunkers and the types of bunkers to construct, with the man of sands Simon Banks offering knowledge and information. No cost and 1 to 2 hours duration.

Golf This Season - Spring is at Northwood GC, Summer is at Hendon and Xmas is at Essendon with dates next month.

Essex
First golf day this year is at the Essex Golf & Country Club, Thursday 27 March. Please get your entries in early, as it is always a popular venue. Entries to Antony Kirwan: at “Play Golf Colchester” Bakers Lane, Colchester, Essex. CO3 4AU or antz16@btinternet.com by Saturday 22 March please.

News
Sussex
The Sussex section would like to congratulate Giulio Vazza on his recent appointment as Estate Manager at Mannings Heath Golf Club.

Essex
Great to see so many of you guys at Harragate last month. What a fantastic conference and show, a real shame if you missed it.

BB&O
Ben reports that the Barenbrug trip this month is oversubscribed, the U’s. Cost £12.50, there are four speakers. Rob Philips Course Manager Sandy Lodge GC [under budget]. Jon Lockyer Course Manager Roehampton GC [U-turns] Murray Long Golf Course and Estate Manager Sunningdale GC [up in the rankings] and last but not least Stuart Yardwood MGI Course Manager Lytham GC [under construction] this is a day not to miss and great value for money!

Third one is again at Mill Hill GC on Thursday 27 February at 12.30 and the subject is Bands for Bunkers and the types of bunker construct, with the man of sands Simon Banks offering knowledge and information. No cost and 1 to 2 hours duration.
Midland

A massive thanks goes to ALS, Farmura, Avocrop Amenity, Attuced Amenity, Tuckwells Machinery, Visagro Amenity, Rigby Taylor Ltd and Headland Amenity for your continued support with funds towards the Mid Anglia Section which has made our section run successfully in 2013.

Bankers Amenity also sponsor our Golfer of the Year Trophy again this year so once again your support means a lot and please consider these suppliers for your requirements the coming months and beyond into 2014.

Welcome New Members


South East

Welcome New Members


Welcome New International Members:

Jason Honeyhall, OsterBrook Golf & Country Club (Canada), Lars Overgaard, Casper Burkari Skandinavian Golf Club (Denmark), Guillaume Cadic, Golf National (France).

Events Coming Up

Midland

Please remember there is the Spring Education day at Little Aston Golf Club on 18 March 10am start. Neil Baker will be talking about the changes being made at Little Aston and his passion for all things Colt. Please see the Section’s website for further details of how to book your place.

Mid Anglia

Now that STINE has been gone and we are hopeful that Mid Anglia Section are able to host an educational seminar sometime in the near future. If all goes ahead as planned a venue and a date with details of speakers and subjects will be with you all soon, please try to make it as it is always good to meet up and learn something new.

News

BB&O

Alec MacIndoe has decided to step down as Chairman of the BB&O Section after 8 years.

Midland

It is my great pleasure to be able to report that Adam Jones (Handsworth Golf Club), and his fiancé Lucy have had a baby boy, Bobby Christopher Jones weighing 8lb 15oz on 13 December 2013. Congratulations to you both, and welcome Bobby.

Many belated congratulations to Andy Brougham for securing his first Head position as Head Greenkeeper at Wolstanton Golf Club. Andy started in November and we all wish you the best of luck in your new position.

Andy’s replacement at Trentham is James Fox. Many congratulations to James who becomes Assistant Course Manager at Trentham Golf Club. Make sure you look after your boss James!!

News

Sussex

The Sussex section would like to congratulate Giulio Vazza on his recent appointment as Estate Manager at Mannings Heath Golf Club.

Essex

Great to see so many of you guys at Harrogate last month. What a fantastic conference and show, a real shame if you missed it.

We have educational days to offer in February. After the first on Chemicals and Tank mixing which took place on 5 February at Mill Hill GC, the second is at Oaklands WGC on Tuesday 18 February titled the ‘U’s. Cost £12.50, there are four speakers. Rob Philips Course Manager Sandy Lodge GC [under budget], Jon Lockyear Course Manager Roehampton GC [U-turns] Murray Long Golf Course and Estate Manager Rumingdale GC [up in the rankings] and last but not least Stuart Sarwood ME Course Manager Lynn GC [under construction] this is a day not to miss and great value for money!

Third one is again at Mill Hill GC on Thursday 27 February at 12.30 and the subject is Bands for Bunkers and the types of bunker construct, with the man of sands Simon Banks offering knowledge and information. No cost and 1 to 2 hours duration.

Golf this Season - Spring is at Northwood GC, Summer is at Hendon and Xmas is at Essendon with dates next month.

Essex

First golf day this year is at the Essex Golf & Country Club, Thursday 27 March. Please get your entries in early, as it is always a popular venue. Entries to Antony Kirwan: at “Play Golf Colchester” Bakers Lane, Colchester, Essex. CO3 4U4 or antony16@btinternet.com by Saturday 22 March please.

News

Essex

The Essex section would like to congratulate Giulio Vazza on his recent appointment as Estate Manager at Mannings Heath Golf Club.

Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the Green...
Events Coming Up

South Coast
Really important date 19 February at Milton Abbey School - the South Coast Section’s Annual Seminar, Sports Turf Management. Some great speakers from Golf, Football and Cricket. More information see the flyer or contact Alex McCombie on southcoastsecretary@gmail.com - Price to members is just £20

South West
This year’s event calendar is coming together nicely with most venues and dates confirmed. We will be providing all section members and patrons with a fixture card but in the meantime here are the early ones:
2 April: Am/Am at Emersons Park Golf Club
19 June: Summer Tournament at Farrington Golf Club
Additionally we are in the process of organising two further events: an outing to Westonbirt Arboretum and a trip to Longleat Safari - the South Coast Section’s Annual Seminar, Sports Turf Management. Some great speakers from Golf, Football and Cricket. More information see the flyer or contact Alex McCombie on southcoastsecretary@gmail.com - Price to members is just £20

Welcome New Members
Charles Brierley, Affiliate with magazine, Tiverton Golf Club, Roy Key, Affiliate with magazine, Mason Kings, Geoffrey Roberts, Affiliate with magazine, Mason Kings, Andrew Howey, Affiliate with magazine, Mason Kings, George Simpson, Greenkeeper, Bughill Valley Golf Club, Gerald Turnbull, Assistant Greenkeeper, St Ahan Golf Club, Simon Rayll, Assistant Greenkeeper, Sherborne Golf Club.

Around The Green

Thanks to Sponsors
A special word for our section Patrons whose continued support is invaluable. A big welcome to two new supporters who have come on board this year.

Sportmark Group based in Melksham who supply sports ground and golf equipment and contracting services and TH White Grasscare Knockdown Depot.

Great to have you with us and we look forward to seeing you at our section events.

2014 Patrons
Greenman, Irittech, Headland Amenity, Countryside, Farmura, Ecoolve, TH White Sportmark.

News
South West
Thanks to Cotswold Hills Golf Club for their support in hosting the section Christmas event and thanks to everyone who attended.
The day was a sell-out success with over sixty golfers attending, well done all let’s keep it up this year. Top job on the course Wayne, many thanks to you and team.
Welcome to Lucy Sellick and Joe Curtis who are taking positions on the section committee, great to have you both on board.

Results
South Coast
Winners of the Turkey Trot held at Weybrook Park GC:
Kevin Tagg, Ryan Hyder, Tim Webb, 2 Jon Worrall, Andy Lewis, Tony Gadd, 3 Tracy Crouch, Matt Burton, Colin Hutt, Longest Drive David King, Nearest the Pin Bill Ridgley.

Cardiac Arrests; Are you prepared?
Recent studies show that people suffering an out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest have less than a 20% chance of survival.

Why should I have a defibrillator?
Surviving an out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest is closely linked to how quickly a shock can be delivered. Every minute that passes without defibrillation, chances of survival decrease by 14%. Research shows that applying a controlled shock within five minutes of collapse provides the best possible chances of survival.

Arco offers a wide variety of defibrillators to suit each type of business. Whist there are sophisticated defibrillators used by the emergency services that require training before they can be used, there are several defibrillators available that include all the critical features but have been designed so that they can be used by non-medical personnel. The defibrillators will make an assessment on whether a shock is required, ensuring that the correct medical assistance is administered at the correct time.

Please ring your nearest Sales Office for this and other BIGGA offers.

Experts in Safety

LifeLine AED Semi-Automatic Defibrillator
Technologically advanced enough to include all critical features necessary to provide the most advanced treatment for Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). Yet so simple and unassuming to use that even non-medical personnel can effectively save lives.

• Automatic daily, weekly and monthly circuitry tests.
• 4 year battery standby life with visible and audible low-battery warnings.
• Oversized buttons and clear voice prompts ensure simplicity of operation.

LifeLine AED Semi-Auto Defibrillator 5-Year
£990 to BIGGA members

LifeLine VIEW Semi-Auto Defibrillator
The first and only AED with full-colour interactive display that show step-by-step videos for performing CPR, rescue breathing and external defibrillation. The LifeLine VIEW makes it easy for anyone – from first responders to untrained bystanders – to respond confidently and appropriately during an emergency.

• Extensive voice prompts guide the user through the operation of the unit via full-colour video screen.
• Automatic daily, weekly and monthly circuitry tests.
• 4 years battery standby life with visible and audible low-battery warnings.

LifeLine View
£1750 to BIGGA members

LifeLine AUTO Defibrillator
The LifeLine AUTO is a fully-automatic defibrillator designed to analyse heart-rhythms and automatically deliver a shock – without intervention – if needed. The LifeLine AUTO includes all critical features necessary to provide the most advanced treatment for Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). Yet it is so simple and unassuming to use that even non-medical personnel can effectively save lives.

• Automatic daily, weekly and monthly circuitry tests.
• 5-years battery standby life with visible and audible low-battery warnings.
• Oversized buttons and clear voice prompts ensure simplicity of operation.

LifeLine AUTO Defibrillator
£1100 to BIGGA members

6-year warranty and Optional Training Package available on all units.
South West and South Wales

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

Events Coming Up

South Coast
Really important date 19 February at Milton Abbey School - the South Coast Section’s Annual Seminar, Sports Turf Management. Some great speakers from Golf, Football and Cricket. More information see the flyer or contact Alex McCombe on southcoastsecretary@gmail.com - Price to members is just £20

South West
This year’s event calendar is coming together nicely with most venues and dates confirmed. We will be providing all section members and patrons with a fixture card but in the meantime here are the early ones:
- 19 June: Summer Tournament at Farrington Golf Club
- 24 April: Am/Am at Enmore Park Golf Club
- Most venues and dates confirmed.

Welcome New Members
Charles Biterley, Affiliate with magazine, Tiverton Golf Club, Roy Key, Affiliate with magazine, Mason Kings, Geoffrey Roberts, Affiliate with magazine, Mason Kings, Andrew Howey, Affiliate with magazine, Mason Kings, George Simpson, Greenskeeper, Bughill Valley Golf Club, Gerald Turnbull, Assistant Greenskeeper, St Ahan Golf Club, Simon Ryall, Assistant Greenskeeper, Sherborne Golf Club.

Thanks to Sponsors
A special word for our section Patrons whose continued support is invaluable. A big welcome to two new supporters who have come on board this year.

Sportsmark Group based in Melksham who supply sports ground and golf equipment and contracting services and TH White Grasscare Knockdown Depot.
Great to have you with us and we look forward to seeing you at our section events.

Why should I have a defibrillator?
Surviving an out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest is closely linked to how quickly a shock can be delivered. Every minute that passes without defibrillation, chances of survival decrease by 14%. Research shows that applying a controlled shock within five minutes of collapse provides the best possible chances of survival.

Cardiac Arrests; Are you prepared?
Recent studies show that people suffering an out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest have less than a 20% chance of survival.

Arco offers a wide variety of defibrillators to suit each type of business. Whist there are sophisticated defibrillators used by the emergency services that require training before they can be used, there are several defibrillators available that include all the critical features but have been designed so that they can be used by non-medical personnel. The defibrillators will make an assessment on whether a shock is required, ensuring that the correct medical assistance is administered at the correct time.

Please ring your nearest Sales Office for this and other BIGGA offers.

 BIGGA Lending Library
Hundreds of books are available in our Lending Library...simply click on the ‘Lending Library’ tab in the Members’ section of the BIGGA website www.biggagolf.org.uk

BIGGA MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT
sponsored by JOHN DEERE

BIGGA AED Semi-Automatic Defibrillator
Technologically advanced enough to include all critical features necessary to provide the most advanced treatment for Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). Yet so simple and unimmitating to use that even non-medical personnel can effectively save lives.
- Automatic daily, weekly and monthly circuitry tests.
- 5-year battery standby life with visible and audible low-battery warnings.
- Oversized buttons and clear voice prompts ensure simplicity of operation.

Lifeline AED Defibrillator 5-Year
£990 to BIGGA members

Lifeline VIEW Semi-Auto Defibrillator
- The first and only AED with full-colour interactive display that show step-by-step videos for performing CPR, rescue breathing and external defibrillation. The VIEW makes it easy for anyone – from first responders to untrained bystanders – to respond confidently and appropriately during an emergency.
- Extensive voice prompts guide you through the operation of the unit via full-colour video screen.
- Automatic daily, weekly and monthly circuitry tests.
- 4-year battery standby life with visible and audible low-battery warnings.

Lifeline VIEW
£1750 to BIGGA members

Lifeline AUTO Defibrillator
The LifeLine AUTO is a fully-automatic defibrillator designed to analyse heart-rhythms and automatically deliver a shock – without intervention – if needed. The AUTO includes all critical features necessary to provide the most advanced treatment for Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). Yet it is so simple and unimmitating to use that even non-medical personnel can effectively save lives.
- Automatic daily, weekly and monthly circuitry tests.
- 5-year battery standby life with visible and audible low-battery warnings.
- Oversized buttons and clear voice prompts ensure simplicity of operation.

Lifeline AUTO
£1100 to BIGGA members
David remembers Lesley saying: “We are here to stay!” when he first visited her on an approval visit to GOSTA some 23 years ago, and so it has proved! She takes up the story:

From 1982 until 2011 GOSTA Training delivered education to golf clubs in Ayrshire, Dunbartonshire, Renfrewshire, Forth Valley, Glasgow and Lanarkshire. In 2011 the company commenced delivery of training in the Edinburgh and Lothian areas also.

The opportunity to expand the business was met with both excitement and trepidation but three years on, the number of students has continued to increase each year.

The support and encouragement received from golf clubs in the Edinburgh and Lothian areas has been amazing and very much appreciated. The success has been aided by one of the most respected GTC QA Centres and Training Providers to discuss their Quality Assured Centre and as a Training Provider to Golf Club professionals.

I took over as Managing Director and was charged with looking at the Modern Apprenticeship Programme which was many changes to education and training with the introduction of Vocational Qualifications and new Quality Systems, not forgetting a new government agency involved in the funding of the Scottish Vocational Qualifications. At the same time a new relationship was evident as they were not only learning from their lecturer but from their peers. I also know of many working relationships within the industry which have been created and will last a lifetime.

The training and practical skills are assessed at work, which is what you would expect. Where better than the realistic environment of a busy golf course?

The involvement of the Assessors/Supervisors in the workplace is of paramount importance and many of the Host Greenkeepers or Course Managers have been trained as assessors by the GTC. The practical evidence the apprentice bring forward for their qualification will be naturally occurring and realistic and will be countersigned by the appropriate person at work.

In order to compliment the training at the workplace, the day release education is delivered by the best and most appropriate people. Currently the company has three lecturers who teach classes every week and involve the students with classroom assessments. Between them, they have over a hundred years of sports turf experience and knowledge which they bring to our apprentices.

Feedback from those meetings highlighted that employers preferred training to take place in the winter months. So in order to minimise down time for the employers, the ‘off the job’ education to gain the required knowledge and understanding would be best delivered from October to March.

This decision has stood the test of time and still exists today. It means the employee is away for day release when it tends to be (dare I say it?) a little quieter on the golf course. The benefit of apprentices meetings up in class is evident as they are not only learning from their lecturer but from their peers. I also know of many working relationships within the industry which have been created and will last a lifetime.

The training and practical skills are assessed at work, which is what you would expect. Where better than the realistic environment of a busy golf course?

The involvement of the Assessors/Supervisors in the workplace is of paramount importance and many of the Host Greenkeepers or Course Managers have been trained as assessors by the GTC. The practical evidence the apprentice brings forward for their qualification will be naturally occurring and realistic and will be countersigned by the appropriate person at work.

In order to compliment the training at the workplace, the day release education is delivered by the best and most appropriate people. Currently the company has three lecturers who teach classes every week and involve the students with classroom assessments. Between them, they have over a hundred years of sports turf experience and knowledge which they bring to our apprentices.

In Glasgow we have John Robertson, and Ronnie Bunting joined the team this year. Both John and Ronnie have been Course Managers so are fully aware of what will be required of apprentices in the industry. They are two of the most supportive people you could imagine, spending many hours sharing their knowledge and giving any additional guidance where required. Steve Miller, equally knowledgeable and committed, looks after the students from Edinburgh and Lothian areas.

However, it is not about a disjointed approach to training with the employer doing practical skills and GOSTA the teaching. The company works tirelessly to build relationships at the highest level with our employers, apprentices and other partners and it is imperative that we constantly keep up to date with their requirements. To that end apprentices and their assessor/Supervisor are visited at work every 12 weeks to document progress.

The lecturers or myself will then visit each employer in the summer to ensure that information is gained with regard to our delivery of the qualification and update the golf club on any grants, wage subsidies or current initiatives. Over the years feedback from these meetings has proved to be invaluable.

In summary, GOSTA Training respects the work of organisations within golf including The GTC, BISGA, SGU and The KSA and we are proud to be part of such a great industry.
A bit about our journey over 32 years… GOSTA Training started as a Training Provider to Golf Club Employers in October 1982 and for the first ten years delivered training to greenkeepers with the support of the local college. In 1993 there were many changes to education with the introduction of Vocational Qualifications and new Quality Systems, not forgetting a new government agency involved in the funding of the Scottish Vocational Qualifications. At the same time I took over as Managing Director and was charged with looking at the way forward for the company.

Challenges came with the territory. The main challenge was finding an effective delivery model which would take account of all the partners involved and ensure the Modern Apprenticeship Programme was effective. We needed to look at the best time of year and best location for the day release classes, and we also looked at what type of courses we would run to enhance the skills of the apprentices.

Feedback from those meetings highlighted that employers preferred training to take place in the winter months. So in order to minimise down time for the employers, the ‘off-the-job’ education to gain the required knowledge and understanding would be best delivered from October to March. This decision has stood the test of time and still exists today. It means the employee is away for day release when it tends to be (dare I say it?) a little quieter on the golf course. The benefit of apprentices meetings up in class is evident as they are not only learning from their lecturer but from their peers. I also know of many working relationships within the industry which have been created and will last a lifetime.

The training and practical skills are assessed at work, which is what you would expect. Where better than the realistic environment of a busy golf course? The involvement of the Assessors/Supervisors in the workplace is of paramount importance and many of the Head Greenkeepers or Course Managers have been trained as assessors by the GTC. The practical evidence the apprentice brings forward for their qualification will be naturally occurring and realistic and will be countersigned by the appropriate person at work.

In order to compliment the training at the workplace, the day release education is delivered by the best and most appropriate people. Currently the company has three lecturers who teach classes every week and involve the students with classroom assessments. Between them, they have over a hundred years of sports turf experience and knowledge which they bring to our apprentices.

In Glasgow we have John Robertson, and Ronnie Bunting joined the team this year. Both John and Ronnie have been Course Managers so are fully aware of what will be required of apprentices in the industry. They are two of the most supportive people you could imagine, spending many hours sharing their knowledge and giving any additional guidance where required. Steve Miller, equally knowledgeable and committed, looks after the students from Edinburgh and Lothian areas.

However, it is not about a disjointed approach to training with the employer doing practical skills and GOSTA the teaching. The company works tirelessly to build relationships at the highest level with our employers, apprentices and other partners and it is imperative that we constantly keep up to date with their requirements. To that end apprentices and their assessors/supervisors are visited at work every 12 weeks to document progress.

The lecturers or myself will then visit each employer in the summer to ensure that information is gained with regard to our delivery of the qualification and update the golf club on any grants, wage subsidies or current initiatives. Over the years feedback from these meetings has proved to be invaluable.

Often Skills Development Scotland will have funding available to support short courses which will mean the difference of training staff or not. At the moment, with many golf club budgets being reduced, these initiatives are very well received. It also allows a refresher for the assessors to ensure that they are keeping their skills up to date.

So where are we now? GOSTA Training, as one of the main providers of the Modern Apprenticeship programme in Scotland and with an extensive portfolio of short industry related courses, will continue to listen to employers and students. Hopefully, the successes and lessons learned in the past 32 years (as a private company) will enable us to go from strength to strength and continue to forge great relationships within the industry. In turn this will enable us to provide the type of training the industry needs to have a highly skilled workforce to take it forward.

In summary, GOSTA Training respects the work of organisations within golf including The GTC, BISGA, SGU and The R&A and we are proud to be part of such a great industry.
**Maverston Golf Resort**

The Maverston Highland Estate at Uplington, located only minutes from Elgin, offers an inclusive, friendly and informal environment, which provides an affordable golfing challenge for all levels of golfer. Opening 15th July 2013, just 2 miles from Forres town centre and in front of a lovely 400-acre parkland. Maverston Golf Course is set to complement Moray’s distinctive array of golfing facilities.

Leading up to the opening of the Golf Course in April 2013 we are now looking to appoint the following key personnel.

**HEAD GREEN-KEEPER**

We are looking to recruit a dynamic and motivated Head Green Keeper to lead the Grounds team with the responsibility and maintenance of the Golf Courses. Ideally someone who has the drive and passion to reach new standards of excellence in the management and presentation of our golf course. As well having a general interest in the game of golf, you should be fully qualified in all aspects of green keeping and ideally have the following skills: NVQ level 3 equivalent, PA1 and PA2 spraying certificate, minimum 5 year’s experience in the green keeping industry as a Head Green-keeper or Deputy Head-green-keeper and a good working knowledge of turf machinery, including being certified to operate Chainsaws, together with automatic irrigation systems combined with the repair and maintenance of associated parts.

You will be responsible for the planning, preparation and maintenance of the courses to ensure there is efficient and effective delivery of golf services. You will be able to demonstrate high levels of management, communication and leadership skills and have the knowledge and ability to implement all relevant Health & Safety legislation.

**ASSISTANT GREEN-KEEPER**

We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to join the Grounds team to assist the Head Green Keeper. The ideal candidate should be enthusiastic and hardworking with a positive can-do attitude. You will be able to demonstrate a good working knowledge of turf machinery and current Health & Safety practices, and hold a minimum NVQ Level 2 in Sportsturf. PA1/2 & 6a Spraying Certificate would also be desirable.

**GOLF ASST**

We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to join the support team and be an integral member of day-to-day operation of the course activities and support to customers.

Working under the direction of the Head Green-keeper the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of this exciting new venture. As well as having a general interest in the game of golf, the ideal candidate should have at least 2 years minimum previous experience of Golf Course Grounds Maintenance. A knowledge of turf machinery, maintenance and current Health & Safety practices would be advantageous. Experience of Turf machinery would also be an advantage.

**GROUNDSMAN**

We are looking to recruit an experienced Groundsman. The successful candidate will be responsible for the planning, preparation and maintenance of the courses to ensure there is efficient and effective delivery of golf services. You will be able to demonstrate high levels of management, communication and leadership skills and have the knowledge and ability to implement all relevant Health & Safety legislation.

**Groundsman**

We are looking to recruit an experienced Groundsman. The successful candidate will be responsible for the planning, preparation and maintenance of the courses to ensure there is efficient and effective delivery of golf services. You will be able to demonstrate high levels of management, communication and leadership skills and have the knowledge and ability to implement all relevant Health & Safety legislation.

**Groundsman**

We are looking to recruit an experienced Groundsman. The successful candidate will be responsible for the planning, preparation and maintenance of the courses to ensure there is efficient and effective delivery of golf services. You will be able to demonstrate high levels of management, communication and leadership skills and have the knowledge and ability to implement all relevant Health & Safety legislation.