
CUBS CAUSE GOLF MAYHEM

A family of foxes is putting on a show for golfers at a Surrey golf course – and their amusing antics are proving to be a hole lot of fun for members and staff.

Two foxes and five cubs have set up home close to the clubhouse at Addington Court Golf Centre and they've taken to using the course and its facilities as a playground.

Hogging the bonnets of the golf buggies for a spot of sunbathing and sneaking out of the bushes to steal players' balls is all par for the course at the Featherbed Lane, Croydon, complex.

Glen Halsey, Addington Court Golf Centre General Manager, said: "The foxes are extremely cheeky, but very cute and people-friendly. They don't mind at all that there are golfers walking and playing within yards of them. In fine weather the cubs can be spotted sunbathing on the buggies or larking about on the greens. They're just like a bunch of rowdy teenagers."

Like many other players at the club, Glen has fallen foul of the foxes' penchant for pinching balls.

"I was enjoying a round with our Food and Beverage Manager, Michael Matthews, and I had just landed a ball on the 9th green when one of the fox cubs legged over and ran off with it into the bushes," Glen said.

Michael went in hot pursuit of his boss' ball and couldn't believe his eyes when he scrambled into the undergrowth.

Said Michael: "I went to fetch the ball and instead of just one I found 30 in the bushes.

"The youngsters are just like dogs playing fetch – but unfortunately they don't bring the ball back again. They hide them instead!" Glen admits he has received some complaints from club members about the foxes' ball-stealing.

"Fortunately, they've been light-hearted and players don't really mind. In fact they often stop during a round of golf to watch the cubs playing. The foxes have caused a bit of damage by digging up the greens, but nothing we can't easily put right and there's no inconvenience for players.

"We reckon the youngsters are about four to five months old and will be moving on soon - so everything should get back to normal," he added.

Addington Court Golf Centre is one of the top golfing venues in Southern England, boasting an 18-hole championship course, a further 18-hole course, a nine-hole course, and an 18-hole pitch and putt, all located in picturesque parkland. It is also an Official Venue for PowerPlay Golf. The centre also features two golf shops and excellent teaching facilities for players of all abilities in addition to an attractive function room.

NEW RECRUIT

Scotts has demonstrated its commitment to making further investment in Ireland with the appointment of Colman Warde to the new position of Area Sales Manager for the Republic of Ireland.



A well-known face in the industry, Colman brings a great deal of experience to the role. For the past nine years he has been with Scotts' distributor partner in Ireland, National Agrochemical Distributors Limited, where he was both Technical Manager and Technical Area Sales Manager. He also has a Diploma in Commercial Horticulture and has developed a strong technical reputation with key professional end-users in Ireland, which will help to further develop and grow the company's business in the area.

ROAD SHOW

DLF Trifolium, are running a series of seminars titled "Practical Sustainability" to help turf managers achieve a quality, sustainable turf surface. The seminars, the next one being held at Wilmslow Golf Course on October 23rd, will demonstrate the benefits and use of more frequent overseeding within any prudent turf management programme.

The events will cover all aspects including: Why oversow and which grass? - Derek Smith, DLF Trifolium; Creating a receptive rootzone - Martin Ward, Symbio; Effective overseeding (practical) - Keith Kensett, R & K Kensett; Primo Maxx – Simon Barnaby, Syngenta; Managing for a quality sward - Andy Cole, Henry Bechelet, S.T.R.I.

The events will be free of charge but numbers will be limited, therefore tickets will be on a first come, first served basis. The course is recognised by BIGGA and greenkeepers will qualify for points towards Master Greenkeeper/3 CPD professional credits. The event will start at 9am and finish at 2.30pm.

Please contact us on the details below if you are interested in attending. Tel: 01386 791102, Email: amenity@dlf.co.uk or visit www.dlf.co.uk/amenity

NEW RECRUIT

Kawasaki Motors UK has appointed a new District Manager. Recent recruit, David Edwards, will be exclusively catering for the company's commercial products dealer network within the North of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

