

continually added.

The London Section is looking at running some Chainsaw Courses towards the end of the season and during the winter months, in partnership with a local college, to provide lower cost courses. They would be run on golf courses in the area so that usual scenarios found in the work place can be tackled on the course. If you are interested please contact me so we can see if there is enough interest to make this work.

The next golf day is at Finchley Golf Club, on August 2. Information will be sent out to all email addresses that we have. If you would like to be added to the mailing list then please use the email addresses below.

Any queries, questions or feedback please contact us at: adamccoll@hotmail.com
Regards
Adam McColl



Essex

Well it looks like our prayers have been answered and we have had rain in abundance. The grass has kicked off again and we are back into catch up mode.

Last month our Chairman, Mark Stopps, decided to stand down from the position. The committee and membership of the Section would like to thank him very much for all the hard work that he has done for the Section over his 18 months in office and wish him well for the future.

Our Summer Trophy event, held at Nazeing Golf Club, went off really well, although the weather was not so kind on the day, with a heavy storm working its way through just after play commenced. Luckily the rest of the day was fine, with the sun breaking through and the temperature soaring to dry out even the wettest player.

With the competition split in two, a blind pairs and qualifying for the National later this year, we were treated to a real feast of golf. The course was in fantastic condition and co-owner and Section member, Martin Guy, should be congratulated. He revealed that the staff had

decided, on their own initiative, to work on the Sunday prior to the match, to bring the course up to an even higher standard. On behalf of the Section I wish to thank Martin's team for the hard work they put in.

Results of the Blind Pairs:

1. Andy Pledger, 35pts & Liam Springett, 36pts, - 71pts; 2. Malcolm Smith, 38pts, & Alan Scott, 26pts, - 64pts; 3. Craig Serafin, 30pts, & Larry Pearman, 33pts, - 63pts. Best Overall Greenkeeper and place in the BIGGA National Championship, sponsored by Charterhouse and Kubota: Liam Close 44pts.

Best Trade: Steve Bush 33pts. Best Guest: Roy Spong 32pts. Nearest the Pin 2nd hole: Olly Homewood.. Nearest the Pin 15th Hole: Glenn Swift.

Quarter Finals Knockout Pairs Competition

The first round must be completed before Thursday, August 18, which is our next golf day. The draw for the next round will take place on that day!

Match 1 - Played at Stoke By Nayland Golf Club. Liam Springett & Liam Close v Dougie Fernie & Paul O'Kane; Match 2 - Played at Three Rivers Golf and Country Club. Barry Mann & Sam Anderson v Ian Wood & Mark Severn; Match 3 - Played at Abridge Golf Club. Richard Hare & Ben Scrivner v Stewart Rogers & Steve Cousins; Match 4 - Played at 'Royal' Orsett Golf Club. Andy Cracknell & Neil Peachy v Andy Darnell & Lee Stephens.

A small team from the Essex Section are making the trip down to Royal St Georges, to work on, The Open Championship Support Team. More from them next month.

Don't forget to send your entry for the next golf day the "Essex Trophy" is at Chelmsford Golf Club, Thursday, August 18. Entry's close on August 10.

If you have anything for inclusion in Greenkeeper International or on the Section's Website www.essexbigga.co.uk please contact me on 07764-862.337 or at essexbigga@talktalk.net

Arnold Phipps-Jones



South West and South Wales



South Wales

Hello. The sun is shining and we've at last glimpsed some small signs of the flushes of growth we've all been dying to see! Overseeding projects at many of our courses underway with the Poa struggling, a chance to get those Bents and Fescues sewn in to take over in the swards.

In last month's magazine I wrote about us attending Wenvoe Castle to support Mark Wilshire in his new role of Head Greenkeeper what I failed to mention was his predecessor Ty Garland. Ty Garland, 38 years of service most of which as Head Greenkeeper, has come to the generous age of retirement. During his time at Wenvoe Castle he managed his team to a number of County, Regional and National events the highlight of which the Welsh Professionals Classic in late 70's. Ty a true greenkeeping gentleman has not hung up his boots, strimmers and hole cutting scissors just yet he is staying with Wenvoe supporting Mark through the summer in the masses of hectares of land cut as rough at the golf club. The South Wales Section wish you all the best in your retirement and always stay in touch.

The Rigby Taylor Matchplay Knock out round was held at Neath Golf Club. The rain threatened but thankfully came to nothing so we could enjoy this excellent Harry Colt designed golf course and thankfully visibility was better than last year. Steve, you and your boys deserve a special thank you for setting up the course in great condition and the hospitality show by Neath Golf Club was second to none. Thank you.

Results

1. Glyn-Neath, Steve Chappell & Darryl Jones; 2. Andy Caps, Andy Roach & Huw Morgan; 3. Countrywide, Peter Holmstrom & Clive Moran; 4. Newport GC, Paul Handy & Mark Anderton

Assistant Profile

Our monthly look into the life of an assistant greenkeeper...

Name: Lewis Pattinson
Age: 21
Club: De Vere Oulton Hall
Position: Greenkeeper/
Mechanic
Nickname: Spooner



1. How long have you been greenkeeping?

3.5 years

2. What was it about the career that attracted you?

Job satisfaction in presenting the golf course.

3. If you weren't a greenkeeper what do you think you'd be?

I'd planned to be a paratrooper.

4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why?

Cutting the greens and maintenance.

5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why?

Nothing really, I appreciate all jobs need to be done to the best standard.

6. What one thing - other than a pay rise - would improve the greenkeepers' lot?

A positive attitude and personal aspiration will result in reward.

7. Hobbies?

Going to the gym, rugby league, swimming & running

8. Favourite Band?

Swedish House Mafia.

9. Which team do you support (football or otherwise)?

Sunderland

10. What is your claim to fame?

I once won the Northern England bonnie baby competition.