

## Hope and glory

Paul Hope, of High Post Golf Club, takes the crown in the sixth BIGGA Photographic Competition

"I was out taking photos of the sunrise one morning when this young stag just wandered right into the shot"

Paul Hope, High Post Golf Club

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Craig Boath. A lone greenkeeper patrols the horizon at Carnoustie Golf Links



Michael Williams. Ancient oaks and fresh blue bells on the 5th green at Coombe Hill Golf Club

"This has been a very good year for our BIGGA Photographic competition. What a pity there are only twelve months on a calendar, we could have used so many more..."

Alan Birch, Competition Judge

## The quality of entry in the **BIGGA Golf Photographic** Competition goes from strength to strength.

Now in its sixth year, the standard of entry has improved to the extent that compiling the 2012 calendar is difficult because of the excellence of pictures which have to be left out rather than finding sufficient to find one for each year.

The winning entry this year came from Paul Hope, from High Post Golf Club, in Wiltshire, with a stunning picture on the course, with a deer posing for him in the right hand corner.

Runner-up was Adam Grieve, of Royal Eastbourne Golf Club, with a superb shot of early morning strimming, while Gareth Anwell, of Golf Son Gual GC, in Mallorca, Spain, was third with a superb picture of the old Palacio.

Golf course photographer and competition judge Eric Hepworth was particularly impressed with this year's entry.

"I think we all agree that this year's entries are the best ever.



Ian Brodie, A sight to behold at North Berwick Sea Hole, Glen Golf Club

Many of the entrants pictures would easily fit within my library and be thought of as a professional photographer's work."

On Paul's winning picture Eric said: "This is a brilliant piece of photography and a worthy winner. The picture, though, is not without irony for me as I had the opportunity to take a similar picture of a huge stag with massive antlers once and a greenkeeper in a utility vehicle, scared it away!

"Paul has used the vegetation to the left extremely well and if he could have picked up the deer and placed it in the frame, he could not have chosen a better place. A fabulous picture.'

On Adam's picture Eric was equally complimentary.

We are increasingly seeing other members of greenkeeping staff included in the pictures and this is one of the best examples of that. Shooting towards the sun is never easy in photography but Adam has pulled this off wonderfully well. The exhaust off the strimmers and the green staff's breath in the cold conditions, has given this picture an extra facet. A great picture."

"I put Gareth's picture on my short list as soon as I saw it. I immediately thought that this picture must have been taken by a professional. It is a truly cracking photograph and I love the way the semicircle of the trees are almost copied by the shape of the clouds."

Fellow judge, Alan Birch was the man whose idea it was to launch the competition.

"This has been a very good year for our BIGGA Photographic competition. Congratulations and thank you all on the high standards and quality of your photographs. What a pity there are only twelve months on a calendar, we could have used so many more of photographs."

The winner, Paul Hope. The wonderful light and all round colour makes for a truly great photograph, which could easily have won the Countryfile competition).

"Second, Adam Grieve. What a super Working greenkeeper' photograph. In the right place at the right time. Well done. Let's have more.



Stuart Cagle. Beautiful bunker shadows beside the sea at the Royal Aberdeen Golf Club



Colin Jones. Using a tree to great sunlight-blocking effect at Mold Golf Club



Peter Robinson. "The ball collector" at Slieve Russell Golf Club



 ${\bf James\ Hutchinson.\ Snow\ stops\ play\ at\ Fairhaven\ GC,\ but\ it\ makes\ for\ a\ fine\ winter\ shot}$ 

"Third, Gareth Anwell. The trees, the sky and the delicate shadows in and around the old Palacio, together with the quality of the greenkeeping make this picture stand out. This photograph belongs in some of the glossy magazines, as well as ours.

I would enjoy these and many others in my personal library. Thank you to all Greenkeepers," said Alan.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the 2011 BIGGA Golf Photographic Competition.

You can enter next year's competition now if you wish (although you have until July 31, 2012).

Please mark your emails, "BIGGA PHOTO COMP 2012," in the subject header (using uppercase lettering please) and send to tom@bigga.co.uk

Good luck!

## 2011 BIGGA Photographic Competition winners are:

1st. Paul Hope, High Post GC; 2nd. Adam Grieve, Royal Eastbourne GC; 3rd. Gareth Anwell, Son Gual Golf SL



ABOVE: Glenn Kirby, awesome colour in place at the 16th International, London Golf Club BELOW: George Little, the beautifully patterned fairway neatly contrasts the tone of the forest skyline, on the 11th hole, at Woburn Golf Club

