

and greenkeeping talents, reaching the pinnacle of his profession.

In this, he carried on a family tradition of fine greenkeeping. He had a great zest for life and will be sadly missed.

On behalf of the BB&O, I extend to his wife and family our sincere condolences.

Mark Day

## South West and South Wales Region



### South Wales

Hello and thanks for reading.

Without any hesitation a big thank you must go out to Ceri Richards who has stepped down from writing these articles for the last two and a half years a big thank you from all of us from the Section and on a personal note I hope your golf doesn't improve too much as I am quite fond of picking up the trade prizes at our golf days!

So with the fixture cards all out and with you another thank you must go to Alan Able, of Complete Weed Control, for their continued support in sponsoring them.

With Glynhir being the host for our spring tournament it is nice for the Section to visit a new venue and also holding a new format. The format for the day is four man Stableford with best two scores counting. Wayne Bengier, Glynhir's Head Greenkeeper, has managed to pull in some great prizes for the event which include Heineken Cup tickets and International Rugby tickets and lots of other prizes donated by our sponsors David Evans (DEAL) and Textron. So keep a look out in next month's Around the Green for the results.

As you'll be reading this article I think many of you within this Region and Section could cast an eye back over last October (Rain, Rain more Rain and...Mr McDowell).

The Celtic Manor is back in action again nearly seven months after that man won

the last point so Europe won the Ryder Cup and many of us had the hardest but most rewarding times of our lives. Jim Mackenzie and his team have worked extremely hard in getting playing surfaces back to their best and the spectator areas just back to being able to walk on! Inscapes have provided Celtic Manor with over four hectares of turf and Countrywide providing more than four tonnes of special mix grass seed to repair the damaged areas we all saw last year all the staff have had their hands full during what has been one of the harshest winters and driest springs on record.

FACT since February 1 Celtic Manor accumulatively has had less rainfall than of any of the three days it rained during the Ryder Cup week!

So good luck Jim and your team and hope you have a successful SAAB Wales Open which you guys thoroughly deserve.

Once again thank you for reading if anyone has any ideas, moans, groans laughs or cries you know who I am, give me a call on 07876440599 or drop me an email at pholmstrom@countrywidefarmers.co.uk

Thank you, Peter Holmstrom



### South Coast.

Hi all.

As I write this we are approaching our spring tournament at Liphook GC. sponsored by Avoncrop in memory of Colin (Chalkie) White.

An exciting new venue for us that I hope is well supported, results will be in next months issue.

I have just returned from a nine day Nordic City Cruise which was excellent, never thought I would take to cruising but I am hooked, must be my age! One or two of our members commented on taking holidays during busy times.

Simple, I replied I have a great team!

We have just got through the driest April on record coupled with some of the highest tem-

peratures for years, that, along with a constant easterly wind, and the course looks like mid-summer.

May hasn't really started any better although storms are forecast at the weekend, we will see!

The Section is very quiet at the moment, the committee met on April 13 to discuss topics for our Autumn seminar and possible venues for next year's golf. As always if you have any requests, let someone on the committee know.

This year's seminar will be at Milton Abbey School, another new venue with a different approach as there will be walks and talks on the work that goes on there. More details will be published later on.

Some good news from the Section is that Ian Noble is back in greenkeeping, he is the Head Man at Parley Golf Centre, we all wish you well Ian. Also Fred Deamen is back on track, Alton went into receivership late last year but the members have bailed it out and they are again trading.

Here at Barton we have aerated, over-seeded, top dressed, fed and watered everything within the area that the watering system covers. Five tonnes of outfield fertiliser sits on a trailer in the shed waiting for the slightest hint of rain!

My staff are hedging bets on who will get the dubious pleasure of spreading it in damp windy conditions!

In the mean time its onward with wetting agent, wetter pellets and keeping well out of the way of members who want me to over-water the greens.

Our next event will be Brokenhurst Manor on July 20, don't forget it's our invitation competition so your guests must be a member of a golf club with a valid handicap. This is Kev's course so he will be keen to show it off.

A flier will be sent out nearer the date but for more information contact Kev on glassy2003@hotmail.com In the mean time happy greenkeeping, see you at the golf events.

Tony Gadd

## Section Notes

Please email your notes to [scott@bigga.co.uk](mailto:scott@bigga.co.uk) by the 5th of the month

## Assistant Profile

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



**Name:** Martyn Lumb

**Age:** 40

**Club:** Elsham

**Position:** Assistant Greenkeeper

**Nickname:** Two Bellies

**1. How long have you been greenkeeping?** 10 years

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

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

**4. Which task do you most enjoy doing?** Construction (creative)

**5. Which task do you least enjoy doing?** Weeding

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

**7. Hobbies?**

Golf and cinema

**8. Favourite Band?**

Broken Family Band

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

Tottenham

**10. What is your claim to fame?**

Met Andy Sinton and gave him five golf balls