

A look at what's inside the magazine this month

APRIL 2012

FEATURES

16 If the Shoe Fits

Scott MacCallum speaks to Jez Hughes about his 25 years at Llangollen Golf Club, and how he'll differentiate between his roles by the shoes that he is wearing.

25 Turf Pest Creatures Great and Small

Part of a series of articles aimed at a varying readership.

If you're new to greenkeeping, read this month's **Entry Level** piece...

Dr Terry Mabbett discusses how the food chain can cause bigger problems to your turf, and gives examples of the chemicals that can help you nip this in the bud.

30 Course Disease Alert

Dr Kate Enwistle offers details of two newly emerging turf diseases: Rapid Blight – a non-fungal disease and Brown Ring Patch – a non-fairy ring disease.

34 Viva Las Vegas

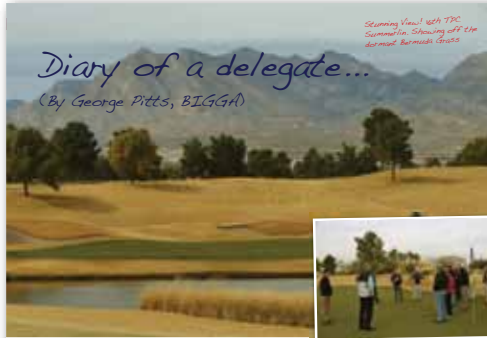
What happens in Vegas doesn't stay in Vegas, as George Pitts allows us to take a sneak peak inside his diary and tells us what the BIGGA Delegation, sponsored by Bernhard and Co, got up to at The Golf Industry Show.

41 Managing with Less

Less is more as Malcolm Peake found out after attending the "Managing with Less" workshop, which was held at Temple Golf Club.

44 Alternative Mowers

James de Havilland continues with his monthly check on the machinery market.



Stunning views with TPC Summerlin. Showing off the desert Bermuda Grass

Diary of a delegate... (By George Pitts, BIGGA)

Saturday, February 25 - Palo Verde, Las Vegas
It was an early start for some but everyone was keen to begin this adventure together. We were met at Gateway by Bernhard and Co's Kim Parrott who had organised the trip, and one hour later and we were being warmly welcomed at the hotel. Palo Verde - coach of us sports with one bedroom apartment. The hotel was right on 'The Strip' - which was convenient for our first evening together, taking in the sights, having a bite to eat and a few beers.

Sunday, February 26 - Angel Park Golf Club
Today we had the opportunity to play golf or take a walk around Angel Park Golf Club. We were joined by Jim Coonan and Andrew Melton, and we all experienced the high level of customer service. Complimentary golf clubs, cars and even balls and tees were organised by Tom Chisley, Director of Maintenance.

Monday, February 27 - Coana Sa Visits, TPC Summerlin and Paele
As these events in the morning detailed the previous evening's events and we were all highly-eyed and keenly asked for our day of Golf Course visits. Kim and Steve Noon, Bernhard and Co, hosted the day with the first visit to TPC Summerlin, home of the PGA Tour's 'Champion' Invitational. Sherris Hospitality for Children Open, and where Tiger Woods won his first ever Professional Tournament.

Tuesday, February 28 - TPC Summerlin
We were met by James Seisua, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, who happens to be English. James came across as very professional, polished and confident, speaking in front of everyone.

Wednesday, March 1 - TPC Summerlin
At this stage of the year the Bermuda grass roughs, fairways and tees were dormant. The trees are ever-green with Perennial Ryegrass, but the rest of the course remains yellow with dormant Bermuda grass.

Thursday, March 2 - TPC Summerlin
The decision to not over-seed the fairways and rough was made by the club in order to utilize the money saved towards preparing for the PGA tour event. The greens were a more familiar cool season, Creeping Bentgrass (Pennis AM) Halfway along the back-line, we visited the very impressive maintenance facilities, which was absolutely spot-on and probably the best-organised facility I have ever seen. James explained how the staffing is structured and how tasks were coordinated, including using a Plasma screen at the crew room linked to his computer to communicate tasks for the day.

Friday, March 3 - TPC Summerlin
Our second course visit of the day took us to the desert on the outskirts. Paele Golf Club (now in desert) by the Paele Table, a Native American tribe who have made their money through Snake Biscuits. The resort consists of three 18-hole courses with each course surrounding over 7,000 yards, including the 'Wild Course' measuring over 7,600 yards. After a morning lunch, Jeff Beck, Director of Golf Course Maintenance, led us down to the Maintenance facilities, which again were first class.

Saturday, March 4 - TPC Summerlin
The three courses are maintained by 55 staff. As with both of the courses that we visited, a tremendous amount of emphasis is put on the irrigation of the turf with temperatures regularly reaching 43-44C and an average of just over four inches of rainfall per year!

Sunday, March 5 - TPC Summerlin
At Paele, there are four wells, which are served by the table. From which the club extract water to fill reservoirs. In the summer they can use up to 4 million gallons of water per night for all three courses. Annual usage of \$50 million! (godsend! Thanks to Jeff and Pat at Paele for making us all feel so welcome.



Group photo of Delegates at Paele Golf Resort with Jeff Reid (Director of Maintenance) and Kim Parrott, Steve Noon and Sallie Taylor from Bernhard.

Thanks!
I would just like to take this opportunity to thank Stephen Bernhard and all the team for giving us this fantastic trip. It was an incredible experience and I would be delighted to be involved in any future opportunities like this. Special thanks to the amazing Kim Parrott, whose organisation and dedication towards the trip will always be remembered. To BIGGA and in particular, Jim Coonan, Steve Coonan and Andrew Melton, for guiding us through the process and sharing their experience.

For me, it was a career highlight and I have taken away from this being inspired, better educated, better informed and better equipped to fit in with the global industry. It was the perfect balance between work, rest and fun. I had a great time and I will be sure to tell you all about it. This trip was all about experiencing as much as you can possibly take in and making the most of what is a truly unforgettable experience. George Pitts



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