

## BIGGA and the GCSAA Join Forces



BIGGA and the GCSAA have forged an alliance, which will benefit golf course managers on both sides of the Atlantic and beyond.

The formal agreement sees the two largest Associations in the industry working in collaboration to continue to raise standards in course management, demonstrate a global commitment to sustainability and to enhance the professional image and status of Golf Course Managers and Superintendents.

Signed in Las Vegas during The Golf Industry Show, the agreement will see the two bodies promoting and

supporting each other's services and programmes; sharing information and knowledge and providing opportunities for both Associations to learn from each other.

The collaboration will cover education conferences and trade shows; support from industry sponsors and partners; professional development and education and membership products, services and information. All will be carried out with a genuine commitment to sustainability in all areas.

"BIGGA is delighted to have formalised its already excellent relationship with the

GCSAA. We firmly believe that Course Managers around the world face similar challenges so sharing good practice, recognising each others skills and working together jointly to promote sustainability and the fine work done by all of our members will undoubtedly lead to better playing conditions on golf courses around the world.

We are grateful to the Board of Directors of the GCSAA for their progressive approach to this collaboration and I personally look forward to working closely with them in the years to come," said BIGGA Chairman, Andrew Mellon.

## GREEN GOLF IN THE KINGDOM OF FIFE AND TAYSIDE

**Special one-day seminar at The Scores Hotel, St Andrews April 26, 2012 9.30am-2.45pm**

A special one-day seminar, looking at how golf clubs can achieve success in sustainably managing their courses and facilities, is to be held in St Andrews later this month.

The free seminar will feature presentations about the sustainability strategies at world famous golf venues, St Andrews Links, and Loch Lomond Golf Club.

There will be presentations about Waste Management from Zero Waste Scotland, energy usage from the Scottish Energy Efficiency Office, and an introduction to the Golf Environment Organisation OnCourse programme and its ecolabel certification.

Fife Council will also outline the support available for clubs and courses implementing sustainability measures.

The seminar will conclude with a discussion session where a panel of experts in the field will be on hand to answer questions and offer advice.

It will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about this increasingly important aspect of golf club management.

The event is being organised by St Andrews Links Trust and is supported by the Scottish Golf Union, the R&A, the Golf Environment Organisation and Fife Council.

To book a free place at the seminar please visit:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sustainable\\_fife](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sustainable_fife)

## John Farrell of Bailey's

Bailey's of Norfolk Technical Director, John Farrell, has died following a long battle with illness.

John had been with Bailey's for 15 years during which time he had taken a great deal of interest and worked unceasingly to help and impart sound

advice to his friends and customers within the turf care industry.

"His input into the success of our business and the friendship he bestowed on us is so special.

"We will never forget our John Farrell," said Alan Bailey.



## LACEBY MANOR MOVES FORWARD WITH DEERE



Lincolnshire businessman and former champion motorcycle racer Roger Burnett has a long-term development plan in place to make Laceby Manor Resort & Golf Club near Grimsby the premier golfing venue in the region.

Having taken ownership of the club last May, Roger has invested in improvements to the clubhouse, course and greenkeeping facilities, with the recent purchase of a new John Deere course maintenance fleet from local dealer F G Adamson & Son of Swanland, North Ferriby.

“We now have the opportunity to provide the right golfing experience, with our new machinery fleet, and with a new head greenkeeper in Rob Bradley,” said Roger.



## Saltford Wall Game

Members at a Somerset golf club have been rolling up their sleeves to rebuild the dry stone walls around their course.

The members at Saltford Golf Club undertook a crash course in the ancient craft of stone wall building from an instructor with the British Voluntary Conservationists to get the project underway.

The golfers who had never been involved in any work

of this kind before included retired schoolteachers, an ex-navy engineer, a former council leader, a steam train fireman and a project manager on the Royal Yacht Britannia, to rebuild walls nearly 300 years old.

Peter Williams, a former accident investigator who was club Captain when the scheme was launched, said: “Our course is more than 100 years old and many of the walls had deteriorated.

“Some areas had to be completely stripped to clear tree roots.”

The greenkeeping staff has helped by using its heavy equipment to clear areas and transport the bigger stones to where they are needed.

Head Greenkeeper, Darren Moxham, said:

“I am delighted the members have undertaken this work which has added to the image of this attractive golf course.”



## New Consultant

The European Institute of Golf Course Architects has appointed Eric Tortelier as their latest EIGCA Consultant Partner.

Eric, who has worked in the irrigation industry for the last 25 years, is an agricultural engineer and MBA. He spent 17 years with Rain Bird Europe and a further eight years with Toro, working in Europe, Africa and the Middle East on many prestigious projects.

For the last four years Eric has been Managing Director at AREO. Julia Green, EIGCA Executive Officer, said; “It is a great pleasure to welcome Eric to the EIGCA. We created this new partnership category specifically for golf course consultants like Eric and I’m sure that, with his wealth of experience in irrigation, he will find a ready audience when he meets up with our members, particularly at our AGM and Conference.”



## EGEU Launch New Website

The European Greenkeeping Education Unit (EGEU) is pleased to announce that a new website has been developed to complement the already existing EGEU website ([www.eg.eu](http://www.eg.eu))

The new website, designed in association with The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) and the European Greenkeeping Education Unit (EGEU) is based on a Quality Assured scheme of centres, and specialist training providers, all having met a criteria and available to offer both formal and bespoke training courses. Employers and greenkeepers are encouraged to view the new website as there are courses and contacts available to assist with successful staff and management development.

The GTC's David Golding, a Director of the EGEU, believes the new website will develop into the independent information portal for the sector as more countries look to establish a greenkeeping education and training structure to allow access to learning for all levels of operatives and managers.

Any centre, college, company or individual involved in delivering greenkeeper education and training based on *best practice* are encouraged to apply to become involved in the Quality Assured Accreditation Scheme.

David added, advice and guidance will be available to help grow the game globally using expertise in all subject areas to ensure best practices are used to maintain and manage a golf clubs greatest asset, the golf course.

To register visit: [www.greenkeepertraining.com](http://www.greenkeepertraining.com)

## Natural Paving Products

Natural Paving Products (UK) Ltd has launch its new brochure and website.

The new brochure includes flagstones and block paving, as well as a range of new products, colours and features. The Cragstone Collection of weathered flagstones and circles is also new for 2012. [www.naturalpaving.co.uk](http://www.naturalpaving.co.uk)



## Renovation Work to Witness

The opportunity of visiting Birch Grove Estate, in Sussex (a course which rarely opens its doors) to witness renovation work being carried out, has arisen.

Greenkeepers can visit this closed course while it is being renovated using the latest machinery from Campey Turf Care Systems, on Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25, April.

Birch Grove Estate was acclaimed by a select few as the best 18 holes in Sussex. No expense was spared in its construction and the millions spent created a golf course of absolute perfection.

Birch Grove is now under new

ownership and is to be given a new lease of life.

For one week only, an intensive renovation programme will be implemented with machinery from Koro, Imants, Dakota, Omarv, Raycam, Coremaster and Vredo.

Once the work is finished, the gates will be closed and locked by the owner and then the facilities and golf course will be once again reserved for his own private use.

You can apply for your personal invitation. This is the only way you can gain access – so please email your request to [julia.campey@campeyturfcare.com](mailto:julia.campey@campeyturfcare.com) or call 01260 224568.

## HERBICIDE LABEL CHANGES

New CRD (Chemical Regulation Directorate) label requirements for herbicides approved for use on non-porous, hard surfaces, require increased targeting of spray applications, important in protecting water and optimising application efficiency.

That is the view of Bayer's, Dorin Pop, who has examined the new requirements. "These new label requirements – 'Regulatory Update 42' – will apply to all herbicides used on paved and other non-porous surfaces," explained Dorin.

The new legislation, aligned to the EU Directive on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides and the EU Water Framework Directive, has come into action to help minimise the use of

herbicides and to reduce run-off into drains which poses a pollution risk.

"For herbicides used on such surfaces, the path of movement following application, mirrors that of rainfall, often being directed into drains and gulleys.

"This potential pollution risk is one which must be prevented to deliver environmental protection which otherwise hinders compliance with EU and UK directives relating to pesticide use and protection of water resources.

"The objective is to improve the targeting of herbicide applications and to avoid blanket sprays when controlling weeds on impermeable surfaces," he said.

# South East Region Annual Golf Day

After a chilly start once again, members and their guests enjoyed some good weather at Walton Heath Golf Club for the South East Region's Annual Golf and Dinner Day.

All of the large field of competitors appreciated the great condition of the Course and its presentation so early in the season.

It was very apparent that Alan Strachan and his team had been really busy with some good work on the Heath throughout the winter months.

Competitors enjoyed the refreshments kindly provided by Johnny Beck and James Watson, of Sherriff Amenity, at the 10th hole. Chairman of the South East Region, Tom Smith, thanked the host Club for, as always, their first-class hospitality and for making everyone so welcome on the day.

Following an excellent meal in the Holderness Dinning Room guests were entertained by the popular Ian Richards. The Captain of Walton Heath Golf Club, John Aarvold, then presented the prizes to the category winning competitors.

The Ray Day Memorial Trophy was won by Gareth Roberts, from Hankley Common Golf Club, with some great golf to get around the New Course in a gross score of 72.

This year for the first time there was a



Team Challenge won by the Surrey Section whose top three players had the best combined score to receive the Silver Salver.

The evening ended with the presentation of the Trophy in memory of Ian McMillan by Callum McMillan (left) to the winners of the Members and Guests Glynn Pollard (right) and Matt Strevett (centre) from Beauport Park GC.

The South East Region of BIGGA is most grateful to the following companies for their generous sponsorship and help with this event. Avoncrop Amenity Products; Blade Amenity; CWM; Ernest Doe Power; Everris; Golf Mats UK; Grass Roots/Dryjet UK; JSM; P. Tuckwell Ltd; Rigby Taylor; Sherriff Amenity; Speedcut Contractors Ltd; Sisis/Dennis

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# Eaton's Mick Hits 40



Michael Lathrope (Mick) shown above second from right, moved from Maylands Golf Club, near Romford, to take the Head Greenkeeper's job at Eaton Golf Club in Norwich in March 1972 – he's still there today.

He left the 'Smoke' with his wife, Lil, who he had recently married at the time and began a new life in Norfolk.

Now, 40 years on, he has three daughters, Jayne, Kate and Tina, and five grand

children - with twins on the way.

With a reputation of hard work and loyalty second to none, he has been East Anglia scribe to the magazine for many years.

He has strong relationships with fellow Greenkeepers and Trade alike.

Mick has successfully worked to get the current young crop of greenkeepers qualified, as he has since 1981.

There have not been many changes within the team at Eaton, testament to the great working environment that Mick creates.

The current green staff has over 130 years of combined service at the club.

His team at Eaton, and everyone who has had the pleasure of knowing Mick wish him all the best on achieving this landmark and look forward to the years ahead.



## Supporting the Future

The Golf Foundation supports the development of golf in schools and the links between schools and clubs.

Through its efforts, the Golf Foundation has dramatically increased the number of schools delivering golf in England from 14% to 44% and the number of schools with links to clubs from 9% to 30%. In addition, the Golf Foundation is reaching youngsters in inner city areas and is providing support for projects that involve disabled children. It has also contributed significantly to the growth of junior golf in Scotland and Wales.

However, there is so much more to be done to make it possible for all children to experience our wonderful sport and all the benefits it has to offer. The only limiting factor is the amount of funding available. Therefore, the Golf Foundation has launched a new fundraising campaign – GOLF19.

All those who work in the sport are being asked to support the next generation by texting 'GOLF19 £2' to 70070 and the Golf Foundation will receive 100% of the donation.

We all enjoy being part of the golfing community, and it's important that we acknowledge what the Golf Foundation has done for the sport, especially in its Diamond Jubilee year. This is why BIGGA is supporting the GOLF19 campaign and is encouraging members to make a donation.



## Thanks, Angela

BIGGA said farewell to its Assistant Accountant, Angela Wilson, at the end of March.

Angela is moving home, with her partner, to Scotland, for a much deserved early retirement.

Everyone at BIGGA House wishes her well in her ventures North of the Border, and presented her with a new running kit to thank her wholeheartedly for the second-hand gifts she kindly donated upon clearing-out her home!

## iPad2 Winner

BIGGA would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the online BTME 2012 Visitor Survey. We had over 500 people provide us with their valuable feedback on this year's Exhibition.

The winner of the iPad 2 is Marcus Phelps, Head Greenkeeper at Filton Golf Club, Bristol. Well done Marcus.

BIGGA Chairman, Andrew Mellon drew Marcus's name out of a hat during his recent visit to BIGGA House and Jane Jones, South West/South Wales Regional Administrator presented Marcus with his prize

Marcus is a long time member of BIGGA and has attended many BTME's during this time, this year Marcus visited BTME on all three days and would say to anyone who is thinking about attending BTME 2013... 'It's a must not miss! Miss it, miss out!'

