

we were as ready as we were ever going to be for the match. However a five-minute warm up then ensured we weren't.

We feared an early onslaught from the more experienced Essex team but a combination of poor long-range shooting and cat-like reflexes of the incumbent Kent man between the sticks kept the Northerners at bay. Then, hitting them hard on the break a superb cross was powerfully headed home by Wayne Syers to put us 1 up. Further great defending and attacking saw Mark Todd put through just before the break to put us 2 up.

After the break play resumed and Kent's defence was finally undone by an Essex free kick from the corner of the penalty box. The low, in-swinging shot was pushed onto the post by the Cat but only to bounce straight back out in front of goal to the following Essex attack who were more alive to the ball than our defence. A simple slot in put the score at 2-1. Shortly after, Kent's defence were left scratching heads again after a quick short corner by Essex and the attack shot through the legs of a multitude of players stood in front of the unsighted keeper, 2-2 and game back on.

Ten minutes or so before the end another Kent attack broke down the left saw Zaffer the Turk fire home a great left foot volley to put the score 3-2 to us and, despite Essex throwing everything at us to re-level the scores, Kent hung on to seal victory.

Many thanks to all who took part, the Essex section for hosting and especially to Larry Pearman and Lely UK for sponsoring the event including suitable post-match refreshments in the Billy Bonds suite.

We also had a golf day last month. This was held at the lovely West Kent Golf Club superbly presented for us by Darren Burdis and his great team at West Kent. Despite most of us having never visited this fine course before many managed to score well on a very hot day on a course that demands high levels of accuracy and fitness!

Everyone I spoke to was very complimentary of the great course and welcome extended to us by the club. A great dinner too rounded off a great day for us at West Kent. Many thanks

for being such gracious hosts. Results as follows: 1st Ian Rawlings (36pts), 2nd Aaron Launchbury (36pts), 3rd (Paul Larsen (35pts), Trade Prize won by Rob Holland, Near pin by Darren Burdis and Longest Drive by Jamie O'Connell.

We've taken loads of names now for our summer pairs knockout tournament but still open for more if you would like to take part. You don't both need to be from the same club and trade members are welcome to join in too. Please get in touch ASAP to be part of this great event.

More details and pictures from the football on our website: [www.kentgreenkeepers.com](http://www.kentgreenkeepers.com)

Best of British  
Rob Holland

## South West and South Wales



### South West

I hope that everyone is well. This month is going to be a little shorter than usual, this is me hinting at you guys to forward me some short stories about what is happening around the section.

I don't like doing this, but I have to start on a sensitive subject...the section visited Clevedon Golf earlier this month, captained by the steady, clam and collective Wayne Vincent. As always, the section took a strong team, on what was a steaming hot day, we just didn't match up to the weather, losing 5-1. However, I would like to thank the secretaries for a great match, and we will be see you again next year. This isn't normal for us, I can ensure you it will not happen again...sorry captain!!

Our next match is with the Welsh section and will be played at Royal Porthcawl on Friday 10 August. If you are keen to play please contact section captain Wayne Vincent, after our last performance... there is a good chance you will get a game.

As for the section, Thursday

4 October will be our next event, our AGM and will take place at Bristol & Clifton Golf Club.

Now for the important subject that is happening in the world at the moment, Euro 12, what a great start...magic is the word! I am tipping Germany to win with Gomez top goal scorer?

We would also like to thanks our patronage partners for 2012, Farmura, Countrywide, Headland, Eco-solve, TH White, Irrtech Ltd, Avoncrop.

We also have a Facebook page for the southwest section, that will make it much more convenient for you all to use, you don't have to do anything, just enjoy this amazing feature you have at your fingertips.

[adam.l.matthews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adam.l.matthews@hotmail.co.uk)



### South Wales

Good Morning South Wales. In my time in South Wales I have seen many visitors to our golf courses including the Royals, International sports stars and many more celebrities but our latest visitor tops the list for me. Bryn Meadows Golf Club played host to one of the unlikeliest visitors in history an EMU!! Second in size to the ostrich it popped in for a few holes over the weekend of 21 May, unfortunately she was asked to leave because she didn't have a handicap certificate! Eventually she was reunited with her owner who was based at a small holding just a mile away.

Congratulations again to Jim Mackenzie and his team for setting up a fantastic Handa Wales Open. The course, as always in magnificent condition and with the drying conditions prior to the event it made the course play in a slightly different manor with ball striking needing to be played to some tough pin positions set by the European Tour. Congratulations Jim in not only having a successful 13th Wales Open Tournament but also passing a personal milestone... the big 50 on the Thursday of the event, Happy Birthday.

## Assistant Profile

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

### Name:

Andrew Ross

Age: 36

Club:

Thornhill

Position:

First

Assistant

Nickname:

Floss



### 1. How long have you been greenkeeping?

17 years

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

Working outdoors and being on a golf course all day

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

Firefighter (I do this on a retained basis just now)

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

Hand cutting greens, you get a nice early morning stroll

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

Strimming, hurts the back

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

More communication with members so they understand our job better

### 7. Hobbies?

Darts and Bowling

### 8. Favourite Band?

Iron Maiden

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

Nottingham Forest

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

Believe it or not but Im actually a qualified Financial Advisor aswell!