

Sonning GC while Harewood Downs GC v Deanwood Park GC make up the second semi final, good luck to all four teams!

In other news from around the section the Midlands Section Conference is being held at Forest Hill Golf Club in Leicester on 6th November.

Malcolm Peake is still demonstrating the 'Greenstester' if anyone wants to arrange a demonstration he can be contacted on peakes@hotmail.co.uk or mobile tel: 07801 239790.

If anyone has any news, views or ideas they would like to see for the BB&O section then please don't hesitate to get in touch: bboscribe@gmail.com or contact the committee/Matt Nutter: bbosecretary@gmail.com

Alternatively keep up to date with what is happening in the BB&O section by following us on Twitter, Facebook and the web site: www.bbogreenkeepers.co.uk



Mid Anglia

We are well and truly heading into autumn/winter as the temperatures have really dropped off and hopefully most of the leaves will be doing the same as it's always a frustrating time of the year clearing up the continual deluge day in day out.

We will have played our Autumn Golf Day at Verulam GC by the time you get this so let's hope we get lucky with the weather.

Our final Golf event of the season is the Texas Scramble hosted on 4 December at Dunstable Downs GC so please get your entries for your team of four in nice and early as this is always a very popular event and a fantastic golfing test.

Prices are £30 for Members and £40 for any non members.

Lastly we have some good news from one of our boys flying the flag for our section.

Oly Browning (23) of Stocks Golf Club has just won the biggest competition of his life, the Bigga National Championship at Irvine Golf Club on the Ayrshire coast.

He won with a score of 146 over 36 holes medal play.

Playing off of scratch he beat 66 other entrants to the title.

Over the past 4 years he has won the club champs at both Stocks and Ivinghoe golf clubs respectively.

Oly hopes that one day he will make the grade and play on the European tour.

Just a word of warning, don't play this guy for money! Well done Oly! Any chance of giving me and all the other choppers out there a few lessons? That's all from me and hope to hear from some of you soon.

Darren - d.mugford@rigby-taylor.com

SOUTH EAST REGION



Surrey

Monday October 15.

Just had a text from Chris Gosden, course manager at St Georges Hill GC, giving the sad news that his mechanic Steve Bush died suddenly yesterday.

Steve, a keen lawnmower racer and winner of many events over the past years, leaves his wife Sharon and daughters Rachel and Hanna.

I have asked Chris to pass on our condolences to Steve's family.

Richmond GC was the excellent venue on October 11 for the annual contest for the Cresta cup.

Thanks to Les Howkins and Richmond GC for allowing us courtesy and also the chef for providing everyone, except me, with an exceptional curry.

I had a delicious roast beef dinner because I, unlike the rest of the world, hate curry.

Tony Bremer, that much loved bandit from Dorking GC, walked away with the cup, easily beating Ron Christie, the runner up and Gary Ogilvie.

Gary, an infiltrator from Sussex section, remained dry and missed taking a dip in the pond even though I tried to divert his attention by hitting a bad tee shot in his direction.

Fortunately for Gary, my ball went into the pond and unlike at Gatton Manor GC, he did not.

Jason Hunt won nearest the pin.

Should any member like to join the Surrey committee please contact Les or Ron before the AGM, which takes place at Dorking GC, after the Turkey Trot.

My last scribbling for this excellent magazine will be in the December edition as I am retiring from the committee after some 15 years.

I know you will all miss my adventures on the Isle of Wight but I am just a phone call away should any of you feel the need for an update.

I must apologise for the mistake in last month's edition as the match greenkeepers v the reps took place at Hankley Common GC and not at Richmond GC as stated.

I was not chosen to play for the reps and so the result, a draw, could have been averted had I been involved.

I will not comment on the possible outcome had I played, except to say that it is probable that I would have used all my golfing expertise to ensure a greenkeeper's victory.

It is apparent that either the baby carrying stork is dead or that all members are of a certain orange variety that has no pips.

Father of the month, a usual feature of my monthly jottings, has not appeared for some time and needs to be used on a regular basis.

So come on lads, do your best and provide the new writer of around the green with news of your efforts to repopulate the world.

Brian Willmott



Kent

What a day we had at Boughton Golf Club.

Our hardcore group of thirty odd of Kent's finest greenkeepers certainly picked the best day of that particular week to play at Gary Debenham's superbly presented course, especially when you factor in the recent weather.

Indeed, in glorious sunshine, many of us were able to make hay while the sun shone whilst

Assistant Profile

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

Name: Ashley Marshall
Age: 35
Club: Matfen Hall
Position: Assistant Greenkeeper
Nickname: Dish dash



1. How long have you been greenkeeping? 19 years

2. What was it about the career that attracted you? Working outdoors and job satisfaction

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

4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why? Drainage work, correcting something that needs fixing

5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why? Pumping water from flooded areas

6. What one thing - other than a pay rise - would improve the greenkeepers' lot? Managers understanding what is needed to run a golf course

7. Hobbies? Football, going on holiday to the Middle East

8. Favourite Band? Black Eyed Peas

9. Which team do you support? Newcastle - the Toon Army!

10. What is your claim to fame? Spending four days with Kenny McDowell in Dubai driving him round the golf course after he fell and hurt his knee, also met GMac who is a top man