

Section Notes

Please email your notes to
steve.castle@bigga.co.uk
by the 10th
of the month

All the latest news from your Section,
in your new-look notes pages...



Around the green

Scotland

Contact your Section correspondent with news,
events or anything else for Around the green...



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Events Coming Up

West - The Norrie Whytock annual challenge will be taking place at Auchterarder with the qualifiers Gordon Sangster, Stuart Taylor, David McBride and John Barr, all winners of their classes at the spring outing. We hope they can achieve a victory as it's been a while since the West section has come near.

West - The Autumn outing is scheduled for 19 September at Eastwood GC and I hope there can be a few new faces turn up to enhance the numbers. Please remember to contact me if you have any information about retirements, births, illness, or just plain gossip that other folk might be interested in, I can be contacted on stuart.taylor@glasgowgolfclub.com or 07790 823914.

North - The Spring outing is now booked and we will be going up to Moray Golf Club in Lossiemouth on the 1 May 2014, we hope you can make the effort to attend what we are sure will be a great day. The team for the Norrie Whytock trophy has now been picked so further details will follow in the Sept issue, and please get in touch with any other news.

North - On a sad note the North Section would like to pass on their condolences to the family and friends of Greenkeeper Craig Smith. Craig worked at Royal Dornoch Golf Club before moving out to work in Australia where he was tragically killed following an accident.

Central - The next event in the Section will be the Autumn tournament on 4 September at Stirling Golf Club. Entry forms

should be with you any day if they haven't yet arrived. There will also be one posted on the website www.biggacentralsection.org.uk

News

West - Something I forgot to mention was the recent accident involving Gary Divers' son Christopher who was over in the states at university, unfortunately he was involved in an accident and passed away in hospital. The section would like to pass on our thoughts and condolences during this time.

West - John Clelland at Paisley Bushes GC suffered some severe damage to a few greens in recent months, we hope this will be the last of it and would wish him the best of luck trying to get things back to normal. Derek Duthie informs that he is celebrating 25 years service with Aitkens Seedman, Derek as everybody knows is the sales representative for the west of Scotland, originally he started as an apprentice at Cardross, and moved on the Head Greenkeeper at Cambuslang before shifting path onto the sales route, its nice to see he has made a full recovery from his car accident a couple of years ago.

Central - Over 25 people came along to Elmwood on 23 July to hear John Kaminski of Penn State give us the inside story of the recent US Open at Merion which given our own Open had just passed made for an interesting comparison. The pairs competition is progressing well with a couple of teams close to securing their places in the semi-finals. Please remember to email or text me your results as soon as possible.

Welcome New Scotland Members

Robert Galloway, Greenkeeper, Turnberry Hotel & Golf Course, Ayrshire
David Rieck, Student, SRUC (Elmwood), Central
Robert Fraser, Assistant Greenkeeper, Castle Stuart Golf Links, North
John Bambury, Course Manager, Trump Golf Scotland, North

Welcome New Northern Members

David Barker, Groundsman, Micklehurst Cricket Club, North West
Robert O'Hare, Groundsman, Maghull Town Council, North West
Howard Lythgoe, AffiliateMember, Ashton & Lea Golf Club, North West
Andrew Gilligan, Greenkeeper, Wilmslow Golf Club, North West
Liam Bashford, Greenkeeper, Driffild Golf Club, Northern
Charlie Pasco, Assistant Greenkeeper, Saltburn Golf Club, Cleveland
Nicholas Scholes, Groundsman, Roundwood Golf Club, Sheffield
Stephen Washbrook, Assistant Greenkeeper, Aberdovey Golf Club, North Wales

Northern

Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the green...



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Events Coming Up

North East - Brand new summer comp which will become an annual event will be held on 21 August at Percy Wood Golf & Country Club, this will be a stableford, entry fee £10 to members and £15 to non members. Includes a bacon roll before play followed by buffet meal after, along with prize giving. Entries must be made by 14 August. Tee times between 1pm - 3pm.

Cleveland - A trip to the potash mine is going to be organised anyone interested in going can they get in touch with Pembo on 07791695768. Places are limited so get in quick!

Sheffield - We are planning a visit to St George Park to the FA National Football Centre at Burton-on-Trent on October 16, anybody wanting to go must email me at neilpeters66@gmail.com to reserve a place, there are only limited number places available.

Northern - Greenkeepers v trade match date not set yet but looking at October at Cookridge. 10 man team, anyone wanting to play please contact Andy Slingsby.

North West - The Willie Whitelaw bowl at Penrith golf club on September 11. Please phone Phil Dewhurst for details and booking.

North Wales - The autumn tournament is to take place at Royal St. David's Harlech on September 18 please return your entry form and payment to Carl as soon as possible as the starting sheet for this will fill very quickly.

NEWS

North East - The recent match with the Cleveland section was a win to the Cleveland lads. Played at Durham City which by all accounts was in superb condition so credit must go to Stan and his team.

Just let the section know that myself Glen Baxter is now writing the news for the section as the committee felt I was best equipped to gather any news from my rounds when visiting you all.

Cleveland - Congratulations to Olly Shepard and his good lady who have had twins and Roger Mackerall and his good lady also celebrating the birth of a little bundle of joy. Unfortunately the Cleveland bongo drums didn't tell me the if they were boys or girls. Anyway congratulations all round.

Stressholme GC has merged with Blackwell Grange to become

Blackwell Grange GC with Dougie Avey becoming Course Manager. Good luck in the new role.

Well done to James Tock of Richmond GC for completing his NVQ Level 3.

Northern - Presidents day at Scarthingwell GC - a huge thank you to Ben and his staff for a very welcoming venue and also to John Waite and the boys for setting up a fantastic course, all the guys thoroughly enjoyed themselves and it was reflected in the scoring! Results below.

North West - I'm sorry to report the passing of larger than life global hygiene rep, Alan Sergeant who died in July and it is also my sad duty to report the passing of another part of sales history in our area as Graham Walker ex of Walker Brothers, St Martins also died in July our heartfelt wishes go to family and friends of both.

Movers And Shakers

North East - Jon Watson has recently taken up the role of course manager at Parklands Golf Club so we wish him well in his new role.

Results

Cleveland - Spring outing at Brancepeth Castle. Div 1: 1 Mark Brown 31pts, 2 Paul Legg 29, 3 Martin Woods 25. Div 2: 1 Adrian Partridge 32, 2 Barry Walker 29, 3 Tracey Maddison 27. Div 3: 1 Ian Pemberton 26, 2 Daniel Egan 17, 3 Aidan Coates 12. Nearest the pin: Ian Pemberton, best nett on the par 3's: Ian Pemberton, longest drive: Adrian Partridge, best trade: Chris Fidell.

Northern - Presidents Day. Winners : Div1 1 D Gosney; 2 R Harris 3 A Auterson, Div2 1 R Walker 2 B Gomersal 3 J Waite, Div3 1 R Armitage 2 R Smith 3 B Jackson Trade 1 G Baxter 2 T Arana Nearest the pin 1st P Fell 2nd N Blisit, President prize R Walker

Sheffield - A very good day was had and was well attended at Dore & Totley, the course is in good condition and thanks goes to John Goldthorpe and his staff. The day was won by A. Unwin with a score of 70 nett.

North West - The summer tournament at Ormskirk golf club was well attended and a great day was had by all. The course was in magnificent condition and I would like to thank Mike and his staff for a great day. The winner was Paul Pierce. Nearest the pin was Paul again and longest drive was Gary Burgess. The guest prize was won by Tony Kevadras.

THANKS TO SPONSORS

North East - Thanks to TSL for sponsoring our match against the Cleveland section.

Cleveland - Thanks to Northern Lubricants, Aitkins, Rigby Taylor, Peter Marshall and Greenlay for sponsoring the spring outing.

Northern - Presidents day. Thanks to the sponsors : unfortunately Simon from Everris could not make it but the lovely Rebecca from Sheriff stood in for him, a great thank you to Everris for their continued support of our section.

North West - We thank Bathgates Leisure in the form of Nick Grey for sponsoring the cricket evening at Ashley cricket club.

Midland

Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the Green...



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Events Coming Up

East Midland - Having had our trip to Kedleston Park at the beginning of August our next event is at Lutterworth Golf Club on 31 October (no I won't be wearing my Halloween mask), this is also our AGM so please think up some questions/suggestions to put to the committee. Or if you are interested in helping on the committee then put yourself forward for selection.

News

East Midland - Nailcote Hall in Coventry on Wednesday 3 July played host to our annual par 3 competition. This year the committee decided to sponsor the event and we had a well supported day on a beautiful sunny afternoon. The course was, as ever, excellent. Results below

There is a suggestion within the section to get a five-a-Side football competition going.

Currently Scraftoft GC, with Player/Manager Nigel 'The Special One' White, seem to be hammering everyone.

So if anyone is interested in getting involved and taking out some of your frustrations on other greenkeepers then drop me an email/text or even phone me and lets see what can be arranged. My details are under the picture of the George Clooney lookalike above.

Midland - The section played their annual match vs The Presidents team at Handsworth Golf Club on Thursday 20 June. The match was played in the usual good spirit, with the Handsworth Golf Club Presidents Team coming out on top 3½ to 2½.

As usual a big thanks to Handsworth Golf Club for their hospitality, and the Midland section team for their continued support in this long running event.

East of England - Congratulations to Bruce Hicks (Boston GC) and Gary Salisbury (Burghley Park GC) for being part of the support team at The Open.

Results

East Midland - Par 3 comp results 1 Beedles Lake 83pts, 2 Scraftoft GC 81, 3 the event sponsors The Committee team with 79. The barbecue was excellent and we were very well looked after by Nailcote Hall.

Midland - Results from the Summer Golf Day at Penn Golf Club on 10 July. 1 Simon White 33pts, 2 Ed Stant 33pts, 3 Adam Jones 33pts,

4 Karl Williams 32pts, Rhys Thomas 31pts. Nearest the pins were A Jones, Andy Brougham, L Swann & J Fox. Our thanks to Paul Mills and his fine team for presenting the course in such fantastic condition, and to the Club for allowing us courtesy of the course and clubhouse for the day.

East of England - Market Rasen May 22: 1 Simon Bossett, 2 Peter Allbine, 3 Bruce Hicks, 4 Robin Portess. Ian Collett from Rigby Taylor was Trade winner. Nearest the pins: Geoff Wand, Matt Haynes, Alex Clarricoates, Carl Chamberlain

Movers & Shakers

East Midland - We would like to welcome Ken Harding to the Leicestershire area. Ken has taken on the reins at Willesley Park Golf Club for what looks like an exciting time for one of the county's most prestigious courses. Ken has immediately been involved in the section playing in Carl Chamberlain's Rigby Taylor team at Nailcote Hall.

Sponsors

Midland - Our thanks to the sponsors for our last golf day at Penn on 10 July. The main prize table for the day was sponsored by Farmura. The 4 nearest the pin prizes were donated by Whitemoss, Sherriff Amenity, Countrywide and our President, John Hammond. Thanks also to Farols for the halfway house and all those who brought raffle prizes.

This month's calendar page is sponsored by Sherriff Amenity. Please consider them for your fertiliser, chemical, seed and dressing needs. Email: nigel.tyler@agrovista.co.uk. Tel: 07989 548058

East of England - Thank you to John Hewson and his staff at Market Rasen for providing a course in excellent condition. Also to all the clubhouse staff for making us welcome and providing an excellent meal afterwards.

Thanks also go to our sponsors on the day, LMS Lincoln Ltd for the main prizes, and T.A.S for the nearest the pins. T.A.S is the new business venture of Garry Poole, formerly Course Manager at Belton Park. His number is 07701 034100.

Welcome New Midland Members

Liam King, Assistant Greenkeeper, Oakmere Park Golf Club, East Midlands

Joshua Rimington, Assistant Greenkeeper, Manor (Laceyby) Golf Club, East Midlands

Taylor Fox, Assistant Greenkeeper, Vale Golf and Country Club (The), Midlands

David Harding, Greenkeeper, Marriott Forest of Arden, Midlands

Mark Cleverley, Greenkeeper, Marriott Forest of Arden, Midlands

Adam Williams, Greenkeeper, Marriott Forest of Arden, Midlands

Stewart Weller, Greenkeeper 21 yrs & over, Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club, East of England

Steven Bushell, Assistant Greenkeeper, Claire's Court School, BB&O

Paul Sunman, Greenkeeper, Berkhamsted Golf Club, Mid Anglia

Jack Micans, Greenkeeper, Berkhamsted Golf Club, Mid Anglia

Jordan Evans, Greenkeeper, Trent Park Golf Club, Mid Anglia

Iain Biggs, Assistant Greenkeeper, Trent Park Golf Club, Mid Anglia

South East

Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the green...



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Events Coming Up

Essex – Next golf day Thursday 15 August at Channels Golf Club. Bacon roll and coffee from 11.00am, 18 hole Stableford (this event is the National Qualifier, two places up for grabs), plus a BBQ afterwards, £20 members/sponsors. £30 guests, cheques made payable to “BIGGA Essex” please!

This event was a great success last time around, so don't miss out on a fun day with good food and camaraderie.

Entries to Antony Kirwan: at “Play Golf Colchester” Bakers Lane, Colchester, Essex. CO3 4AU or antz16@btinternet.com by Saturday 10 August please.

Membership clarification will be required prior to your playing at all events this year please.

Details are on the website, under Competition Rules 2013 this is within the golf section of the section website.

We have also decided to sell our raffle tickets before you play, rather than badger you afterwards. This we hope will speed things along and allow you all to site down for your dinner quicker upon your return from the course.

Tickets will be on sale when you collect your scorecard. Enjoy your day at Channels.

“So you want to be promoted...?”

Ben Scrivener is still waiting to hear from you. We would like to arrange an evening with Murray Long and Matt Pledsted for all you young greenkeepers that are looking to make the leap to the next level.

There is more information about this event on our section website. Interested then contact Ben gingersmunky@hotmail.com

Surrey - Cresta Cup at Wimbledon Park GC on 24 September 2013

Kent - Our planned Foot Golf event has been temporarily postponed and will now take place in late August/early September. Our next golf event is to be held at Sene Valley Golf Club on 19 September. Email invitations with more details will be out soon.

News

Sussex - A full field attended our sections away day to the fine links of Littlestone GC over the border in darkest Kent. Some members brought their passports and were surprised that these weren't needed to cross the Kent marshes.

A super day was had by all in the sunny and very warm conditions, so much so that some were seen wearing large sombreros to keep the

sun off, and which also saw one forgetful greenkeeper cover himself in sun lotion, and then try and play the next few shots with sun lotion over his hands and grips.

There was also a near emergency call out when John Shepard ventured into the long rough to retrieve a ball, only to find the rough taller than him and thus lose his way back to his team!

The course was in fine condition and a heartfelt thanks go to Malcolm and all of his team for allowing the section to play their prestigious course and for the condition in which it was presented, well done all.

I am sure that you will all join with me in wishing Neil Durant, Head Greenkeeper at Dale Hill Golf Club a speedy recovery following a serious illness that had left him hospitalised for some time.

Surrey - Seminars over the winter period are in the planning process, Date TBA, intention to have 5 or 6 educational events at Merrist Wood College.

Results

Sussex – Away day: Longest drive, John Hill. Nearest the pin John Shepard. Nearest the pin in two was Matt Hutchinson.

Nearest the pin in 3 was Graham White. In the team competition 3 The “Seaford boys” with 86pts. 2 “Team Mitchell” with 88. 1 the “Tortillas” with an incredible 97 (with a blob!?) Once again thanks to all attendees for supporting the section on this away day.

Surrey - Results from Worplesdon GC: 1 Alan Crittendon 76 Gross Nett 69 2 Phill Beney Nett 72 3 Robin Cheney Nett 72 Best Gross Jason Hunt 7;

Nearest Pin Gavin Kyle, Long Drive Mark Davies. Alan Crittendon and Mark Davies qualify for the National Tournament at Frilford Heath.

Thanks To Sponsors

Sussex – Thanks to away day sponsors Mitchells Groundscare and Pete Smith for organising.

Kent - Many thanks to Lister Wilder who have offered to join our very welcome group of kind sponsors.

We have just learned that one of our section's friends and most loyal sponsors has been taken ill with quite a serious medical condition.

On behalf of everyone in our group I would like to wish Stewart Clayton of Greensman Ltd a full a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you again soon.

Welcome New South East Members

Danny Perks, Greenkeeper, Wentworth Club (The), Surrey

Mark Ogden, Course Manager, Drift Golf Club, Surrey
Neil Highgate, Assistant Greenkeeper, Cottesmore Golf Club, Surrey

Sean Blyth, Greenkeeper, Goodwood Club Ltd (The), Sussex

Simon Berry, Greenkeeper, Goodwood Club Ltd (The), Sussex

Christopher Ahier, Greenkeeper, Hassocks Golf Club, Sussex

Jamie Chapman, Assistant Greenkeeper, Hendon Golf Club, London

Louis Dunn-Allen, Assistant Greenkeeper, Hendon Golf Club, London

South West & Wales

Contact your Section correspondent with news, events or anything else for Around the green...



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Events Coming Up

South Wales - Our AGM will now be held at Machynys Peninsular Golf Club on Wednesday 16 October and not Haverfordwest as first noted. We have a team match v the South West at Chipping Sodbury 16 August 1pm tee off team to be announced. The match v the North is to be rearranged for a suitable date in September.

South West - SW Section v South Wales at Chipping Sodbury GC 15 August. SW Section v South Coast at N Wilts GC 26 September. Enquiries to Wayne Vincent (07958 630590).

News

South Wales - I would just like to say that the standard of the work of the greenkeepers in the South Wales Section is outstanding! Keep it going guys you're doing a great job.

South West - A strong delegation from the SW was in attendance at Muirfield as part of the BIGGA Open Support Team. A fantastic week was had by all involved and a huge thank you must go out to everyone at HQ for the seamless organisation.

The annual match between SW Section and The Secretaries at The Manor House GC ended in a 4 ½ - 5 ½ victory to the Secretaries. Well done to Adam and Paul for taking on the opposition single-handedly.

Congratulations to Lee Whyte of Bowood GC and Paul Garland of Lansdowne GC who will be representing SW Section at the BIGGA National Championships at Frilford Heath GC in October.

We are seeking interest in an excavator operation update training session to coincide with the five year cut off from the last certification programme, please keep an eye on the BIGGA Bulletin Boards for details or contact Paul Worster directly.

Once again the section will be sponsoring a place to attend BTME in January 2014 to include accommodation, transport and education. Please contact any of the committee members to express your interest in this fantastic opportunity.

Results

South Wales - Thanks to all the Patrons who sponsored the inaugural golf tournament. 1 Gareth Hardisty (Burghill Valley) 2 John Knight (Llanishen gc) 3 Marc Anderton (Newport gc) Nearest the Pin Darryl Jones Longest Drive Ian Kinley

South Coast - South Coast Section summer tournament held at the Army Golf Club, 30 entrants and fine weather. Thanks firstly to the club for allowing us courtesy of the course which was presented in outstanding condition. Well done to Phil Wentworth and his team on achieving such high standards a great test of golf. 1 39 points Colin Hutt from Basingstoke GC. 2 37pts on count back Chris Bitten (who rarely plays golf these days) 3 37 pts Jamie Pender from Blue Mountain GC. Longest drive John Say from Test Valley GC. Nearest the pin Mark Ogelsby from Test Valley

Movers and Shakers

South Wales - Andy Roach has left Haverfordwest GC after 28 year of loyal service we wish him every success in his new venture. Malcolm Davies has Left Cradoc GC After 35 years of loyal service, when he said to me he started in 1979 I said that was the year I was born! Good luck both.

Thanks to Sponsors

South West - Special thanks to all of our Section Patrons for their ongoing support: EcoSol, Greensman, Irritech, Headland Amenity, Countrywide and Farmura.

South Coast - Thanks to our Summer Comp sponsors Tacit and Mark Day for presenting the prizes.

Welcome New South West & Wales Members

James Carash, Assistant Greenkeeper, Cricklade Hotel Golf Club, South West

George Briggs, Assistant Greenkeeper, Brokenhurst Manor Golf Club, South Coast

Thomas Cunningham, Greenkeeper 21 yrs & over, Corhampton Golf Club, South Coast

Daniel Jeffries, Assistant Greenkeeper, Alresford Golf Club, South Coast

Welcome New International Members

David Colley, Rosslare Golf Club, International, Republic of Ireland
Sergio Baselgia, Golfpark Nuolen AG, Switzerland

A new look

Based on feedback from the recent GI survey, we've refreshed and improved this section of the magazine.

Please send your news and photos in to your section correspondent or Steve Castle (steve.castle@bigga.co.uk) by the 10th of each month