

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...



CENTRAL
Gordon Moir
Gordon.moir@standrews.org.uk



AYRSHIRE
Jim Paton
jimp54@btinternet.com



EAST
Scott Corrigan
scottcorrigan4@aol.com



NORTH
Dale Robertson &
Robert Patterson
daleturnberry@btinternet.com /
grassman351@aol.com



WEST
Stuart Taylor
stuart.taylor@glasgowgolfclub.com

Events Coming Up

Central - Next educational event is at Elmwood on 23 July where John Kaminski of Penn State will be giving a talk on the recent US Open at Merion GC. A flyer will be sent out shortly and details are on www.biggacentralsection.org.uk. The recent talk by Mike Jouson on communication skills unfortunately was poorly attended with only 9 people present, thanks to those who did come along. We appreciate that Elmwood isn't the best venue for everyone but it's difficult to get a golf club with a private room on an evening during the golfing season.

East - The Willie Woods Trophy will be played at Mortonhall GC on 21 August, this tournament is played in a Fourball better ball format.

North - The next event is the Norrie Whytock Trophy at Auchterarder on the 15 August so if you had a good round at Duff House Royal you might get a call. Robert is unable to make the event so he has asked myself Dale Robertson to Captain the team. I will be in touch with the other three members in due course to see if we can get a winning team together.

News

Central - Earth moving is well underway on the new course at Feddinch by St Andrews which is calling itself the St Andrews International Golf Club. It will be interesting to see how the planning application for a new Links course between Elie and Leven materialises over the coming months.

Congratulations to Paul Teviotdale on his recent hole in one at Arbroath GC. Paul hit a spanking 3 iron at the 154 yard 16th on his way to scoring 69 in the Links Championship qualifying. Good job it was downwind Paul, well done.

Congratulations also to Gary Tough from Letham Grange on winning the Angus County championships at the 30th time of trying. Okay, I know Gary's a North section member but he works and plays most of his golf in the Central section area. Unfortunately, neither Paul or Gary did so well in the Scottish Greenkeepers Championships at Largs where Kenny Mitchell was the only winner over a very enjoyable course which was in superb condition.

Good luck to everyone who has events coming up, the teams at Muirfield for the Open, Castle Stuart for the Scottish, St Andrews for the Womens and everywhere in between, whether is your Pro Am, Club championship or Captains day. Let's hope the weather is kind to everyone and we see some great examples of well-prepared golf courses.

East - Major drainage work in the form of a newly constructed burn/ditch is coming along nicely at Bathgate GC, this has been installed to improve drainage and to enhance a couple of golf holes.

North - An Educational Seminar was held at Dornoch Golf Club and this was attended by over 15 people mainly from the Dornoch, Tain and Brora area. I'm sure they all enjoyed the day and hopefully we could have more in the future.

It was good to see section members making the long journey to the Scottish National Tournament at Largs Golf Club. Thanks to Billy Craig, Jim McCormack, Gary Tough and Pat Allan for their company. I would also like to say a big thanks to Course Manager Ian Barr and his team for a really well presented golf course with superb greens.

West - Best wishes to David Carson who was going in for a knee operation recently so I hope all went well. David Gall Junior has been unwell recently and I would like to pass on my best wishes from myself and all on the committee hoping he gets better and his treatment is a success.

Ryan at Nairn Brown I hope your knee is better quickly after all the work on it, no more footy for you, and I hope Mike Dooners wife is allowed back in the country after getting her passport stolen while on holiday in Greece.

Section outing was held at Buchanan Castle GC the first time I've played it and I think a first for an outing which is excellent, I just wish more clubs could volunteer their services. The course was in great condition for the time of year although the recent rains had caused a few soft areas like us all.

Ronnie Mills and his staff are to be congratulated for their efforts unfortunately Ronnie could not attend but Mark his assistant filled in handsomely, the welcome and service was first class and the club are to thanked for all their assistance.

The results (which you can see in the 'Results' section) have been on the blog for a few weeks now along with other information and I would encourage all members to keep up to date by visiting the site regularly, congratulations to our Chairman for his hard work in posting the information.

The outing was attended by 43 people - only 35 played but this is good and I would encourage more members to come along and

play, have a chat about the weather and discuss the different courses and methods of presentation.

The other event was the annual match against the secretaries which was held at Douglas Park GC, a great day was had by all in attendance and the final result was a draw meaning the greenkeepers retain the trophy. Thanks to Drew and his staff for the course presentation and the club for allowing us the use of their facilities.

Movers & Shakers

Central - Lee Strutt has resigned from the Committee. Everyone would like to thank Lee for his contribution over the past few years and will gladly accept his offer to help out at events.

East - Congratulations to John Watson at Deer Park who has taken over as Course Manager with Stuart Cruickshank now taking the role of General Manager, the section wish you all the best.

New section members this month are Craig Darling (Renaissance) and Neil Hogg (Bruntsfield Links), welcome aboard guys.

Results

West - Outing at Buchanan Castle. Scratch prize; Gordon Sangster (Cathkins Braes) 70 First class winner; Stuart Taylor (Glasgow) 37pts; Second Chris Prior (Bearsden) 36; Third Douglas MacIntosh (Cathkin) 35; Second class winner; David McBride (Vale of Leven) 35 bh; Second Brian Logue (Vale of Leven) 35; Third Jack Steadward (Blairbeth) 33; Third class winner John Barr (Cardross) 37; Second Gareth Rodgers (Fairways) 30; Third John Steele (Buchanan Castle) 25; Visitor prize Robert Hart (Glasgow); Nearest pin 4th John Barr; Nearest pin 8th Chris Prior.

Thanks to Sponsors

East - Thanks to Mussleburgh Race Course for their recent hospitality afforded to our section at their last race meeting, unfortunately we had a low turnout on the night, but everyone had a good time and we look forward to a complimentary drink at Mortonhall thanks to Shaun Cunningham's substantial winnings!

Welcome New Scotland Members

Gregor Mackintosh, Greenkeeper, Turnberry Hotel & Golf Course
 Scott Thomson, Greenkeeper, Strathmore Golf Centre
 Antony Burnett, Greenkeeper, Balnagask Golf Club
 Robert King, Assistant Greenkeeper, Mortonhall Golf Club
 Kyle Cruickshank, Greenkeeper, The Gleneagles Hotel & Golf Courses
 Christopher Miller, Assistant Greenkeeper, Scoonie Golf Club
 Lewis Fraser, Assistant Greenkeeper, Fairmont St Andrews
 Liam McWilliams, Greenkeeper, Loch Lomond Golf Club
 Craig Darling, Greenkeeper, Renaissance Club
 Neil Hogg, Greenkeeper, Bruntsfield Links Golfing Society
 Paul Miller, Affiliate Member, SRUC (Elmwood)
 John Bowers, Greenkeeper, The Golf House Club
 Elie Nigel Buchanan, Greenkeeper, Drumoig Golf Club



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



NORTH EAST
Jimmy Richardson
jamesrichardson17@sky.com



NORTH WEST
Chris Sheehan
jsheehan@blueyonder.co.uk



NORTHERN
Andy Slingsby
andy.slingsby98@googlemail.com



SHEFFIELD
James Stevens
jimmy_jams20@hotmail.com



NORTH WALES
Pete Maybury
petemayb66@aol.com

Events Coming Up

North East - The summer stableford competition at Percy Wood is on 21 August NOT 17 August as previously mentioned. Booking forms will be sent out to all members.

Northern - The invitation day at Wetherby is on 12 August NOT 19 August as quoted in last month's notes. The Sheffield match-up is at Howley Hall on 31 July.

North Wales - Apologies to everyone who was looking forward to playing in the North Wales v North West match at Lymm GC but the fixture had to be cancelled, further information as to whether it will be rearranged has not made it to me as yet but keep watching our Facebook group or the main BIGGA website events area for updates. The North Wales v South Wales match is at Borth and Ynyslas GC on 26 July, I believe we do have a team but if you want to check or be on stand by please contact Rhys Butler - contact details on your fixture list.

News

North East - Baby boom recently at Close House GC with four new arrivals in just three days! James Parker's wife Sarah gave birth to India 23 April; Nathan Charlton's partner Laura gave birth to Tyler 24 April; Andrew Sweeney's wife Rachel gave birth to Milyssa also on 24 April and Simon Harding's wife Tanya gave birth to Theo on 25 April.

North East - Close House GC have had MJ Abbotts in again to do some alterations, constructing and altering two greens plus building new tees enlarging water hazards and have also added a lake in front of the 18th green on the new course.

Edinburgh Landscapes are currently laying all the turf, the majority of the heavy gear has now left the site and the course should be ready for play by July 1.

Movers & Shakers

North Wales - David Vaughan the professional at Vale of Llangollen retired on 30 June after 32 years of service to the club, we wish him all the best.

New Members

George McCoy, Greenkeeper, Vale Royal Abbey GC; Brian Griffiths, Greenkeeper, Baron Hill GC Ltd; Richard Malthouse, Greenkeeper, Malton & Norton GC; Kevin Irving, Greenkeeper, Carlisle GC; Scott Baxter, Groundsman, Roundwood GC; Adam Mayren, Ass Greenkeeper, Leyland GC; Guy Welding, Greenkeeper, Leyland GC; Charles Bevan, Greenkeeper, Leyland GC; Scott Newton, Course Manager, Astbury GC; Richard Breese, Affiliate Member, Shipley GC; Joshua Fowler, Ass Greenkeeper, Meltham GC; Chris Shally, Greenkeeper, Hessele GC; Phillip Robinson, Ass Greenkeeper, Close House GC; Graham Dawson, Greenkeeper, Close House GC; Peter Macniak, Ass Greenkeeper, Macclesfield GC

Midland

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



BB&O - The Stick
bboscribe@gmail.com or Matt Nutter
bbosecretary@gmail.com



MID ANGLIA
Darren Mugford
d.mugford@rigbytaylor.com;



MIDLAND
Sean McDade
sean.mcdade@homecall.co.uk;



EAST OF ENGLAND
Steve Beverly
steveimingham@aol.com



EAST MIDLAND
Greg Skinner
greg.skinner92@btinternet.com

Events Coming Up

BB&O - Summer Comp at Caversham Heath GC, near Reading, 1 August. Stableford with coffee and bacon rolls, free range balls and two course buffet dinner afterwards.

Smart casual attire required after golf. Event doubles as a qualifier for the BIGGA National Championship at Frilford Heath 7-8 October. See www.bbogreenkeepers.co.uk for further details.

Mid Anglia - Summer Golf Day at Brookmans Park GC on 6 August. Get your entries in asap to avoid missing out on this popular pairs event.

News

BB&O - Andy Ewence, Course and Grounds Manager at the Buckinghamshire GC, is looking for support staff for the Ladies European Masters held on 26-28 July live on Sky.

Last years event was a great success and hopefully as many of you as possible will volunteer again to experience the work and involvement of a Professional Tour event. Andy can be contacted on 07725277952 or Andy.Ewence@Buckinghamshiregc.co.uk

East Berkshire played host to the Players Tour. Held over 36 holes the tour offers club professionals the chance to play and win a place at the European Qualifying School. Conditions were ideal for scoring with warm sunny weather and a course in great condition. Scoring was tight with Lee James the eventual winner with -2.

Section team beat the Kent Section 4-1 in the final of the Toro/Lely Home Counties Football Final held at Upton Park. Congratulations to both teams for a great game and especially to Larry Pearman and Toro/Lely for sponsoring the event. A special mention must go to head groundsman Shane O'Brien on the quality of the pitch and surface presented for the event.

Mid Anglia - The Centurion Golf Club in St Albans/Hemel Hempstead is very close to opening and looks to be a very fine course and a real challenge of golf so looking forward to its late summer opening.

Movers & Shakers

Mid Anglia - Congratulations to Neil Carter for being appointed as Head Greenkeeper at Mentmore GC - all the best for your role.

Results

Mid Anglia - Results from Spring Golf Day and National Qualifier held at Bedford & County GC. 1 A Butler 36pts, 2 G Bruce 34, 3rd O Browning 33 with nearest Pin winners L Owen and A Butler. Our thanks go to Geoff Fenn and his team for providing us with the course in fantastic condition which was enjoyed by all who attended on a lovely day.

Thanks to Sponsors

Midland - Our long running supporters of our excellent calendar, now in its 6th year, this month is sponsored by North Staffs Irrigation Ltd. Please consider them for both your irrigation and drainage requirements. Email: NSIrrigation@aol.com Tel: 01785 812 706.

Mid Anglia - A massive thanks goes to Vassgro Amenity, Rigby Taylor, Avoncrop Amenity, ALS, Amtech and Headland Amenity for your continued support with funds towards the Mid Anglia Section.

Welcome New Midland Members

Alex Brougham, Assistant Greenkeeper, Trentham Golf Ltd
Jack Hawkes, Greenkeeper, Leamington & County Golf Club
Jeremy Saunders, Mechanic, Mentmore Golf & Country Club
Simon Colebrook, Head Greenkeeper, Pitcheroak Golf Club
Paul Foley, Assistant Greenkeeper, Whipsnade Park GC
Jareth Watkin, Greenkeeper, Greetham Valley Golf Club
Alex Porter, Greenkeeper, Greetham Valley Golf Club
Nico Geldenhuys, Greenkeeper, Grove Estate Golf Club (The)
Daniel Harris, Greenkeeper, Tytherington Club (The)
Christopher Horne, Affiliate Member, iQube Marketing
Ian Burnage, Greenkeeper, Bedford & County Golf Club

Photographs wanted



We would welcome any photographs to go into the new look Around the green section, so if you're feeling snap happy, contact your Section correspondent...

South East

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



SURREY
Mark Day
mark.day@
tacitgolf.co.uk



KENT
Rob Holland
grassyards@
hotmail.com



SUSSEX
Chris Humphrey
chris@collier-
turfcare.co.uk



EAST ANGLIA
Mick Lathrope
lil.lathrope@
ntlworld.com



ESSEX
Arnold
Phipps-Jones
essexbigga@
talktalk.net

Events Coming Up

Surrey - McMillan Tankard at Sunningdale GC on 12 August.
Course Walk at Sunningdale GC 16 July 2pm with a talk on
Heathland Management by Murray Long. Contact Scott Roberts - 07810
472067 - £10 includes lunch with numbers limited.

Our next open event will be held at Piltdown Golf Club on 1 August
with a 1pm start, with bacon rolls and a meal after with plenty of prizes
for just £15! Please contact Pete Smith if you want to enter or for more
information on 07748776761 or on pds1@btinternet.com

After a successful opening, Corinthians Golf Club (formerly Fawkham
Valley Golf Club) will be hosting a Foot Golf event in mid to late July.
Date to be confirmed but will be followed by barbecue and beverages at
Redlibbits Golf Club next door. Date will be sent out via e-mail and text
and will also to be found on website and Facebook page.

News

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

Sussex - A good turnout of 27 for the Sussex section's spring
competition and national championship qualifier at the Dyke Golf Club.
Although a challenging wind was blowing a good day was had by all
on a wonderfully presented and maintained course, congratulations
and sincere thanks go to Rob Hudson and his team. Also thanks to
Jim Croxton for taking time away from the BMW PGA at Wentworth to
come along and introduce himself to our section. His attendance was
appreciated and his company was far better than his golf! He will, from
now on, always be known as "Just Jim" (pause) "on days like this!"

Movers & Shakers

Surrey - Graeme Roberts has been appointed the new Deputy Head
Greenkeeper at Tandridge GC.

Results

Sussex - Spring comp and National Qualifier; Division 1 nearest the
pin, nobody! With notable praise to Pete Smith for showing the Division 1
boys how its done! Nearest the pin in Division 2; Jon Cole (JSM); Nearest
the pin in 2; Chris Wells (Seaford); Longest drive Jim Russell (Grass Roots)

Division 1 winner; Glynn Pollard (Beauport) Nett 72; 2 Dave
Allen 74 (Pyecombe); 3 Chris Wells 76 (Seaford). Glynn
and Dave also won a place at the National championships.
Division 2 winner; Pete Smith (Birch Grove) 38pts; 2 Rob
Hudson 36 (Dyke); 3 Matt Hutchinson 34 (Hassocks). Pete
Smith will also go on to represent the section at the National.

Thanks to Sponsors

Surrey - Winchester Garden Machinery for the Surrey
Bowl.

Sussex - Thanks to all our sponsors of the Spring comp
who allowed us to put on a fine day for just £10 a head.

New South East Members

Kevin Francis, Greenkeeper, Lamberhurst Golf Club
Jamie Harman, Assistant Greenkeeper, Hankley Common GC
Simon Holland, Greenkeeper, Hankley Common Golf Club
James Waitt, Greenkeeper, Lingfield Park Golf Club
Zach Halsey, Greenkeeper, Lingfield Park Golf Club
Alfie Harrison, Assistant Greenkeeper, Playgolf Northwick Park
Robert Sutton, Greenkeeper, St Clements Golf Club
Nicholas Chase, Assistant Greenkeeper, RAF Marham GC
Alex Foreman, Affiliate Member, P Tuckwell Limited
Aaron Fitt, Greenkeeper, Bay View Golf Course
Nicholas Howes, Greenkeeper, RAF Marham Golf Club
Raymond Ward, William Watkins, Ben Morris, Chris
Pendry, Dan Martin, David Scott, David Bass, Jack Upton,
James Grimes, Nathan Wolfe, Student, James Goss,
Richard Larkin, Dan Clark, Daniel Burland - Hadlow College
Shaun Humphrey, Assistant Greenkeeper, Cowdray Park GC
Bradley Dalton, Affiliate Member, SX Building Specialist Ltd
Richard Warlands, Greenkeeper, East Brighton Golf Club
Lucas Pierre, Greenkeeper, Sunningdale Golf Club

A new look Around the green

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



South West & Wales

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



SOUTH WEST –
Jaey Goodchild
j.goodchild@bowood.org



SOUTH COAST –
Tony Gadd
greenkeeperbosgc@gmail.com



DEVON & CORNWALL
George Pitts
gpitts@yelvertongolf.co.uk



SOUTH WALES
Peter Holmstrom
pholmstrom@countrywidefarmers.co.uk

Events Coming Up

South Coast - Forthcoming events Army GC 4 July. Match v S West at N Wilts GC on 26 September. Autumn Tournament at Meon Valley GC on 9 October and our Christmas Turkey trot is at Weybrook Park on 10 December. As always let Tony Gadd know if you are available to play in the match.

News from the committee, we are planning a separate venue and mini seminar for the AGM away from a golf event. This will be in early November, the venue and speakers to be confirmed.

South Wales – Patrons Cup 4 July Radyr GC 1pm tee off. 2.30pm course walk with Julian the Head GK. All to sit down for a meal afterwards jacket and tie required - all paid for as a goodwill gesture by our patrons. The first two will be entered into the BIGGA National Championship.

28 July match at Borth and Ynyslas GC teams to be picked by match captain and last year's winners.

South West - SW Section v Welsh at Chipping Sodbury Golf Club on 15 August. SW Section v South Coast Section at North Wilts GC on 26 September. Enquiries to Wayne Vincent. Paul Worster is organising an update session for excavator licencing, please see the BIGGA Bulletin Boards for further details.

News

Devon & Cornwall - Last event was at The Point at Polzeath, North Cornwall. Superb weather added to a great day. The course was in great condition, thanks to Tom Collings (Head Greenkeeper) and his team. Winning the Golf was one of the team, Mike Ellis who will go on to represent the Section at the National Championships. Thank you to all involved.

South Coast - The annual match against the secretaries was held at Ashley Wood GC where we were again triumphant with a 3 to 2 win. Thanks to Ashley Wood for hosting the day and a particular thanks to Mark Sharwood and his team for presenting the course in excellent condition. Results of the Summer tournament will be in the next issue.

We are again sponsoring a place to BTME, this is open for anyone to be nominated. Send your nominations along with merit and reasons to Alex McCombie at southcoastsecretary@gmail.com This can be anyone so put your thinking caps on! Finally, I had the pleasure of playing in the Basingstoke Bowl in early June, a truly great day, well done Colin and his team the course was at its best.

South Wales - Congratulations to Ian Kinley and his staff at Royal Porthcawl GC on hosting the fantastic Speedy Wales Seniors Open. The event was a huge success just a shame Ian Woosnam couldn't hold on for a home victory.

Following our Summer Tournament at Kingsdown Golf Club on 12 June in weather conditions that truly sorted the men from the boys our Section representatives for the National Tournament in October have been selected. Net winner was Lee Whyte from Bowood GC and gross winner was Paul Garland from Lansdowne GC, well done men and good luck at Frilford Heath. Mention must be made of second place net Darren Moxham and second place gross Tim Morgan.

Welcome to new section member James Carash who joins us from Cricklade Hotel Golf Club.

Movers and Shakers

Devon & Cornwall - At Polzeath, a presentation was made to Jane Jones (Regional Administrator) in recognition for all the work she has done for the Region and for the Section. Accommodation, a meal and golf at St Mellion has been arranged for Jane along with some gifts on the day. On behalf of the Section, I would just like to thank Jane for all the work she has done. She is most fondly thought of by the Section and will be greatly missed. Thanks Jane and best wishes for the future, we look forward to catching up with you.

Thanks to Sponsors

Devon & Cornwall – Thank you to Everris and Reel Grinidng South West for sponsoring the event at The Point; **South Coast** – Thanks to Course Care for their ongoing support of the annual match against the secretaries; **South Wales** – Many thanks to all our section's patrons: Countrywide, Farmura, Rigby Taylor, Sports Metals, Powercut, Ted Hopkins, Avoncrop, Inscapes, David Evans, Complete Weed Control, Divot Bag and Osprey; **South West** - Many thanks to all of our section patrons and HQ who contributed to a fantastic prize pool for the Summer Tournament's participants.

New South West & Wales Members

Mark Jarrett, Greenkeeper, Teignmouth Golf Club
Philip Jonas, Greenkeeper, Newport (Pembs) Golf Club
Kevin Wilkins, Greenkeeper, Hilton Puckrup Hall Golf Club
James Morgans, Greenkeeper, Southerndown Golf Club
Paul Errington, Affiliate Member, Groundscare Products
Daniel Hardy, Deputy Course Manager, Cams Hall Estate Golf Club
Dominic Gibbard, Greenkeeper, Trethorne Golf Club
Jack Hodge, Assistant Greenkeeper, Old Thorns Manor Hotel Golf & Country Estate; Lee Mitchell, Greenkeeper, Milton Abbey School
Oliver Tanton, Assistant Greenkeeper, Royal North Devon Golf Club
Stephen Thorne, Greenkeeper, Rushmore Golf Club
Dan Ritchie, Assistant Greenkeeper, Gosport & Stokes Bay Golf Club

New International Members

Kevin-John O'Riordan, Brian O'Tuama, Mark Holland, Paul Desmond Coen, Sean Kingston, Kevin Kelly, Conor Clancy, Darren Walsh, Michael O'Dwyer, Adam Phelan, Steven O'Leary, Francesco Sau, Colin Sheehan, Dwane Martin, Paul Collins, Shane Horgan, John Joe O'Connor, Alan Furness – all students at Colaiste Stiofain Naofa in the Republic of Ireland; Mark Fuller, International Member, The Connecticut Golf Club, USA; Ray Dufty, Affiliate Member, Tru-Turf Equipment, Australia