

self-deprecating to name them, did not.

The semi-finalists in the Surrey Bowl are Gareth Roberts and Paul Bacon v Ron Christie and Roger Tydeman and Gary Ogilvie and Neil Gilham v David Worsfold and Jamie McEnroy.

I had thought that this last paragraph ought to contain a list of my birthday presents and friends and family who sent cards, but so much excitement in one edition could be too much for our more senior members to take, so I'll just say goodbye until next month.

Brian Willmott



## Essex

It's 10 years since we last played at Burnham-on-Crouch Golf Club and what a difference it was. Last time we experienced every weather condition that could be thrown at us and this time the Gods were kind. The sun shone and the winds stayed moderate, which was lucky as Burnham is on the banks of the River Crouch with open plains to the west and south so when it blows, it BLOWS.

The Course was in fantastic condition, the 36 plus starters enjoyed a great day's golf. No hold-ups and around in just over the four hours. Praise must go to Course Manager, Robert Coughlan, and his team for the condition, consistent pace on the greens and a well-manicured course, trouble if you were wild and forgiving if you weren't.

Scores were interesting but the best didn't disgrace themselves.

Overall winner of the Summer Trophy. Plus entrance to the BIGGA National Championship was Sam Cook, Colchester Golf Club; he joins Adam Millward and Mark Stopps on the Essex Team with one more to join them from the "Essex Trophy" this month.

Div 1. 1. Antony Kirwan, Lexden Wood GC, 37 pts. 2. Tom Smith, Colne Valley GC, 33 pts. Div 2. 1. Martin Forrester, The Essex G&CC, 41 pts; 2. Ian Wood, Romford GC 32, pts. Guest Prize, Paul Holloway, 39 pts. Trade Prize, Andy Turbin, 39 pts. Nearest the Pin. Simon

Cairns. Longest Drive: Antony Kirwan.

Thanks must go to the members of Burnham-on-Crouch Golf Club for allowing us to play their course, to the catering staff for feeding us so well and to Andy Turbin (committee member at Burnham and trade sponsor of our section) for presenting the prizes. I would like to thank all those trade members who supplied the prizes for the raffle table and to all those members that joined us on the day, helping to make it one of the best events we've had for a long time.

The Essex Captains v Greenkeepers match at Romford Golf Club, July 7 was badly affected by rain and thunder, most managed nine holes but that was about it. Ian Wood, Course Manager at Romford, reports that the weather conditions only allowed a certain amount of play over the day. The results are as follows:-

Holes 1-9 Captains: Alan Levet & Phil Wilson, Bentley Golf Club, 25 pts. Holes 1-9 Greenkeepers: Andy Cracknell & Michael Bartlett, Orsett Golf Club, 21 pts. Holes 10-18 Captains: James Robinson & Sam Smith, Gosfield Lake GC, 24 pts. Holes 10-18 Greenkeepers: Richard Dunmow & Malcolm Smith, Channels GC, 20 pts. Nearest the Pin: 6th Hole, Richard Hare, GK, Abridge Golf Club. Nearest the Pin: 17th Hole, John Wheelhouse, Captain, Channels Golf Club.

John Smith, Essex Captain's Captain welcomed all the players and presented the prizes, he thanked the club and staff for their hard work and which regrettably was slightly spoilt by the weather. The Captains won 13-7 on the day.

I will not be able to give an account of the "Essex Trophy" which is to be held at Canons Brook Golf Club, Wednesday, August 19 until September's edition of this magazine. If you have not yet entered there is still just time to get in, I hope to see you there. As I stated last month we have re-named this event.

That's all for this time. Holidays and work are keeping us all busy and not much news is coming my way.

If you do have any news for the website or for GK International please contact me on 07764-862.337 or via e-mail [essexbigga@talktalk.net](mailto:essexbigga@talktalk.net)

Arnold Phipps-Jones  
Press Officer



**John Pemberton**  
Chief Executive

**It's hard to believe that we are into September already and planning for Harrogate Week is starting to dominate time in the office. The education programme goes to print this month and will be available both in hard copy and on-line in a couple of weeks time.**

Keep an eye on [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk) for full details or follow the link at the top of the BIGGA web site Home Page. While bookings from exhibitors are reasonably good for this time of the year there is no doubt that the downturn in the economy has taken its toll. It is noticeable that there are a number of regular exhibitors that have not rebooked due to cash flow problems and that have opted to wait and see how things go this summer before committing. This is, of course, of concern, however, traditionally we have always had a flurry of bookings after SALTEX and through into December. The sales team is working hard to try to ensure that this happens again this year as well as exploring new avenues.

There is no doubt that exhibitions generally are under threat and I have heard of several around the country that have been cancelled this year, I'm sure that members will be aware of some of these.

Harrogate Week is not only a vital source of revenue for the Association but also the best opportunity, arguably in Europe, for members and their peers to meet suppliers, access bespoke education and to network within the sports turf industry. More and more companies are having their budgets either cut or frozen and so are therefore looking closely at how they spend their money. There are a number of publications within the industry, all competing, and some often almost giving advertising away to fill pages. BIGGA's advertising revenue in Greenkeeper International and on the web has suffered in no small way and as I have reported previously we have reduced staffing levels at Headquarters by three as a direct consequence. All I ask is that you support your association that is there to support you.

With that in mind we are rapidly approaching the time of year when Sections hold their AGM's and often elect new committee members. I know that it is very difficult to balance work, home and outside interests but please try to give some of your time to your Section, even if it is not on a regular basis. A small amount of help will ease the burden that all too often in some Sections rests with one or two people. The age-old adage of 'a job shared is a job halved' has never been more appropriate. Headquarters staff are on hand to back up the Sections and this can be called upon direct or through the Regional Administrators.

I believe that BIGGA has achieved a great deal since 1987 and has a lot to look forward to, but its ongoing success rests in the hands of its members, who are its best ambassadors and its best recruitment officers. Please do your best to keep BIGGA at the forefront of the sports turf industry.

**John Pemberton**  
Chief Executive



# Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

## BIGGA Policy on Courtesy Golf Open Support Team

Over the last few months the membership department have received telephone calls from members and golf clubs enquiring about the use of courtesy golf.

The guidelines below are to clear up any confusion among BIGGA members and golf clubs. We are aware the majority of members do behave sensibly when seeking courtesy golf.

### Guidelines

- Only those with full membership should seek courtesy golf.
- Courtesy golf is only given at the discretion of the individual golf club and is not an automatic benefit of membership.
- Members wishing to seek courtesy golf at a club should contact the club at least 24 hours in advance of wishing to play.
- On arrival at the club, members should report to the Secretary/Pro Shop and follow normal procedures for playing golf.
- Members should always produce a valid membership card as proof of status to the club.
- Members should make a point of thanking the club for their courtesy on completion of their round of golf.
- Members should not seek courtesy golf at any one golf club more than twice per year.

Golf Clubs wishing to verify membership or requiring further details should contact the Membership Department directly.

All suspected abuses of the card should be reported immediately to BIGGA headquarters where such complaints will be investigated and appropriate action taken.

Well done to all those who were part of the Open Support Team at Turnberry in July. As always, the team assisted the home greenkeeping staff in their usual professional supportive way.

Being part of the Open Support Team is one of the great benefits of being a full member of BIGGA, as Richard Saunders, Course Manager at Mowsbury Golf Club, Huntingdon found out:

"To be a member of the Open Support Team is an honour and a privilege.....as a member of the team we get to see behind the scenes as it were – with the staff out on the course early in the morning and late at night – the side the public doesn't see.....I just hope I am lucky enough to be selected to be a member of the team in future years".

### BIGGA Membership Benefit of the month - Telephone Debt Advice Helpline

Managing money well is sometimes overlooked in the pressures of our daily lives.

Full Members of BIGGA can now talk about any financial concerns or worries through the Arc Legal 24/7 Debt Advice Helpline.

Expert confidential help is at hand through their trained independent counsellors ready to assist with counselling, support, advice and help.

If your debt is complicated the counsellor can also direct your call to specialist debt experts who will talk through the stages of prioritising the debts and steps to resolution.

Importantly once you are managing your money concerns the support of the counsellors is available 24/7 to help you find better ways to control future spending and deal with money related issues.

Call the Debt Advice Helpline on 0800 174 319 24 hours a day 7 days a week 365 days of the year, have your membership number to hand.



### Contact Details

Tracey Maddison  
traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk

Brad Anderson  
brad@bigga.co.uk

Tel: 01347 833800  
(option 1 for Membership)

### Regional Administrators



Peter Boyd Peter Larter



Clive Osgood Jane Jones

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Mobile: 07841 948110  
janejones1@btconnect.com

### OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

(Full Members only)

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**Greenkeepers Legal Assistance**  
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**Greenkeepers Support Services**  
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**Debt Counselling Helpline**  
0800 174319



**BIGGA**  
welcomes the  
following new  
members

### Scottish Region

Craig MacEachen, Ayrshire

### Northern Region

Matthew Eastwood, Northern  
Brendan Hardman, North West  
Stuart Murphy, North Wales  
Neil Myatt, North West  
Barry Parsons, North East  
Alexander Vaughan, North West  
Rob Wells, North West

### Midland Region

Paul Allen, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Philip Bennett, Midland  
Joe Drummond, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Dayl Foley, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Stuart Job, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Lee Knight, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Edward Lewis, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Ben Rees, Mid Anglia  
James Royle, Mid Anglia  
Christopher Slimm, Berks/Bucks & Oxon  
Maks Wyard, Midland

### South East Region

Clifford Anderson, Kent  
Craig Batts, Surrey  
Adam Constable, Surrey  
Paul Curtis, East Anglia  
Stan Harrison, London  
Paul Holloway, Essex  
Nicholas Kikkides, Essex  
Mark Logan, Surrey  
Fabien Maisonnay, Surrey  
Ryan Marangoni, Surrey  
Philip Mayes, Surrey  
James Morton, Essex  
Neil Pareira, London  
Mark Severn, Essex  
Chris Smith, Surrey

### South West / South Wales Region

Christopher Allen, South West  
Gerald Clements, South West  
Laurence Davis, South West  
Matt Hubball, South West  
Matthew James, South West  
Ryan Marshall, South West

### Northern Ireland

Jonathan Hutchinson, Northern Ireland

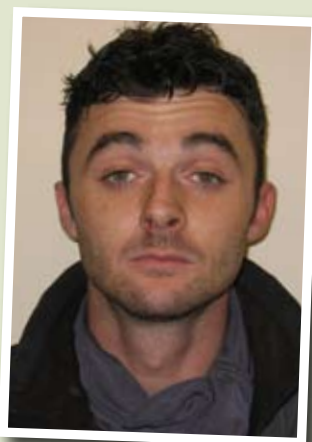
### Overseas

Tom Stephen, Canada  
Graham Johns, Sweden

# Assistant Profile

Each month we take a light hearted look into the life of an assistant greenkeeper...

Michael McLerie, follower of both AC Milan and Celtic football teams, is the subject of this month's interrogation...



**Name:** Michael McLerie  
**Age:** 27  
**Golf Club:** Haggs Castle  
**Position:** First Assistant  
**Nickname:** Mick

**How long have you been greenkeeping?**  
10 years.

**What was it about the career that attracted you?**  
My uncle was a greenkeeper and that gave me my first taste of greenkeeping. I play golf and enjoy the outdoors.

**If you weren't a greenkeeper what would you be?**  
College lecturer in greenkeeping.

**Which task do you enjoy and why?**  
Preparing the course for a tournament, because it gives you a lift to see the course at it's best.

**Which task do you least enjoy doing and why?**  
Although necessary, I hate the mess of greasing machinery.

**What one thing other than a pay rise would improve the greenkeepers lot?**  
That greenkeeping technology continues to improve, leading to better machinery for the greenstaff and playing conditions for the golfer.

**Hobbies?**  
Golf, online gaming, reading, music.

**Favourite Band?**  
The Beatles

**Which team do you support?**  
Celtic and AC Milan

**What is your claim to fame?**  
Meeting and shaking Billy McNeil's hand.

# What's your number?

Our regular and random profile of an industry figure continues with this month's lucky number...

**Duncan Bagshaw of Nomow Golf comes under the spotlight**

**What is your position within the company?**  
Nomow Golf - National Sales Manager

**How long have you been in the industry?**  
I've been involved with golf for over 20 years, but Nomow has only just jumped into the market, we're Europe's largest installer of artificial grass.

**How did you get into it?**  
I've been a specialist short game teacher for a few years, but wanted to get back into a business environment.

**What other jobs have you done?**  
Golf Professional, Housemaster, Youth & Drugs worker for The Princes Trust, Business Development Manager.

**What do you like about your current job?**  
Working with genuine people and so far the industry seems full of them.

**What changes have you seen during your time in the industry?**  
In golf it has been the big headed drivers and development of the golf ball which "should" have made it easier for everybody

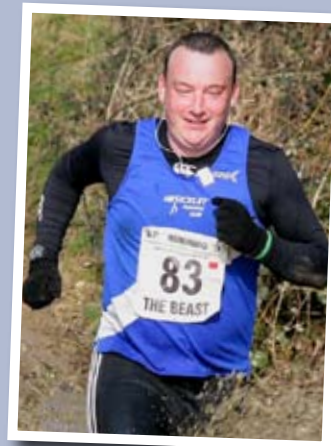
**What do you like to do in your spare time?**  
All sports, but my main enjoyment now comes from raising money for cancer charities through running. I'm currently training to run three marathons in three days in three countries!

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?**  
Coaching Scotland to Rugby Union success or getting ready to caddie for my son when he turns pro at 15.

**Who do you consider to be your best friends in the industry?**  
Difficult to say because everybody so far has been extremely helpful, but obviously Scott and Kirstin of BIGGA.

**What do you consider to be your lucky number?**  
3. It's a magic number

*Duncan has chosen Richard Fry, of Greenlink.*

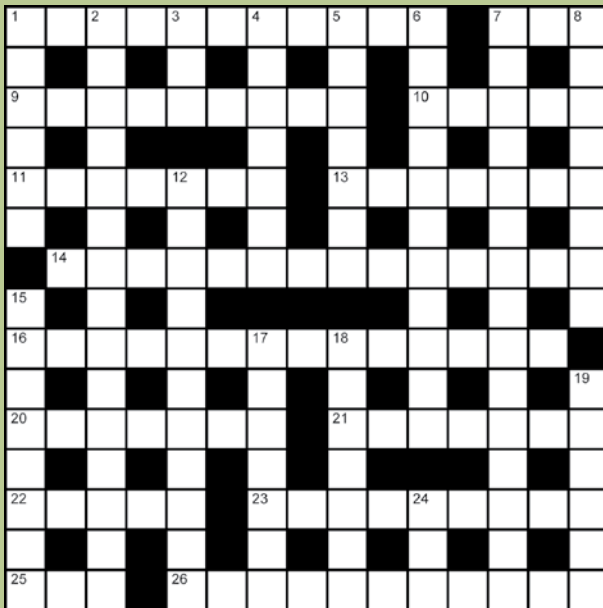




# in the shed

Our monthly puzzle page to keep you entertained when you're forced indoors..

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

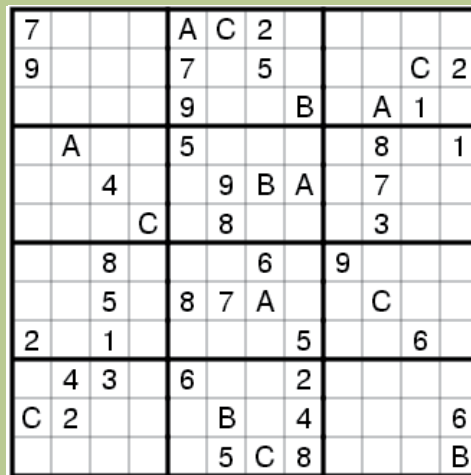
- 1 International yachting regatta last held in 2003 (8,3)
- 7 Prevent from speaking (3)
- 9 US comic actor who played Coach Calhoun in the Grease films (3,6)
- 10 From that time (5)
- 11 Snow sport transport (3-4)
- 13 Greek letter, equivalent of O (7)
- 14 Composition by George Gershwin - anagram of PRUDISH BALONEY (8,2,4)
- 16 Fictional detective whose brother is called Mycroft (8,6)
- 20 Put into practice (7)
- 21 Star Trek craft captained by Kathryn Janeway (7)
- 22 Diacritical mark used to indicate short vowel sound (5)
- 23 Strips of timber typically used in N American house construction (9)
- 25 The band famous for "There She Goes" (3)
- 26 US national park located primarily in Wyoming (11)

### DOWN

- 1 Help, be of service (6)
- 2 1978 Alan Parker film whose title is prison slang for an attempted escape (8,7)
- 3 Traditional Scandinavian rug (3)
- 4 Kingdom surrounded entirely by the Republic of South Africa (7)
- 5 Hasty, perfunctory (7)
- 6 Traditional Lent performance (7,4)
- 7 Argentine battleship sunk during the Falklands conflict (7,8)
- 8 Channel Island whose capital is St Peter Port (8)
- 12 Without caution (11)
- 15 City whose soccer teams include Galatasaray and Fenerbahce (8)
- 17 Supplement to a will (7)
- 18 Willing to try (often, to prevent a crime as it is committed) (4-1-2)
- 19 Upper part of the nose (6)
- 24 Form of public transport (3)

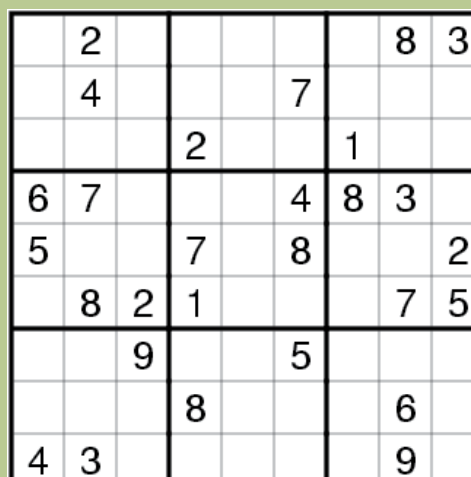
## QUICK 'NINE HOLE' QUIZ

1. Tiger Wood's won the Bridgestone Invitational to bring up a significant number of wins on the PGA Tour. Was it 50, 60 or 70?
2. In the days of the old football stadia - who played at Roker Park, Highfield Road and Muirton Park?
3. Which World Heavyweight Champion had an unbeaten record of 49 wins?
4. Which was the last club Fabio Capello managed before joining England?
5. Who holds the record for the most successful consecutive kicks in international rugby union?
6. Which two sports have been recommended to become Olympic Sports in 2016?
7. Which of these courses has not hosted an Open Golf Championship - Musselburgh; Royal Portrush; Royal Dornoch or Prestwick?
8. Who are England's leading Test Cricket run scorer and wicket taker?
9. Name Britain's last five Formula 1 World Champions.



## MONSTER SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 4x4 box contains the numbers 0 to 9 and the letters A to E.



## SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 9 box shape contains the numbers 1 to 9.

**Puzzle Answers on page 61**

# Harrogate week

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