



## Essex

Another month has passed us by and yet again a change in the weather.

Antony Kirwan and I travelled down to Royal St George's to join the Open Championship Support Team in the middle of July. A five day trip of long, hard, wet and warm very enjoyable days. Antony was lucky enough to get a round with the overall winner Darren Clarke, plus sample the delights of an early morning out on the course with the course staff doing the normal pre-completion course preparation. Both of us had a fantastic time, met new friends, renewed old acquaintances and learnt a lot. We would both recommend the experience to anyone who has the time to spare.

I am sorry to have to report that our Secretary, Dominic Rodgers, has decided to resign from the position; the committee accepted his resignation at the last committee meeting held in July and have written and thanked him for all he has done for the Section, over the past couple of years.

At that meeting we discussed the forthcoming Regional Conference being held by our Section in November. We have written to a number of speakers and await the outcome of these preliminary enquiries. I hope to be able to make an announcement in next month's magazine of the full itinerary.

The Summer Trophy at Chelmsford will have passed when you read this but don't forget to enter the next event at Langdon Hills Golf & Country Club. Thursday, September 29. It is our Autumn Trophy.

Entries to Andy Cracknell please by Sunday, September 25.

Sorry it's short and sweet this month but there is not that much to report.

If you have anything for inclusion in Greenkeeper International or on the Section's Website [www.essexbigga.co.uk](http://www.essexbigga.co.uk) please contact me on 07764-862.337 or at [essexbigga@talktalk.net](mailto:essexbigga@talktalk.net) Arnold Phipps-Jones



## Kent

I must start this report by giving full plaudits to the fantastic work done by all who staged a fantastic Open Championship in our fair county in July. The course was applauded by everybody, including the players, and proved that the whole Open experience is one we should all be proud of. As for the eventual winner, I think the whole world would salute Darren Clarke for overcoming the adversity he went through in recent years to triumph in an emotionally charged championship.

I would like to add some notes from Steve Thompson, of Bearsted Golf Club, who was one of the many gallant volunteers for the event.

I thought I would drop you a few lines regarding my experiences at the Open. This was the first time that I had done any match raking and I enjoyed it immensely. I found the whole experience absolutely awesome, from meeting all the other greenkeepers on the Support Team, to being between the ropes with some of the world's top golf professionals.

Thursday - I raked two bunkers for Graeme McDowell, Jason Day, and Bubba Watson.

Friday - I helped my Pod prepare the bunkers for the day's play. Later I raked eight bunkers for Charley Hoffman, Gregory Havret, and Markus Brier. Saturday - I raked three bunkers for Steve Stricker and Webb Simpson. Sunday - Unfortunately, I didn't get selected to match rake on the final day.

My greatest memory was following Graeme McDowell's group between the three grandstands at the 18th green and hearing the thunderous applause. Seeing the sunrise over the empty grandstands early on Friday morning will also stick in my mind.

I'd like to thank - Scott MacCallum, Rachael Duffy and everyone at BIGGA for allowing me such a fantastic opportunity, Graham Royden and the greenkeeping team at Royal St. George's, and all the members

of the BIGGA Open Support Team, especially Billy McMillan and the rest of the Green Pod.

Steve Thompson, Bearsted Golf Club.

Lastly, please don't forget our next event at Sittingbourne GC on September 26. Please see website for all the details. We shall also be playing the final of our Pairs' Knockout competition on the day. Well done to all who played in this event in its inaugural year for making it such fun and well done to our finalists.

Please feel free to drop me a line with any news, views or comments as usual. Hope to see as many of you as possible at Sittingbourne.

Rob Holland  
[grassyars@hotmail.com](mailto:grassyars@hotmail.com)  
[www.kentgreenkeepers.com](http://www.kentgreenkeepers.com)



## Surrey

Gavin Kyle, yes the good looking and now lucky one from Knoll Park GC, has won a new set of golf clubs, bag, new putter of his choice and full custom fitting in a competition on some obscure radio station answering questions on golf. His old set of clubs are to be sold on 'E Bay' with a reserve price of £5 and his application to join 'Mensa' is in the post.

Dave Johnson, Head Greenkeeper at New Zealand GC, is well known to most Surrey members for he has worked there, man and boy, for the past 37 years. I understand that he has decided to take early retirement from the club but will still continue to live locally and offer his gardening and other skills to the residents of West Byfleet and surrounds. Good luck and a long and happy semi-retirement from us all.

Brian Turner arrived here 65 years ago plus 1 day. As an OAP, he will receive in this short paragraph only the respect that he and other OAPs in this era deserve. They are collectively called the 'baby-boomers' and have lived with ration cards, Muffin the Mule, the Cold War, the three day week, Mrs Thatcher, the onset of mobile phones the size of suitcases - and Tiger Woods.

## Assistant Profile

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



**Name:** Sam Evans  
**Age:** 22  
**Club:** Heythrop Park Resort  
**Position:** Assistant  
**Nickname:** Sambo

**1. How long have you been greenkeeping?**  
Three years

**2. What was it about the career that attracted you?**  
Job satisfaction

**3. If you weren't a greenkeeper what do you think you'd be?**  
Cider Connoisseur

**4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why?**  
Topdressing by hand because it is hard work

**5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why?**  
Rough mowing because it is boring

**6. What one thing - other than a pay rise - would improve the greenkeepers' lot?**  
More courses and further education

**7. Hobbies?**  
Cricket, Fishing and Rugby

**8. Favourite Band?**  
The Overtones

**9. Which team do you support (football or otherwise)?**  
Swindon Town FC.

**10. What is your claim to fame?**  
Chatting to Rob Andrew and Sean Fitzpatrick on the 8th tee, regarding their shots, club selection and the course in general.

## BIGGA welcomes the following new members

### Scotland

Timothy Leitch, North Section  
Paul Livingstone, West Section  
Kenny Nisbet, Ayrshire Section  
Stewart Smith, West Section  
Scott Wells, Central Section

### Northern Region

Simon Smith, North Wales Section  
Kevin Wright, Cleveland Section

### Midland Region

Stuart Aho, Mid Anglia Section  
David Ball, Mid Anglia Section  
Antony Calvert, Berks/Bucks & Oxon Section  
Claire Matthewman, Midland Section  
John Ratcliffe, East Midland Section  
Gary Wood, Midland Section  
Jackson Woolley, Berks/Bucks & Oxon Section

### South East Region

Phillip Beeny, Surrey Section  
Tony Greenwood, Kent Section  
Josh Kelly, Sussex Section  
Ben Kemp, Kent Section  
Matthew Kemp, Kent Section  
Matt King, Surrey Section  
Adam Mortimer, Surrey Section  
Roy Willis, Kent Section

### South West/South Wales Region

Sam Ampleford, South Coast Section  
Martin Coleman, South West Section  
John Ray, South Coast Section  
Mark Young, South Wales Section

### N Ireland

Phillip Snellin, Northern Ireland

**For more information on new members log in to the Members' Area of the BIGGA Website.**

## BIGGA Regional Conferences

### Northern

29th November 2011,  
**Cookridge Hall Golf Club**

30th November 2011,  
**Birchwood Golf Club**  
Contact Peter Larter, RA,  
01476 550115

### South East

16 November 2011, **Stock Brook Manor Golf Club, Essex**

Contact Clive Osgood, RA,  
01737 819343

**South West & South East**  
17 November 2011, **Oaktree Arena, Highbridge, Somerset**

Contact Jane Jones, RA,  
01454 270850

### Scotland

6 March 2012, **Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline**

Contact Peter Boyd, RA,  
0141 616 3440

Brian's career started, some say at 7, in the coal-mines but his deputy and now successor, Paul Robinson, assures me that it was at Sunningdale GC, followed by a disliked stint in the insurance industry, then Wentworth GC, Worplesdon GC, then Sunningdale again before returning to Worplesdon in 2005.

Brian has won many amateur trophies in his golfing career, has played off plus 1 and who knows, if he puts in enough practice in retirement, may return to that level of excellence. Worplesdon GC gave him a grand send-off recently with a BBQ attended by some 120 members and friends. He and wife, Doreen, will be moving to their new home down in the New Forest, at New Milton, and will both be playing golf as members of Barton on Sea GC.

I have myself reached that time in life when the State will repay money that I have lent to them over the past 49 years in the way of an old age pension. This, although gratefully received, will not keep me in the style of life to which I have become accustomed and so, if you are the recipient of a message from yours truly, please do not treat it as junk mail. Read carefully, follow the instructions and leave cash only please in the specified hiding place for my later collection. Doing this will mean that you will still be able to enjoy reading every month, in this exceptional journal, stories of my travels to far away places with "her indoors".

Since my last jottings, Darren Clarke has won The Open at Royal St George's, Simon Dyson did likewise in the Irish Open and Russ Cochran won the Senior's Open at Walton Heath, but it will be next month when I will report the winner of the McMillan Tankard at Sunningdale GC. My prediction is that with my vastly increased clubhead speed, slow backswing, hours of practice and my repaired electric trolley, the Tankard will not be won by me but by someone with the same qualities that have made both Dougie Fernie and Paul Weston the great players that they are. They will be my playing partners at Sunningdale so that I can report first hand if we manage to get all the way round.

Let me know of any news tidbits that you would like to contribute to this article. Brian Willmott 07879474038 email brian.willmott@hotmail.co.uk



### London

Summer is flying by at a rate of knots and August renovations have been and gone for some of us. Those fortunate enough to carry out their renovations first week in August were blessed with ten days of sunshine, before renovations and a nice 11mm of rain at the end of renovation week to settle all the dressing down. I have never carried out renovations this early before and was amazed at the rate of recovery. Many things to get through this month for a pleasant change, so I will get straight on with it.

Congratulations to our London Section Chairman, Aaron Percival, on his new appointment at Stokley Pines. All the best in your new venture. Lee Cox, at Muswell Hill Golf Club, has just got engaged, I am sure that there are many happy times ahead for him. Congratulations to Kevin O'Neill, Deputy at Muswell Hill, whose better half has just given birth to a new baby boy. With four out of seven staff at Muswell Hill all with little ones on the way over the next few months there will be plenty to talk about in the mess room I am sure, that's if they're not all fast asleep.

The summer meeting at Finchley Golf Club has just been played and all players were most impressed by the condition, particularly the greens. Thank you to Finchley for hosting our summer tournament and Craig and his green staff for their hard work in presenting the course. Thank you to Mark Day, and Tacit, for sponsoring the day and putting up some great prizes, also thanks to Johnny Beck, of Sherriff Amenity, for keeping us fed and watered half way around. So to the winners. 3. Lee Cox 34 pts; 2. Kane Stone, 34 pts; 1. Finchley Golf Club's very own Ben Williamson, 37 pts. Trade. Mark Ellis, 34 pts. Well done and I hope you enjoying your wine. That's it for this month; enjoy the last of the sun while it's here.

Any queries, questions, feedback or information for the column please email:

adammccoll@hotmail.com  
Adam McColl

## South East Region



### South West

When it was said "Golf. A good walk spoiled", they clearly didn't walk around Royal St George's during the 2011 Open....I did, and it was remarkable! Being part of BIGGA's Support Team, was again a great experience. I don't want to bore many of you with stories from The Open. Firstly, you would have read all about it as you've flicked through this month's magazine and secondly I'm sure many of you were glued to the TV watching it for yourself in any case. While I was away at The Open, I made many new friends....You guys know who you are (I would consider it unfair advantage to comment about you in this article), but honestly, thanks to everyone who made it such a fantastic week!

I feel that this is the perfect opportunity to remind you all of our fixture at Cotswold Hill GC, in October. This year we visit Cotswold Hills for our AGM. Your attendance would be very important if you would like to have your say within our Section. It's your chance to stand up and say what you would like to happen.

With the football season just moments away (or has it already started....?) you wouldn't believe how excited I am. Don't get me wrong, I love the summer and having some time away from the game, but now that it's back, I am very much in love again!

I would like to thank our patronage partners for all of their support for 2011, Ecosol, Irritech Ltd, Countrywide, British Seed House, Headland, Avoncrop and Martyn Lane Golf Signs, Your support is very much appreciated by the whole Section.

Remember that we also have our own South West Section Facebook page, proving to be very useful, only for it grow as more of you become involved. If you are not a member of the page, its time you were, ask for the link and I'll happily forward it to you.

See you all very soon,  
adam.l.matthews@hotmail.co.uk  
07732503855



## South Wales

Our summer tournament this year was held at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club. It was a really good day with 24 golfers playing and 26 eating. We were joined on the day by Club Captain, Tony Cumming, who was very welcoming and our RA, Jane Jones, who toured the course on a buggy with Iain Grant.

The golf course was in great shape thanks to Mark Wilshire and his team so well done to them. The weather was good in the main apart from a few sharp showers. The meal following the golf was first class. Steve Minton, from Tacit, was on hand to present the prizes as follows: 1. Andy Roach, 37pts; 2. Rhys Williams, 34pts; 3. Steve Chappell, 33pts. Best Trade/Guest: Peter Lacey, 31pts. Nearest the Pin: Tony Lafrate. Longest Drive: Ian Kinley

Mr Captain was presented with a BIGGA Tie as a thank you for Wenvoe hosting the event.

Just a quick reminder of our up and coming events the R/T final at Green Meadow which take place on September 16 and a reminder that the Autumn Comp & AGM will be at Trefloyne on October 14.

Our very own Daryl Jones, from Glyn Neath Golf Club, has become their Club Champion. Congratulations from everyone at the Section.

Last, but by no means least, I hope I get to see many of you guys at Saltex this year Sept 6-8. You know where our stand is situated - by the park and main eating area. So if you pop by, I might just get some beers in!

See you soon

Peter Holmstrom and, mainly this month, Steve Chappell.



## South Coast

Hi, all,

It's pouring with rain as I write this which is a perfect excuse for not being outside. Much needed rain, I must add, as it has been

seriously warm over the last few days. My beach hut has welcomed many visitors recently, some of whom even ventured into the water!

Our summer invitation competition was played at Brokenhurst Manor Golf Club. Although the sun didn't shine, the few spots of rain certainly didn't dampen the day. The course was in excellent order and a credit to our tournament organiser, Kevan Glass and his team. Truly faultless. Sponsor for the day was Tacit. Thanks as always to Tim Webb and Brian Wilmott for their support and prizes of some very good wine. The competition was an 18 hole Stableford with  $\frac{3}{4}$  handicap allowance, 60 entrants.

1. Ben Bishop & C. Richards, Paultons Park, 42 pts; 2. Colin Pardey & Sandy Barnett, Sherbourne, 41ps; 3. Derek Cunliffe & James Norris, Blackmore, 40 pts. Nearest the String; Tony Locke. Nearest the Pin; Scott Waddingham.

The annual match against the South West will be played in late August, the results of which will be in next month's mag. Our next competition and AGM is at Waterlooville GC, on October 6. I have heard great reports from people that played there recently so try and support the Section and be there.

Here at Barton it's all happening again, more cliff falling into the sea and plans to move one hole 50 metres inland. Not really a problem, except that it involves moving a green, two tees and all the relevant irrigation pipe work. Meanwhile we are having the silt from one of our ponds removed. A real health and safety nightmare as there are thousands of golf balls in the sludge and, no matter what you say to the members, the sight of free balls is too tempting. So the nice new signs warning of deep mud "Keep Out" are totally ignored.

Lastly, the Section Seminar, cancelled from February, is now to go ahead on October 26, at Milton Abbey School, in Dorset. This is a new venue and should be an excellent educational day out with top notch speakers along with walks around the livestock and school facilities.

Until next month.  
Tony Gadd



**Jim Croxton**  
Chief Executive

**I have recently had the opportunity to attend a couple of BIGGA Regional Board meetings and it has been heartening to discover that so many members are prepared to give up their time to play a part in the Association's governance.**

As a committee based organisation it is vital that information, opinion and debate is channelled effectively from the coal face of the Sections through Regional Boards to the National Board to keep the activities of BIGGA relevant to the needs of the members.

At both of the meetings there was healthy debate on a wide variety of issues, with communication and education being recurring themes. These two tenets are prevalent in what I consider to be one of the key benefits to BIGGA membership - the website Bulletin Boards. Every day members post enquiries and discussion points that are read by hundreds and in nearly every instance the responses are well reasoned and informative and prove helpful to both the original contributor and the many others facing similar issues at their facilities. I am a huge advocate of sharing best practice and the BIGGA Bulletin Boards are a fantastic example of the willingness that practitioners in this industry have to help one another. Access to this massive well of knowledge and experience is a major benefit of BIGGA membership and I would urge anyone who has not ventured in to the member's area of [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk) to do so. In future editions of this magazine we will endeavour to focus on some of the many success stories this forum has produced.

The more public face of our members sharing best practice is the annual gathering in Harrogate for the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition (BTME), registration for 2012 is open so go to [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk) to register now. You will see elsewhere in these pages details of the education programme and, for the first time visitor, how to get there and plan your stay.

BTME is the important event in the calendar for all those in the golf course maintenance industry, we are fortunate that the exhibition continues to be well supported by the manufacturers, suppliers and contractors who value spending time face to face with our membership and many others involved in sports turf care. We as an association need to show them our support by encouraging all of our friends and colleagues in the industry to attend the event.

In the News section earlier you will have read of the outcomes of discussions with the IOG and the AEA over the future of grounds and turf care trade shows. In objectively looking at our own show it was clear that whilst overlap exists with other shows, it is a small part of the overall picture. The discussions were positive and all sides are very comfortable with the outcome which will see BIGGA looking to collaborate with all of the other bodies in the sector as widely as possible. An excellent example is the BIGGA organised educational seminars taking place at the IOG's show - Saltex - this month from which I expect to see greenkeepers and groundsmen alike taking valuable knowledge and information to help them in their day to day working lives.

**Jim Croxton**



# Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

**Well that's August out of the way! Saltex this month then it will be countdown to BTME. Have you registered? If not, you can go and register online now.**

## Register now for BTME 2012

It's that time of year again, time to think about Harrogate Week and if you haven't already, register now. Visit [www.harrogateweek.org](http://www.harrogateweek.org) and click on the 'Register Now!' button.

Put the dates in your diary/smartphone/mobile to remind you, they are 24 – 26 January 2012. See last month's Greenkeeper International, pages 56 and 57 for an insight into what you can expect next year and lookout for the Continue to Learn brochure which will be available next month.

Visit the show next year and help to celebrate 25 years of BIGGA and 100 years of Greenkeeping Associations. The Association has come a very long way since 1987, thanks to the outstanding work of so many of its members, supported by HQ and Regional Administration staff.

Do you want to help BIGGA move forward in the next 25 years? Why not get involved at Section level? Volunteers make invaluable contributions to the Sections, Regions and at National level and play a crucial role in BIGGA's existence.

## Why are volunteers so important?

Volunteers are vital to BIGGA because they:

- Provide added value and enable services to be delivered which might not otherwise be possible;
- Act as a link between the membership, the Region and HQ;
- Bring in new skills and a different perspective; and
- Believe in the service and are great advocates within the BIGGA community.

How do you get involved?

- Make a note of your Section's AGM date and go along and meet fellow members and the Section Committee;



- Express an interest to get involved to a member of the Section Committee;
- Find out what 'job' roles exist on the Section Committee;
- Ask to shadow a current member of the Committee

Be reassured, you don't always need relevant experience. Enthusiasm and having new ideas is key to any role on the Committee.

There will be plenty of people to support you from the Section and Region.

## BIGGA Website – Members' Area

Within the 'vault' that is the Members Area there is a wealth of information available to members of all categories.

Bulletin Board – if you are wanting some technical, educational or just general information why not ask your fellow members?

Recent topics in the 'Talk about Turf' bulletin board include constructing new greens; sleepers for ponds; green speed targets and thatch fungi. Topics in the 'Talking Shop' section include job interviews, overtime and first cut in semi rough amongst others.

Download the BIGGA Field Guides or the EGU Model Course Policy Document, check out information regarding the Working Time Regulations or use the handy Converter Tool. In the Members Area members will be able to locate the "How To..." Guides.

Make sure you access the BIGGA members area on a regular basis to benefit from the services and benefits on offer.

## "How To..." Guides

Do you ever get involved with recruiting, how do you recruit the right staff? Or maybe you are looking at revising or writing a job description or you are in charge of conducting a team briefing or a one-to-one meeting but you are unsure how best to go about undertaking any one of these tasks. Help is at hand!

BIGGA Members can log into the members area and download various "How To..." Guides which will help them tackle topics similar to the above, all are free (thanks to the continuing support of the contributors to the Learning and Development Fund) and available to ALL BIGGA members.



## Contact Details

Tracey Maddison  
[traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk](mailto:traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk)

Tel: 01347 933800  
(option 1 for Membership)

## Regional Offices

### Scotland & Northern Ireland

Peter Boyd  
Tel: 0141 616 3440  
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Peter Boyd Peter Larter



Clive Osgood Jane Jones

## OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

(Full Members only)

Personal Accident Helpline  
02075 603013  
Greenkeepers Legal Assistance  
0800 177 7891  
Greenkeepers Support Services  
0800 174 319  
Debt Counselling Helpline  
0800 174319



# Diary of Events

Details of your Section's forthcoming events in 2011 can be found here...

Date	Event	Venue	Contact
<b>SEPTEMBER 2011</b>			
September 10 and 11	Walker Cup	Balgownie Links of Royal Aberdeen Golf Club	
September 13th	Essex Section Autumn Trophy	Langdon Hills Golf Club	Andy Cracknell at andyckracknell@hotmail.com or Mobile: 07709 347312
September 14th	East Scotland Section Event	Braid Hills Golf Club	Stuart Ferguson at stuferg@btinternet.com or Mobile: 07961 630553
September 14th	Central Section Autumn Outing	Kingsbarns Golf Links	Gordon Moir at gordonmoir@standrews.org.uk or Mobile: 07850 139799
September 14th	East of England Section Event	Gainsborough Golf Club	Bruce Hicks at brucehicks1@gmail.com or Mobile: 07931 714922
September 15th	West Scotland Section Event	Williamwood Golf Club	Gavin Jarvis at jarvisgav@aol.com or Mobile: 07725 363715
September 15th	Operation Pollinator	Burnham & Berrow Golf Club	www.greencast.co.uk or email operation.pollinatoruk@syngenta.com
September 21st	North East Section Event	Longhirst Golf Club	Jimmy Richardson at jamesrichardson217@btinternet.com or Mobile: 07500 528542
September 22nd	North Scotland Section Day	Peterculter Golf Club	Dale Robertson at daleturnberry@aol.com or Mobile: 07711 274525
September 22nd	Mid Anglia Section Autumn Meeting	St Neots Golf Club	Gerald Bruce at gerald@berkhamstedgc.co.uk or Tel: 01442 8658323
September 26th	TACIT Golf Management Trophy Final	Mere Golf Club	
September 28th	Northern Section Autumn Tournament	Fixby Golf Club	Frank Stewart at frankstewart3@hotmail.co.uk or Mobile: 07947 401278
September 29th	Essex Section Autumn Trophy	Langdon Hills Golf & CC	Andy Cracknell at andyckracknell@hotmail.com or Mobile: 07709 347312
September 29th	North West Section Autumn Tournament	Dunham Forest Golf Club	Chris Sheehan at jsheehan@blueyonder.co.uk or Mobile: 07840 706738
September 29th	Kent Section Event	Sittingbourne Golf Club	Kevin Morris at kmlegal1@aol.com or Mobile: 07801 554548
<b>OCTOBER 2011</b>			
October 3rd and 4th	BIGGA National Championship sponsored by Charterhouse and Kubota	West Lancashire Golf Club	BIGGA HQ on 01347 833800 or info@bigga.co.uk
October 4th	Ayrshire Section	Turnberry Hotel	Derek Wilson on 07770 734360 or email derwlsn@aol.com
October 5th	Midland Section Autumn Golf Event	Sandwell Park Golf Club	Andrew Smith on 07977 145091 or email andysmithace@hotmail.co.uk
October 5th	South West Section Autumn Event and AGM	Cotswold Hills Golf Club	Adam Matthews on 07732 503855 or email adam.l.matthews@hotmail.co.uk
October 6th	GTC Chairman of Green/Secretary Managers Workshop	Northumberland Golf Club	Fiona Lyttle on 01347 838640 or Fiona@the-gtc.co.uk
October 12th	East of England AGM and Golf	Orton Meadows Golf Club	Bruce Hicks on 07931 714922 or email brucehicks1@gmail.com
October 13th	East Midlands Section Autumn Golf Day and AGM	Forest Hill Golf Club	Nick Miles, email biggaeastmid@gmail.com

# Letters



Please email your notes to: [scott@bigga.co.uk](mailto:scott@bigga.co.uk)

## Jimmy Richardson

Regarding Jimmy Richardson's retirement from Hexham Golf Club. I first met Jimmy at Ponteland GC in 1967. He has always been friendly, sociable and willing to help others. He is conscientious and has been a marvellous servant to both golf and the North East Section over his 41 years.

I have also enjoyed his monthly reports in the magazine. I wish you well Jimmy and thank you for your reliability.

**Bruce Burnell**  
Eaglescliffe GC

## Many Thanks

BIGGA Open Support Team

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the BIGGA Support team for all their hard work during the Open Championship.

I can honestly say that during my 19 years at Royal St Georges I have never seen the bunkers so well presented.

I was also delighted to be able to give a few of you the chance to hand cut some of the greens for me, an experience I hope you enjoyed.

On a personal note it was great for me to meet you all and I particularly enjoyed speaking to the younger members of the team, which makes me feel the future of our industry is in good hands.

Once again many thanks for your valuable assistance, it is much appreciated.

**Graham Royden, Head Greenkeeper**  
Royal St Georges Golf Club.

## Many Thanks 2

I am writing to offer my personal thanks to Ransomes Jacobsen and BIGGA and their continued support of the greenkeeping industry.

I will give you a brief insight into myself further on in this letter, but first I think it would be appropriate to say that without both Ransomes Jacobsen and BIGGA's innovative thinking and forward planning then I do not expect greenkeepers would be seen in the same light as we are today - By this I mean we are heading towards a greater appreciation by the general golf public and the way we are viewed.

As indicated at the head of this letter, my name is James Hutchinson and three years ago I was lucky enough to be given a RJ scholarship to study for an On - Line degree through Myerscough College. I am writing to inform you that I have recently completed the said degree and that I passed with a marvellous grade. I have also been invited to study for a BSc and I have of course accepted!

Since being awarded your scholarship, I have won numerous golf course related awards and I was also accepted onto the R&A's scholarship programme. The R&A's scholarship helped with funding for my second and third year's study but it was RJ's and BIGGA's initial help that set me onto this winning path. Without your backing, I may not have developed this mindset and I thank you for your foresight in developing the scholarship.

So please accept this letter as my way of thanking Ransomes Jacobsen and BIGGA for all your help and please, please keep up the super work.

**James Hutchinson,**  
Fairhaven Golf Club.



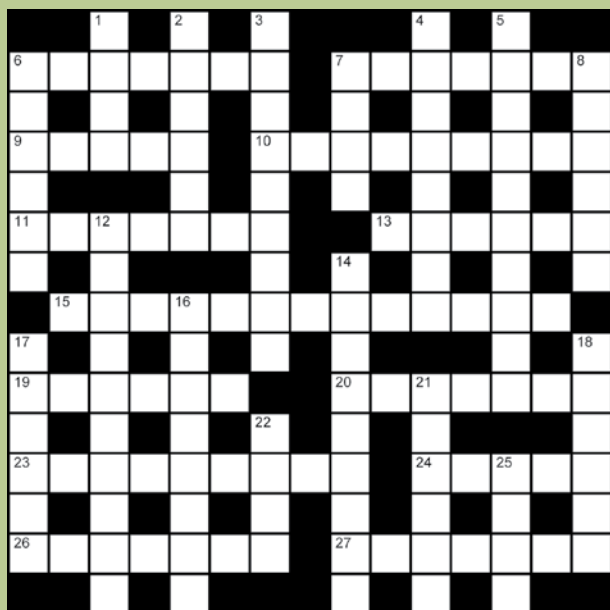
The 2011 BIGGA Open Support Team on the 18th hole after Darren Clarke's wonderful victory



# in the shed

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

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 6 Fictional language in which NuqneH is used as a greeting (7)
- 7 Scorer of the winning goal in 2010 World Cup final (7)
- 9 Smooth transition (5)
- 10 Place of seating for the morally superior (4,5)
- 11 Can be A, one of eight Bs, C, D, E or K (7)
- 13 Loads (6)
- 15 1992 film featuring Mr Blonde and Mr Pink (9,4)
- 19 Cover (6)
- 20 The \_\_\_\_\_ Inn, Marco Pierre White's Newbury restaurant (3,4)
- 23/24 Siblings born from a single egg (9,5)
- 26 Control (7)
- 27 Tier (7)

### DOWN

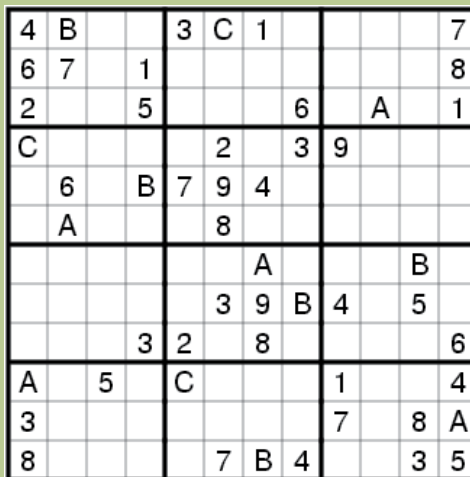
- 1 Married name of Monica Geller in Friends (4)
- 2 Shining (6)
- 3 1979 hit for Village People (2,3,4)
- 4 State capital of Virginia, USA (8)
- 5 A compiler of horoscopes (10)
- 6 Disputed territory which declared independence from Serbia in 2008 (6)
- 7 Principle schemer in Othello (4)
- 8 Biased against the mature (6)
- 12 1971 cult novel by Luke Rhinehart (3,7)
- 14 Three-nippled London songstress (4,5)
- 16 Nepalese age of majority (8)
- 17 Tighten one's belt (6)
- 18 Victorious admiral who was killed at the Battle of Trafalgar (6)
- 21 Informal greeting (6)
- 22 Repeat (4)
- 25 Small isolated land mass (4)

## QUICK 'NINE HOLE' QUIZ

Keegan Bradley's stunning win in the US PGA Championship was achieved in his first Major. Can you identify these surprise winners?

1. Name the 42-1 underdog heavyweight boxer who defeated Mike Tyson in 1990
2. Who was the 17 year old who defeated Serena Williams in the 2004 Ladies Singles final at Wimbledon?
3. Which country earned a last minute invite to the 1992 European Football Championships and then won?
4. Which country is the current Rugby 7s World Champions despite not having won another major IRB tournament before or

- since?
5. Who were the last team outside of the top division to win the FA Cup?
6. Who was the unheralded American who defeated Ernie Els in a play-off to win the 2004 Open Championship at Royal Troon?
7. Name the racehorse who survived carnage at the 23rd fence in the 1967 Grand National to record an unlikely win at odds of 100-1.
8. Which football team defeated Real Madrid in the final of the 1983 European Cup Winners Cup?
9. Which FA Cup round is the furthest reached by a non-league team in the last 60 years?



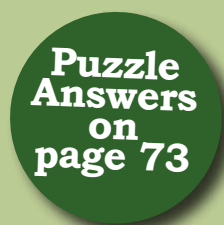
## MONSTER SUDOKU

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.



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