

In 2005 we made history
introducing 'it'.

In 2010 we made history again
introducing 'them'.



John Deere Exclusive E-Cut Hybrid Fairway & Greens Mowers.

It's the fifth anniversary of E-Cut Hybrid technology and the honeymoon's not over. These ahead-of-their-time mowers offer the consistent cut only electricity can deliver. Save up to 30% on fuel and end hydraulic-leak anxiety forever. And only John Deere offers this award-winning* option for both greens and fairways. All John Deere E-Cut Hybrid mowers are equipped with revolutionary Quick Adjust cutting units.

Consider us part of your team.

Freephone 0800 085 25 22



**JOHN DEERE
GOLF**



OFFICIAL
GOLF COURSE
EQUIPMENT
SUPPLIER



OFFICIAL
SUPPLIER OF
GOLF COURSE
MACHINERY



*7500/8500 E-Cut Hybrid Fairway Mowers received the prestigious 2010 AE50 award.

WELCOME FROM THE EDITOR

BIGGA



President
Sir Michael Bonallack,
OBE

**Board of Management
Chairman**
Andrew Mellon
Vice Chairman
Tony Smith
Past Chairman
Paul Worster

Board Members

Chris Sealey, Gary Cunningham, Stuart Greenwood, Arnold Phipps-Jones, Jeremy Hughes, Kenny MacKay, George Barr

Chief Executive Officer

Jim Croxton

Head of Learning & Development

Sami Collins

sami@bigga.co.uk

Head of Membership Department

Tracey Maddison

traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk

Contact Us

BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Aline, York,
YO61 1UF

info@bigga.co.uk

www.bigga.org.uk

Tel – 01347 833800 | Fax – 01347 833801

GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL

The official monthly magazine of the
British and International Golf Greenkeepers
Association Limited.

Editorial

Communications Manager / Editor

Scott MacCallum

Tel – 01347 833800 Fax – 01347 833801

scott@bigga.co.uk



Design

**Design and
Production Editor**
Tom Campbell

Tel – 01347 833800

Fax – 01347 833801

tom@bigga.co.uk



Advertising

Sales Executive
Jill Rodham

Tel – 01347 833800

Fax – 01347 833802

jill@bigga.co.uk

Printing

Warners Midlands Plc, The Maltings, Manor
Lane, Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9PH
Tel – 01778 391000 | Fax – 01778 394269

Contents may not be reprinted or otherwise reproduced without written permission. Return postage must accompany all materials submitted if return is requested. No responsibility can be assumed for unsolicited materials. The right is reserved to edit submissions before publication. Although every care will be taken, no responsibility is accepted for loss of manuscripts, photographs or artwork. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association, and no responsibility is accepted for such content, advertising or product information that may appear. Circulation is by subscription. Subscription rate: UK £50 per year, Europe and Eire £65, Rest of the World £95. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.



ISSN: 0961-6977

© 2012 British and International Golf
Greenkeepers Association Limited



Here comes the sun

With Summer Time now officially upon us we can look forward to longer days and lighter evenings, but if you are in large portions of this country you may well be enduring the headache of water restrictions.

I can only imagine the sleepless nights induced by the helplessness you must feel from not being able to bring some relief to stressed out greens.

While we are supposed to live in a country of moderate climate the occasions when weather seems to be playing a part are increasing, although the anti Climate Change lobby will say that a few years of hotter temperatures and higher or lower rainfall is nowhere near enough to indicate a true change.

I must say it has been strange, living in an area where we have had a decent amount of rain, listening to the weather men and women beginning their forecasts by saying: "Those of you looking for rain are going to be disappointed."

The last major drought caused havoc within the industry with many courses suffering as a result and supplies of water being sought from any available source.

There were even cases of tankers being sent to Scotland to bring supplies of H₂O back down to the home counties to offer relief to some golf courses

This month Dr Kate Entwistle provides information on two new diseases which have emerged in recent times not previously found in this country.

The changes in climatic conditions may well have played a part in their less than welcome arrival within these shores. There are, after all, enough diseases around already to keep you on your toes.

It is clear that water is going to become an ever more valuable resource in the UK and

looking at ways of reducing your need for irrigation will become vital.

Whether that be with the adoption of more drought resistant cultivars or more sophisticated and accurate ways in which to administer irrigation no stone can afford to be left unturned.

To assist in this process this month we also carry an article on Water Management, which looks at variable speed pumps and what you can do to ensure efficiency in your use of an irrigation system.

The spotlight will undoubtedly fall on golf and any use of irrigation – irrespective of whether it is water from your own harvesting efforts or a licensed borehole – will draw adverse comment from some quarters.

In effect it is no different from a householder using water he has gathered from his own water butt, but it is all about perceptions isn't it?

I would like to add to the many tributes that have already been paid to Scottish Regional Administrator, Peter Boyd, who retires at the end of this month.

He has become a friend to many, as well as a colleague, and has been the main point of contact with BIGGA for hundreds of Scottish based members.

Peter. Enjoy your retirement and keep that superb handicap of yours down as long as you can.

Scott MacCallum
Editor

A look at what's inside the magazine this month

APRIL 2012

FEATURES

16 If the Shoe Fits

Scott MacCallum speaks to Jez Hughes about his 25 years at Llangollen Golf Club, and how he'll differentiate between his roles by the shoes that he is wearing.

25 Turf Pest Creatures Great and Small

Part of a series of articles aimed at a varying readership. If you're new to greenkeeping, read this month's **Entry Level** piece... Dr Terry Mabbett discusses how the food chain can cause bigger problems to your turf, and gives examples of the chemicals that can help you nip this in the bud.

Entry Level

30 Course Disease Alert

Dr Kate Enwistle offers details of two newly emerging turf diseases: Rapid Blight – a non-fungal disease and Brown Ring Patch – a non-fairy ring disease.

34 Viva Las Vegas

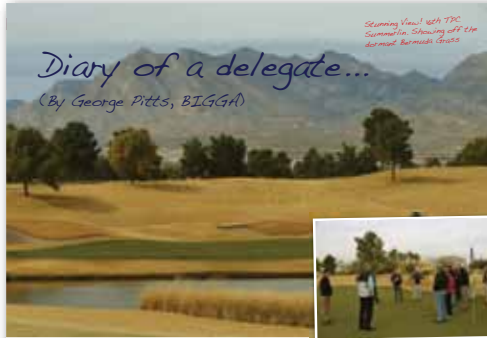
What happens in Vegas doesn't stay in Vegas, as George Pitts allows us to take a sneak peak inside his diary and tells us what the BIGGA Delegation, sponsored by Bernhard and Co, got up to at The Golf Industry Show.

41 Managing with Less

Less is more as Malcolm Peake found out after attending the "Managing with Less" workshop, which was held at Temple Golf Club.

44 Alternative Mowers

James de Havilland continues with his monthly check on the machinery market.



Saturday, February 25 - Palo Tomasi, Las Vegas

It was an early start for some but everyone was keen to begin this adventure together. We were met at Guinick by Bernhard and Co's Kim Purcell who had organised the trip, and one hour later and we were being warmly welcomed at the hotel, Palo Tomasi - coach of us sports with one bedroom apartment. The hotel was right on 'The Strip' - which was convenient for our first evening together, taking in the sights, having a bite to eat and a few beers.

Sunday, February 26 - Angel Park Golf Club

Today we had the opportunity to play golf or take a walk around Angel Park Golf Club. We were joined by Jim Cooney and Andrew Melton, and we all experienced the high level of customer service. Complimentary golf clubs, cars and even balls and tees were organised by Tom Chisley, Director of Maintenance. At about 12:00 PM, Angel Park offers spectacular views of Red Rock Canyon and the Las Vegas Valley, and features 36 holes of championship golf designed by Arnold Palmer. The Palm Course was extremely well presented and maintained, and if you missed the green staff you were at the desert there were a lot more successful, with Andrew Melton topping the scoring.

Monday, February 27 - Coana Sa Visits, TPC Summerlin and Pallette

As this event in the morning detailed the previous evening's events and we were all highly-eyed and keenly asked for our day of Golf Course visits. Kim and Steve Nixon, Bernhard and Co, hosted the day with the first visit to TPC Summerlin, home of the PGA Tour's "Champion Invitational" Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, and where Tiger Woods won his first ever Professional Tournament.

We were met by James Seisua, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, who happens to be English. James came across as very professional, polished and confident, speaking in front of everyone. At this stage of the year the Bermuda grass roughs, fairways and tees were dormant. The trees are over-sown with Perennial Ryegrass, but the rest of the course remains yellow with dormant Bermuda grass. The decision to not over-sow the fairways and rough was made by the club in order to utilize the money saved towards preparing for the PGA tour event. The greens were a more familiar cool season, Creeping Bentgrass (Pennis Ais) Halfway along the backside, we visited the very impressive maintenance facilities, which was absolutely spotless and probably the best-organised facility I have ever seen. James explained how the staffing is

James Seisua, Assistant Superintendent at TPC Summerlin. On the left, Tom Ni Chingy, Head Green

structured and how tasks were coordinated, including using a Plasma screen at the crew room linked to his computer to communicate tasks for the day. Our second course visit of the day took us to the desert on the outskirts, Pallette Golf Club (now owned by the Pallette Tribe, a Native American tribe who have made their money through Snake Biscuits). The resort consists of three 18-hole courses with each course measuring over 7,000 yards, including the "Wild Course" measuring over 7,600 yards. After a morning lunch, Jeff Beck, Director of Golf Course Maintenance, led us down to the Maintenance facilities, which again were first class. The three courses are maintained by 55 staff. As with both of the courses that we visited, a tremendous amount of emphasis is put on the irrigation of the turf with temperatures regularly reaching 43-44C and an average of just over four inches of rainfall per year! At Pallette, there are four wells, which are worked by the tribe. From which the club extract water to fill reservoirs. In the summer they can use up to 4 million gallons of water per night for all three courses. Annual usage of \$50 million! (godsend! Thanks to Jeff and Pat at Pallette for making us all feel so welcome.



Group photo of Delegates at Pallette Golf Resort with Jeff Reid (Director of Maintenance) and Kim Purcell, Steve Nixon and Sallie Taylor from Bernhard.

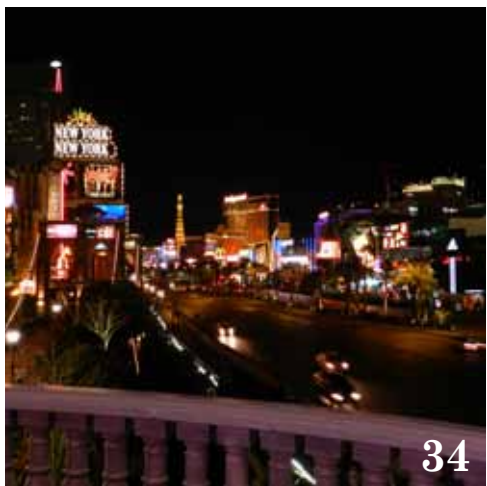


James Seisua explaining the specifics of TPC Summerlin.

Jeff Reid outlining grounds.

Thanks!

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank Stephen Bernhard and all the team for giving us this fantastic trip. It was an incredible experience and I would be delighted to be involved in any future opportunities like this. Special thanks to the amazing Kim Purcell, whose organisation and dedication towards the trip will always be remembered. To BIGGA and in particular, Jim Cooney, Steve Collins and Andrew Melton, for guiding us through the process and sharing their experience. For me, it was a career highlight and I have taken away from this being inspired, better educated, better informed and better equipped to fit in with the global industry. It was the perfect balance between work, rest and fun. I had a great time and I will be sure to share this trip with all about greenkeeping as much as I can possibly later in the month. The most of what is a truly unforgettable experience. George Pitts





16



58



44

REGULARS

- 6 Newsdesk
- 11 Chairman's Word
- 13 L&D
- 14 Industry Update
- 15 What's Your Number?
- 48 Around the Green
- 54 Membership
- 55 Diary of Events
- 56 In the Shed
- 58 Back in Time
- 63 GTC
- 66 Soapbox



Inside...

CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL
All turf pests, not so bright and beautiful

Featured

DISEASE ALERT

Two new turf diseases discovered on UK golf courses

Golf Course Feature

Vale of Llangollen

GI visits North Wales, to find a course ran by the club's next captain in line

ALSO INSIDE... WATER CONTROL : TEMPLE GC : DELEGATION



The official monthly magazine of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association Limited.

BIGGA and the GCSAA Join Forces



BIGGA and the GCSAA have forged an alliance, which will benefit golf course managers on both sides of the Atlantic and beyond.

The formal agreement sees the two largest Associations in the industry working in collaboration to continue to raise standards in course management, demonstrate a global commitment to sustainability and to enhance the professional image and status of Golf Course Managers and Superintendents.

Signed in Las Vegas during The Golf Industry Show, the agreement will see the two bodies promoting and

supporting each other's services and programmes; sharing information and knowledge and providing opportunities for both Associations to learn from each other.

The collaboration will cover education conferences and trade shows; support from industry sponsors and partners; professional development and education and membership products, services and information. All will be carried out with a genuine commitment to sustainability in all areas.

"BIGGA is delighted to have formalised its already excellent relationship with the

GCSAA. We firmly believe that Course Managers around the world face similar challenges so sharing good practice, recognising each others skills and working together jointly to promote sustainability and the fine work done by all of our members will undoubtedly lead to better playing conditions on golf courses around the world.

We are grateful to the Board of Directors of the GCSAA for their progressive approach to this collaboration and I personally look forward to working closely with them in the years to come," said BIGGA Chairman, Andrew Mellon.

GREEN GOLF IN THE KINGDOM OF FIFE AND TAYSIDE

Special one-day seminar at The Scores Hotel, St Andrews April 26, 2012 9.30am-2.45pm

A special one-day seminar, looking at how golf clubs can achieve success in sustainably managing their courses and facilities, is to be held in St Andrews later this month.

The free seminar will feature presentations about the sustainability strategies at world famous golf venues, St Andrews Links, and Loch Lomond Golf Club.

There will be presentations about Waste Management from Zero Waste Scotland, energy usage from the Scottish Energy Efficiency Office, and an introduction to the Golf Environment Organisation OnCourse programme and its ecolabel certification.

Fife Council will also outline the support available for clubs and courses implementing sustainability measures.

The seminar will conclude with a discussion session where a panel of experts in the field will be on hand to answer questions and offer advice.

It will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about this increasingly important aspect of golf club management.

The event is being organised by St Andrews Links Trust and is supported by the Scottish Golf Union, the R&A, the Golf Environment Organisation and Fife Council.

To book a free place at the seminar please visit:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sustainable_fife

John Farrell of Bailey's

Bailey's of Norfolk Technical Director, John Farrell, has died following a long battle with illness.

John had been with Bailey's for 15 years during which time he had taken a great deal of interest and worked unceasingly to help and impart sound

advice to his friends and customers within the turf care industry.

"His input into the success of our business and the friendship he bestowed on us is so special.

"We will never forget our John Farrell," said Alan Bailey.



LACEBY MANOR MOVES FORWARD WITH DEERE



Lincolnshire businessman and former champion motorcycle racer Roger Burnett has a long-term development plan in place to make Laceby Manor Resort & Golf Club near Grimsby the premier golfing venue in the region.

Having taken ownership of the club last May, Roger has invested in improvements to the clubhouse, course and greenkeeping facilities, with the recent purchase of a new John Deere course maintenance fleet from local dealer F G Adamson & Son of Swanland, North Ferriby.

“We now have the opportunity to provide the right golfing experience, with our new machinery fleet, and with a new head greenkeeper in Rob Bradley,” said Roger.



Saltford Wall Game

Members at a Somerset golf club have been rolling up their sleeves to rebuild the dry stone walls around their course.

The members at Saltford Golf Club undertook a crash course in the ancient craft of stone wall building from an instructor with the British Voluntary Conservationists to get the project underway.

The golfers who had never been involved in any work

of this kind before included retired schoolteachers, an ex-navy engineer, a former council leader, a steam train fireman and a project manager on the Royal Yacht Britannia, to rebuild walls nearly 300 years old.

Peter Williams, a former accident investigator who was club Captain when the scheme was launched, said: “Our course is more than 100 years old and many of the walls had deteriorated.

“Some areas had to be completely stripped to clear tree roots.”

The greenkeeping staff has helped by using its heavy equipment to clear areas and transport the bigger stones to where they are needed.

Head Greenkeeper, Darren Moxham, said:

“I am delighted the members have undertaken this work which has added to the image of this attractive golf course.”



New Consultant

The European Institute of Golf Course Architects has appointed Eric Tortelier as their latest EIGCA Consultant Partner.

Eric, who has worked in the irrigation industry for the last 25 years, is an agricultural engineer and MBA. He spent 17 years with Rain Bird Europe and a further eight years with Toro, working in Europe, Africa and the Middle East on many prestigious projects.

For the last four years Eric has been Managing Director at AREO. Julia Green, EIGCA Executive Officer, said; “It is a great pleasure to welcome Eric to the EIGCA. We created this new partnership category specifically for golf course consultants like Eric and I’m sure that, with his wealth of experience in irrigation, he will find a ready audience when he meets up with our members, particularly at our AGM and Conference.”



EGEU Launch New Website

The European Greenkeeping Education Unit (EGEU) is pleased to announce that a new website has been developed to complement the already existing EGEU website (www.eg.eu)

The new website, designed in association with The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) and the European Greenkeeping Education Unit (EGEU) is based on a Quality Assured scheme of centres, and specialist training providers, all having met a criteria and available to offer both formal and bespoke training courses. Employers and greenkeepers are encouraged to view the new website as there are courses and contacts available to assist with successful staff and management development.

The GTC's David Golding, a Director of the EGEU, believes the new website will develop into the independent information portal for the sector as more countries look to establish a greenkeeping education and training structure to allow access to learning for all levels of operatives and managers.

Any centre, college, company or individual involved in delivering greenkeeper education and training based on *best practice* are encouraged to apply to become involved in the Quality Assured Accreditation Scheme.

David added, advice and guidance will be available to help grow the game globally using expertise in all subject areas to ensure best practices are used to maintain and manage a golf clubs greatest asset, the golf course.

To register visit: www.greenkeepertraining.com

Natural Paving Products

Natural Paving Products (UK) Ltd has launch its new brochure and website.

The new brochure includes flagstones and block paving, as well as a range of new products, colours and features. The Cragstone Collection of weathered flagstones and circles is also new for 2012. www.naturalpaving.co.uk



Renovation Work to Witness

The opportunity of visiting Birch Grove Estate, in Sussex (a course which rarely opens its doors) to witness renovation work being carried out, has arisen.

Greenkeepers can visit this closed course while it is being renovated using the latest machinery from Campey Turf Care Systems, on Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25, April.

Birch Grove Estate was acclaimed by a select few as the best 18 holes in Sussex. No expense was spared in its construction and the millions spent created a golf course of absolute perfection.

Birch Grove is now under new

ownership and is to be given a new lease of life.

For one week only, an intensive renovation programme will be implemented with machinery from Koro, Imants, Dakota, Omarv, Raycam, Coremaster and Vredo.

Once the work is finished, the gates will be closed and locked by the owner and then the facilities and golf course will be once again reserved for his own private use.

You can apply for your personal invitation. This is the only way you can gain access – so please email your request to julia.campey@campeyturfcare.com or call 01260 224568.

HERBICIDE LABEL CHANGES

New CRD (Chemical Regulation Directorate) label requirements for herbicides approved for use on non-porous, hard surfaces, require increased targeting of spray applications, important in protecting water and optimising application efficiency.

That is the view of Bayer's, Dorin Pop, who has examined the new requirements. "These new label requirements – 'Regulatory Update 42' – will apply to all herbicides used on paved and other non-porous surfaces," explained Dorin.

The new legislation, aligned to the EU Directive on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides and the EU Water Framework Directive, has come into action to help minimise the use of

herbicides and to reduce run-off into drains which poses a pollution risk.

"For herbicides used on such surfaces, the path of movement following application, mirrors that of rainfall, often being directed into drains and gulleys.

"This potential pollution risk is one which must be prevented to deliver environmental protection which otherwise hinders compliance with EU and UK directives relating to pesticide use and protection of water resources.

"The objective is to improve the targeting of herbicide applications and to avoid blanket sprays when controlling weeds on impermeable surfaces," he said.

South East Region Annual Golf Day

After a chilly start once again, members and their guests enjoyed some good weather at Walton Heath Golf Club for the South East Region's Annual Golf and Dinner Day.

All of the large field of competitors appreciated the great condition of the Course and its presentation so early in the season.

It was very apparent that Alan Strachan and his team had been really busy with some good work on the Heath throughout the winter months.

Competitors enjoyed the refreshments kindly provided by Johnny Beck and James Watson, of Sherriff Amenity, at the 10th hole. Chairman of the South East Region, Tom Smith, thanked the host Club for, as always, their first-class hospitality and for making everyone so welcome on the day.

Following an excellent meal in the Holderness Dinning Room guests were entertained by the popular Ian Richards. The Captain of Walton Heath Golf Club, John Aarvold, then presented the prizes to the category winning competitors.

The Ray Day Memorial Trophy was won by Gareth Roberts, from Hankley Common Golf Club, with some great golf to get around the New Course in a gross score of 72.

This year for the first time there was a



Team Challenge won by the Surrey Section whose top three players had the best combined score to receive the Silver Salver.

The evening ended with the presentation of the Trophy in memory of Ian McMillan by Callum McMillan (left) to the winners of the Members and Guests Glynn Pollard (right) and Matt Strevett (centre) from Beauport Park GC.

The South East Region of BIGGA is most grateful to the following companies for their generous sponsorship and help with this event. Avoncrop Amenity Products; Blade Amenity; CWM; Ernest Doe Power; Everris; Golf Mats UK; Grass Roots/Dryjet UK; JSM; P. Tuckwell Ltd; Rigby Taylor; Sherriff Amenity; Speedcut Contractors Ltd; Sisis/Dennis

MVP KITS. PEACE OF MIND INCLUDED.

MVP Kits from Toro give you a convenient and money-saving way to keep on top of your routine maintenance and repairs. There are special MVP Kits (*Maintenance Value and Performance*) for spindle and reel cutting unit rebuilding, regular maintenance kits for blades and service kits for all Toro machinery, even the latest models. Conveniently packaged with genuine Toro parts, MVP Kits are all you need to complete the job and maintain the ongoing performance of your Toro machinery in the field.

It really is peace of mind in a box!

Call 01480 226870 or visit toro.com



partners in turfcare



BEARING KITS



FILTER KITS



SERVICE KITS



BLADE KITS

Eaton's Mick Hits 40



Michael Lathrope (Mick) shown above second from right, moved from Maylands Golf Club, near Romford, to take the Head Greenkeeper's job at Eaton Golf Club in Norwich in March 1972 – he's still there today.

He left the 'Smoke' with his wife, Lil, who he had recently married at the time and began a new life in Norfolk.

Now, 40 years on, he has three daughters, Jayne, Kate and Tina, and five grand

children - with twins on the way.

With a reputation of hard work and loyalty second to none, he has been East Anglia scribe to the magazine for many years.

He has strong relationships with fellow Greenkeepers and Trade alike.

Mick has successfully worked to get the current young crop of greenkeepers qualified, as he has since 1981.

There have not been many changes within the team at Eaton, testament to the great working environment that Mick creates.

The current green staff has over 130 years of combined service at the club.

His team at Eaton, and everyone who has had the pleasure of knowing Mick wish him all the best on achieving this landmark and look forward to the years ahead.



Supporting the Future

The Golf Foundation supports the development of golf in schools and the links between schools and clubs.

Through its efforts, the Golf Foundation has dramatically increased the number of schools delivering golf in England from 14% to 44% and the number of schools with links to clubs from 9% to 30%. In addition, the Golf Foundation is reaching youngsters in inner city areas and is providing support for projects that involve disabled children. It has also contributed significantly to the growth of junior golf in Scotland and Wales.

However, there is so much more to be done to make it possible for all children to experience our wonderful sport and all the benefits it has to offer. The only limiting factor is the amount of funding available. Therefore, the Golf Foundation has launched a new fundraising campaign – GOLF19.

All those who work in the sport are being asked to support the next generation by texting 'GOLF19 £2' to 70070 and the Golf Foundation will receive 100% of the donation.

We all enjoy being part of the golfing community, and it's important that we acknowledge what the Golf Foundation has done for the sport, especially in its Diamond Jubilee year. This is why BIGGA is supporting the GOLF19 campaign and is encouraging members to make a donation.



Thanks, Angela

BIGGA said farewell to its Assistant Accountant, Angela Wilson, at the end of March.

Angela is moving home, with her partner, to Scotland, for a much deserved early retirement.

Everyone at BIGGA House wishes her well in her ventures North of the Border, and presented her with a new running kit to thank her wholeheartedly for the second-hand gifts she kindly donated upon clearing-out her home!

iPad2 Winner

BIGGA would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the online BTME 2012 Visitor Survey. We had over 500 people provide us with their valuable feedback on this year's Exhibition.

The winner of the iPad 2 is Marcus Phelps, Head Greenkeeper at Filton Golf Club, Bristol. Well done Marcus.

BIGGA Chairman, Andrew Mellon drew Marcus's name out of a hat during his recent visit to BIGGA House and Jane Jones, South West/South Wales Regional Administrator presented Marcus with his prize

Marcus is a long time member of BIGGA and has attended many BTME's during this time, this year Marcus visited BTME on all three days and would say to anyone who is thinking about attending BTME 2013... 'It's a must not miss! Miss it, miss out!'

