



London

Members, the Course walk at Sandy Lodge proved successful, many thanks to Course Manager, Robert Phillips, next is the Spring Tournament at Stanmore on Thursday, May 24, sponsored by A T Olivers where we will be saying a farewell to Tony Martin as he retires after working at Olivers forever! This event is the qualifier for the BIGGA National Championship.

Then the Summer Tournament is at Crews Hill - a hidden gem as it's a Harry Colt course. This will be on Wednesday, August 1.

The London Section website is now up and running, well done to Robert Phillips. And we now have a Facebook group [bigga london] and also Twitter [@biggalondon] well done to Lee Cox!

Finally here are the committee contact details:

Matt Plested [Muswell Hill] Chairman, matt.plested@hotmail.co.uk 07818410333

Adam McColl [Crews Hill] Secretary adammccoll@hotmail.com 07886513975

Robert Phillips [Sandy Lodge] Treasurer/website robert.phillips1@btconnect.com 07785791700

Lee Cox [Mill Hill] Golf Organiser/facebook/Twitter l.cox15@btinternet.com 07931927346

John Wells [South herts] Education/Magazine.j.wells1@sky.com 07952956857

John Wells



Essex

Just a short one this month, as we are only just getting back into the swing, as they say.

At long last we have some news for you, with golf dates for the year and a few more bits of news for later in the year.

Firstly, the golf; we kick off the season with a bang at Ilford Golf Club, Wednesday, May 16, for our Summer

Trophy, followed by the Essex Trophy, at Rochford Hundred, Thursday August 16 and then the Autumn Trophy, at Stoke by Nayland, Wednesday, September 26, with the Christmas Team Event at The Essex, Thursday, December 6.

The team Knockout competition is back, with entries to Antony Kirwan by May 16, so we can draw the matches at Ilford.

We are planning to run a trip to the Hurlingham Club; details will be posted on our website as soon as we have a date. Plus we are also running a couple of seminars with Howard Swan later in the year, again more details nearer the time.

Ian Wood would like to hear from any Essex members, who are looking for a training course. He arranged some First Aid courses over the winter, but these were not taken up, so if there is anything else that you need please contact him and he will see what he can do.

Toro's Larry Pearman and Richard Freeman have again arranged a football match for us against another team from our region, if you are interested in playing please contact Mark Stopps or Martin Forrester, but be quick as places are limited for this prestigious game. We played last year, at West Ham's Upton Park Ground against the Sussex Section, which we narrowly won. So if we do draw Sussex again this year, there will be quite a match on, as I'm sure they will want to turn the tables on us.

Lastly ten of our members and Section Sponsors made the trip to the renamed, South East Regional Golf and Dinner day at Walton Heath early in March. Although the weather was overcast, the rain kept away with dry but cold conditions, but what a day. Everyone had a tale to tell. It was my first time actually playing on the course and my second visit, the first being for the 1981 Ryder Cup. Many thanks to my playing partners, Tracey Maddison and Gary Ogilvie, for putting up with my sometimes-erratic golf. I shall be returning again next year to try my hand at conquering this famous golf course.

Just a note of thanks to my colleague and driver, Tom Smith, who helped make the day more enjoyable for me, as I

didn't have to endure the drive around the M25.

For those of you who have not experienced this day it is something not to be missed, you meet old friends and make new ones. Love him or hate him, one friend who will be there again next year for sure is that 36 hole friend called Walton Heath.

The day was finished off with the prize presentation and although Essex were absent from the prize list I'm sure they all enjoyed themselves.

The inaugural Ian McMillan Memorial Trophy was presented by Ian's son, Callum, and was watched by his grandparents, two uncles and many friends.

Congratulations to the staff for producing one of the finest courses I have had the pleasure to play and well done Clive Osgood for organising the day.

Details on contacting any of the above committee are on our website.

If you have anything for inclusion in Greenkeeper International or on the Sections Website www.essexbigga.co.uk please contact me on 07764-862.337 or at essexbigga@talktalk.net

Arnold Phipps-Jones



Kent

Not much to write about again this month I'm afraid, although with two events in the offing this month, be prepared for a fuller report in May. Don't forget that we have another event at West Kent Golf Club on May 24. This is one that I am particularly looking forward to as I haven't played here before. The e-mail invitation should be in circulation by now, so please get your replies in to Kev ASAP to secure your place.

One piece of news you may be interested in is that I am approaching the first anniversary of my Golf Support company. The fact that I have managed to gain and establish so many friends and professional relationships in my time has meant that I have had quite a successful year. Many thanks to all those who encouraged me

Assistant Profile

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

Name: Ian Scott
Age: 24
Club: Largs Golf Club
Position: Assistant Greenkeeper
Nickname: Jap



1. How long have you been greenkeeping?
7 Years.

2. What was it about the career that attracted you?
Working outdoors every day.

3. If you weren't a greenkeeper what do you think you'd be?
In the military.

4. Which task do you most enjoy doing and why?
Bunker renovation, because it is a joy seeing the finished article.

5. Which task do you least enjoy doing and why?
Raking the bunkers after heavy rain, because they go like concrete!

6. What one thing - other than a pay rise - would improve the greenkeepers' lot?
Faster career progress for younger greenkeepers.

7. Hobbies?
Football, Golf and building computers.

8. Favourite Band?
Eminem.

9. Which team do you support (football or otherwise)?
Glasgow Rangers FC.

10. What's your claim to fame?
My picture from Harrogate 2011 being in the magazine about six times!

Are you an Assistant?

To appear in this column email scott@bigga.co.uk or ring 01347 833800 Option 510

Around The Green

to climb out of the rut I was in and take the plunge. I wish I had done it ten years ago! Thanks too to all the clients who have employed my services over the year. For details of what I can offer please visit our webpage from the address below.

Best of British
Rob Holland
www.kentgreenkeepers.com

Section Notes

Please email your notes to
scott@bigga.co.uk
by the 5th
of the month

BIGGA welcomes the following new members

Scottish Region

Michael Doris, Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager, Central
Ryan Winton, Assistant Greenkeeper, Central
Shaun McNaughton, Greenkeeper, Central
Scott Logan, Greenkeeper, Central
Thomas Hooley, Assistant Greenkeeper, Central
Samuel Nisbet, Student, Central
Mike Riddell, Greenkeeper, Central
Natasha Repinskaja, Greenkeeper, Central
Fraser Robertson, Assistant Greenkeeper, Central
Scott Watson, Greenkeeper, Central
Gavin Jones, Greenkeeper, Central
Gordon Nimmo, Affiliate Member, Central
James Johnston, Affiliate Member, East
Andrew Houston, Assistant Greenkeeper, North
William Sutherland, Assistant Greenkeeper, North
Stephen Lindsay, Greenkeeper, West
Alan Stewart, Greenkeeper, West

Northern Region

Garry Morse, Assistant Greenkeeper, North East
David Wilkinson, Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager, North West
Lee Burton, Affiliate Member, North West
Ben Minshill, Assistant Greenkeeper, North West
Richard Hodge, Greenkeeper, North West
Oliver Wood, Greenkeeper, North West
David Hales, Student, Northern
Conrad Cavill, Student, Northern
William Barratt, Assistant Greenkeeper, Northern
Mark Jessop, Greenkeeper, Northern
Jason Horner, Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager, Northern
Lewis Pattinson, Greenkeeper, Northern
Tom Haslam, Assistant Greenkeeper, Sheffield

Midland Region

Tim Carlisle, Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager, East Midlands
Jordan Baker, Assistant Greenkeeper, East Midlands
William Slater, Assistant Greenkeeper, East Midlands
Harvey Brooke, Greenkeeper, Midlands
Richard Turner, Greenkeeper, Midlands
Colin Sanders, Affiliate Member, Midlands
Joe Patterson, Affiliate Member, Midlands
Daniel Stanley, Assistant Greenkeeper, Midlands
Matthew Horton, Assistant Greenkeeper, Midlands
Philip Jones, Affiliate Member, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
Scott Fleming, Assistant Greenkeeper, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
David Cliffe, Affiliate Member, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
Mark Price, Affiliate Member, Mid Anglia

South West and South Wales



South Coast

Hello everyone, and welcome to April's around the green. Well we finally got there on February 15 with our Section seminar held at Milton Abbey School. I hope you all had a fantastic day, and for many of you it gave me a good chance to show you the life

South East Region

Reece Jones, Assistant Greenkeeper, Surrey
Andrew Ramsay, Greenkeeper, Surrey
Glen Newbold, Greenkeeper, Surrey
Michael Browne, Greenkeeper, Surrey
Sam Moss, Assistant Greenkeeper, Surrey
Daniel McMillan, Assistant Greenkeeper, Surrey
Ross Poulter, Greenkeeper, Surrey
Steve Paterson, Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager, Surrey
Harry Watson, Assistant Greenkeeper, Surrey
Nigel Hosegood, Assistant Greenkeeper, Kent
Michael Caplin, Assistant Greenkeeper, Sussex
Harish Sharma, Affiliate Member, London
Mark Smith, Affiliate Member, London
Joshua Leswell, Greenkeeper, East Anglia
Jack Davies, Greenkeeper, Essex
William Elgood, Greenkeeper, Essex
Daniel Homewood, Assistant Greenkeeper, Surrey

South West/South Wales

Christopher Rose, Assistant Greenkeeper, South West
Jonathan Tulk, Greenkeeper, South West
Lee Beaver, Assistant Greenkeeper, South West
Lewis Woodward, Assistant Greenkeeper, South West
Steven McLaren, Greenkeeper, South West
Robert Elliott, Greenkeeper, South West
Luke Mills, Greenkeeper, South West
Edward Horne, Assistant Greenkeeper, South West
Tom Freeman, Greenkeeper, South West
Iestyn Carpenter, Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager, South Coast
David Mulcahy, Greenkeeper, South Coast
Ian Lloyd, Greenkeeper, South Coast
Steve Farrant, Greenkeeper, South Coast
David Baugh, Greenkeeper, South Coast
Jack Potter, Assistant Greenkeeper, Devon&Cornwall
Martyn O'Shea, Greenkeeper, Devon&Cornwall
Noel Westlake, Greenkeeper, Devon&Cornwall

Northern Ireland

Chris McArthur, Greenkeeper, Northern Ireland

Overseas

Henry Squance, International, Austria
Carsten Brandt, International, Denmark
Espen Bergmann, Affiliate Member, Norway

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

of a Head Groundsman and our way of life at a private school.

We had excellent numbers in attendance, which was really encouraging for the Section, and I would like to thank all our guest speakers for their time and effort in making such a successful seminar. I just want to say a big thank you to the catering department at the school, who did provide us with a fantastic lunch and I hope you all enjoyed the pork! It was also nice to see so many people interested in the Abbey itself, which holds so much history; even one of our fellow greenkeepers made an inquiry about getting married there, nice one.

April sees our first Tournament of the year, which is on April 26, at Dunwood Manor, and is a 18 hole medal round, which will be our qualifier for this year's National Championship, held at Irvine Golf Club, Bogside, Irvine. I do hope we get a good turn out for this day, as many of you will know, this will be the last round of golf to be played at Dunwood manor so I am sure it will be an emotional day for many.

We are now up and running with our own website, address is biggasouthcoast.org.uk so no excuses, you can see what is happening in your Section. All fixtures and flyers will be available to view.

Finally that leaves me to wish you all a Happy Easter, Happy Greenkeeping for the season ahead, I'm just off to check my new born lambs! There's never a dull moment at Milton Abbey, Joe Cooper.



South West

Thursday, March 8, the Section had a seminar, titled Aspiration & Inspiration. Taking place at Chipping Sodbury GC, with a great turn out of over 40 people. With BIGGA's CEO, Jim Croxton, attending, guest speakers also included MJ Abbotts, speaking about their time at Wentworth and the amazing changes that they made. Simon Bush from training express spoke with Paul Worster about course safety. This was a great day, and again just proved how well everyone

supports the Section. Let's keep going!

Also March saw a big day for Matt Workman. Matt works at Minchinhampton GC and has recently got married. From all the guys, we wish you all the very best and hope you have a happy future together.

The fixtures for the coming season are now with you, we have some rather impressive golf clubs to visit this year, please do your very best to attend, don't be that person who says I'll go to the next one. Be that person who goes to every one.

We would also like to thank our patronage partners for 2012, Farmura, Countrywide, Headland, Eco-solve, TH Whites, Irrtech Ltd, Avoncrop.

We also have a Facebook page for the South West Section, one that will make it much more convenient for you all to use, you don't have to do anything, just enjoy this amazing feature you have at your finger tips.

Adam Matthews
adam.l.matthews@hotmail.co.uk
07732503855



Devon and Cornwall

Our February meeting was held at Bigbury GC, on the South Devon coast. It was an extremely chilly day but we still managed to have 56 attendees brave the conditions of which 24 even braved playing golf. Strong, sub-zero winds made it very challenging but most completed the 18 holes, with Andrew Prouse, Porthpean, coming first with 41 pts. James Sheehan, Truro, was second with 38 pts. J. Twitchen, Warren, third with 37 pts on count back. Longest Drive was Graham Clarke, Chulmleigh. Nearest the Pin. J. Twitchen.

Graham Davis, Head Greenkeeper at Bigbury since 1983, led the course walk. He explained that over the years he has been in charge, he has changed quite a lot on the course, enlarging all the tees, planting several thousand trees, extending the 15th green, and building new bunkers, renovating existing bunkers and creating ecological areas. There are a staff of five including Graham, Des Bickle,

David Moulding, Stewart Kent and Robert Hamley. After the golf and course walk, Mick Higgins and Jonathan Skelton, from Sibelco, gave a very interesting educational talk on sands used for sports turf. Mick concentrated on matching particle size distribution and also showed some products which the company have been involved with in recent years.

Many thanks to Graham and his team, and all the staff at Bigbury GC, for their hospitality. Also, Big thanks to the sponsors for the day, Masons Kings and Reel Grinding SW, Gary Tucker, for providing the prizes and sponsoring the day.

On Tuesday, March 6, we held our annual Spring Seminar at St Mellion International, Cornwall. The day was organised by the Section but special thanks goes to Mike Bush MG, who did the majority of the organising of the day, along with his staff at St Mellion.

The day consisted of a round robin of machinery and technique demonstrations in the morning, followed by lunch and then two educational presentations in the afternoon. The topic for the day was "Working the Surface, looking at techniques to improve surface performance. The morning demonstrations included looking at the Graden pedestrian Sand Injection scarifier, the Blec tractor mounted sand fill scarifier, the Campey Vredo overseeder, the Dakota spinner dresser, the new Greentek units including over-seeding and hollow-coring units and the Smith-Co turf iron.

One of the demonstrations included Steve Gingell, STRI, who set up a mini trial on the putting green to establish the relationship between heights of cut, frequency of cut and the use of a turf iron and their effects on green speed. It was interesting to note that increased speed was recorded where a single cut at 5mm followed by using a turf iron as opposed to double cuts or cutting at 4.5mm. The two presentations started with Mike Bush MG, Course Manager, St Mellion, talking through dealing with the thatch problems and reducing the inputs over the years to the strong position they are in now. Steve Gingell summed up the day by looking at the areas covered in the demonstrations, concentrating on thatch and Organic Matter

control and how these areas can influence over-seeding success rates. Thanks to the 75 attendees who attended the day including Level 2 and 3 students from Duchy College. Thanks also to David Chammings and Sherriff Amenity for sponsoring the food for the day. Thanks to Mike Bush and St Mellion for staging the event; a very successful day all round!

Our next meeting will be at Borringdon Park, Plymouth (date to be confirmed, and is likely to be last wed in May!). This will be an afternoon kick off and the qualifier for the National Championship. We also have meeting at Launceston GC on July 4, Devon V Cornwall team Event. This too will be an afternoon event.

I hope you all have a great season and look forward to catching up with you all in the summer,

George Pitts
07929 754401
gpitts.yelverton@gmail.com



South Wales

Good Morning South Wales, with our Nation at a standstill, our great rugby team on the brink of another GRAND SLAM, time to give the French Rugby Union what they deserve on the pitch after the travesty of the World Cup. A huge congratulation must go out to Lee Evans and his staff at the Millennium Stadium, the pitch has been outstanding this season good luck for the rest of the year and enjoy the matches during the Olympic games.

Our spring seminar will again take place on April 19 at The Royal Porthcawl GC, from what I'm led to believe Gerald Orme has been trying to pull out all the stops this year to ensure we have fantastic guest speakers all to be confirmed. Many thanks to him and his team at Farmura Environmental for their continued sponsorship and support for this event. For booking please contact Gareth Knight on 07595988512.

Keep enjoying the spring guys remember any news or views contact me at any time,

Peter Holmstrom



Jim Croxton
Chief Executive

A recurring theme on BIGGA's Bulletin Boards and in my conversations with members is the importance of the relationship between the Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper and the Golf Club Manager/Secretary.

It is too simplistic to say that when this relationship is good the course is automatically likewise but I'm certain that it can be a contributing factor. I was delighted therefore to be asked by the Scottish Golf Union to attend its innovative Management Development Programme recently. The SGU has identified Club Manager education as a high priority for the on-going health of the game and is offering the opportunity for current and aspiring Club Managers to undertake the CMAE Certified Club Manager (CCM) course at heavily subsidised rates.

The first week of the course is an introduction to the key elements to the job and it is gratifying that BIGGA has been asked to present on the importance of golf course maintenance, how the Association can help and how to get the best out of the course manager. I'm convinced that if the next generation of Club Managers place appropriate value on the skills of our members the game of golf has a healthy future, the SGU is to be commended on its initiative.

The ability to adapt to changing weather, economic forces and golfer expectations has been vital

Another regular discussion topic has been the variety of weather conditions our members deal with across the UK and beyond. A recent Bulletin Board thread on rainfall statistics revealed huge discrepancies in rainfall levels even within relatively short distances. I have been constantly amazed by the resourcefulness of BIGGA members in dealing with all that Mother Nature challenges them with.

In some areas we have drought orders and hosepipe bans being applied from April while in others golf courses are still dealing with the after effects of severe flooding. This is when the renowned adaptability of greenkeepers comes to the fore. I've heard it said that this trait is a curse as it means that occasionally our members are taken advantage of, but there is no doubt that the ability to adapt to changing weather, economic forces and golfer expectations has been vital in surviving the last few years. We at BIGGA HOUSE are doing all we can to ensure the golf industry recognises that.

Finally it was a pleasure recently to attend the Scottish Regional Conference, which was once again expertly organised by Peter Boyd, the Regional Administrator. During the excellent conference, Stuart Taylor, Regional Chairman, presented a gift to Peter to commemorate his forthcoming retirement after 15 years excellent service. It was clear that Peter will be sorely missed by the many friends he has made in the Region and I would like to place on record my gratitude for his hard work and professionalism during the last 15 years and his support during my time with the Association.

Jim Croxton, BIGGA CEO



Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

We are excited to launch a new BIGGA Membership benefit available to BIGGA members who are interested in accessing thousands of turfgrass educational materials.

BIGGA has recently secured an agreement with the Michigan State University Libraries (MSUL) to afford *BIGGA Members, through the Members area of the website, access to a vast collection of turfgrass educational material.

The MSUL operate The Turfgrass Information Center (TGIC) which is a specialised unit containing the most comprehensive publicly available collection of turfgrass educational materials in the world.

TGIC has over 175,000 records in its primary database and now BIGGA Members can access the Turfgrass Information File (TGIF), a fantastic resource.

A bit of background information on the TGIF – it is designed to be flexible for all users, from those accessing for the first time to the more sophisticated researchers/users. TGIF provides bibliographic and descriptive records of all types of works related to turfgrass culture.

TGIF was established in 1983 by the United States Golf Association (USGA) Turfgrass Research Committee and the Michigan State University Libraries and is now maintained by the TIC, a division of MSUL. The ultimate goals of TGIF is to:

- 1) identify all available print or online materials reporting on turfgrass and its maintenance;
- 2) to provide access to records representing each item; and
- 3) to provide a direct link to the full-text or actual content of each item when possible.

This is a fantastic resource available to all Full Members and Student Members of BIGGA who are studying at any level.

To access the TGIF log in to the members area of the BIGGA website, select 'Member Resources' from the options on the left hand side, scroll down to Turfgrass Infor-

mation File (TGIF) and download the Getting Started Guide or just click on the link which will give you access to the file directly. Happy researching!

*Access available to BIGGA Full Members and BIGGA Student Members

BTME 2012 Visitor Survey

We recently carried out a survey of visitors to this year's BTME, thank you to all those people who completed the survey, we had a great response, and we appreciate and value your feedback.

BIGGA's Chairman, Andrew Mellon, drew the winners name out of a hat at the recent National Board Meeting. I'm pleased to announce the winner is Marcus Phelps, Head Greenkeeper at Filton Golf Club in Bristol. Congratulations Marcus and thanks again to all who completed the survey. All those who responded were eligible for a prize draw to win an iPad2.

Tastecard offer

Watch out for an update regarding the tastecard offer on the BIGGA website and BIGGA Facebook Group. Last April and October BIGGA negotiated an exclusive deal with tastecard, the nation's largest dining club. A tastecard gives you 2 meals for the price of 1 or 50% off your bill at over 5,500+ restaurants!

Membership Subscription 2012/2013

The subscription rates for 2012/13 are:-

- Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper - £134.00
- Deputy Course Manager/Deputy Head GK - £79.00
- Greenkeeper member aged 21 yrs & over - £79.00
- Greenkeeper member aged 20 yrs & under - £79.00
- Unqualified member aged 21 yrs & over - £59.00
- Unqualified member aged 20 yrs & under - £29.00
- International Member - £93.00
- Affiliate Member - £90.00
- Student Member - £26.00
- Retired Member - £31.00



Contact Details

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Elaine Jones
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(option 1 for Membership)

Regional Offices

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South West & Wales
Jane Jones
Tel: 01454 270850
Mobile: 07841 948110
jane@bigga.co.uk

Peter Boyd Peter Larter

Clive Osgood Jane Jones

A personal thank you...

Peter Boyd, BIGGA's Scottish Regional Administrator, is retiring on April 20.

I have known Peter Boyd since my first stint at BIGGA back in 1998.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with him then and now. I would like to thank him for all his support, help and humour!

Peter has always been very professional in everything he has done for BIGGA. I wish him and his wife, Eleanor, my very best wishes.

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 2012 can be found here...

Date	Event	Venue	Contact
APRIL 2012			
April 3rd	Scottish East Section Event	Glen Golf Club	Stuart Ferguson Tel: 01501 825760/07961 630553 or email: stuferg@btinternet.com
April 12th	North West Section Event	Leasowe Golf Club	Chris Sheehan email: jsheehan@blueyonder.co.uk
April 17th	Scottish Central Section Event	Crail Golf Club	Gordon Moir tel: 01334 474021/07850 139799 or email: gordonmoir@standrews.org.uk
April 18th	North East Section Event	South Shields Golf Club	Jimmy Richardson Tel: 0191 413 5232 or email: jamesrichardson217@btinternet.com
April 18th	Cleveland Section Event	Hedlam Hall Golf Club	Ian Pemberton email: ianpemberton60@yahoo.co.uk
April 19th	South West Section Event	Thornbury Golf Centre – Spring Tournament AM-AM	Adam Matthews Tel: 07732 503855 or email: adam.l.matthews@hotmail.co.uk
April 24th	East Anglia Section Event	Waldringfield Golf Club	Ian Willet Tel: 07929 205398 or email: info@biggaeastanglia.co.uk
April 24th	BB&O Section Event	Kirtlington Golf Club	Matthew Nutter email: bbosecretary@gmail.com
April 25th	Northern Section Event	Easingwold Golf Club	Andrew Slingsby email: slingsbyfamily@virginmedia.com
April 25th	North Wales Section Event	Vale of Llangollen Golf Club	Jez Hughes Tel: 01978 860109/07876 776265 or email: jezpro69@aol.com
April 26th	Scottish North Section Event	Royal Aberdeen Golf Club	Dale Robertson Tel: 01651 863002/07711 274525 or email: daleturnberry@aol.com
April 26th	South Coast Section	Dunwood Manor Golf Club	Alex McCombie Tel: 07561 001299 or email: southcoastsecretary@gmail.com
MAY 2012			
May 1st	Ayrshire Section Event	Ayr Bellisle Golf Club	Derek Wilson email: derwlsn@aol.com
May 10th	West Section Event	Cardross Golf Club	Fraser Ross email: Karen.ross@tesco.net
May 23rd	Midland Section Event	Chase Golf Club	Andrew Smith email: andysmithhace@hotmail.co.uk
May 24th	East of England Section	Cleethorpes Golf Club	Bruce Hicks Tel: 01205 353925 or 07931 714922 or email: brucehicks1@gmail.com
May 30th	South West Section Event	Clevedon Golf Club	Wayne Vincent Tel: 07958 630590 or email: wayne.vincent@cotswoldhills-golfclub.com

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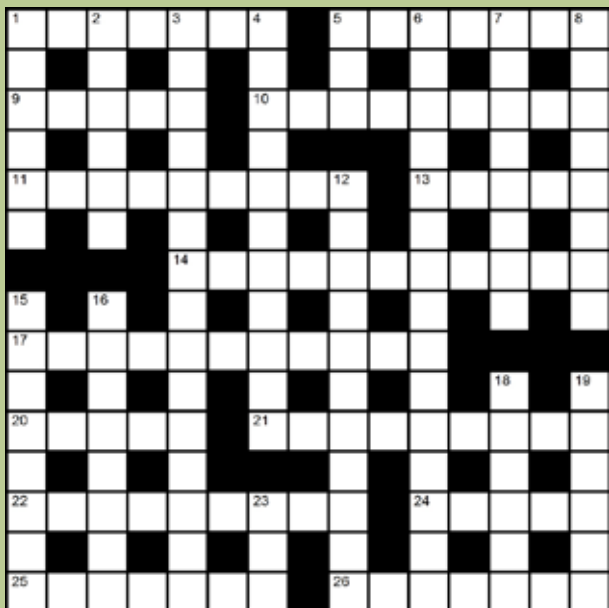
Fertilisers | Wetting Agents | Biostimulants | Pesticides | Adjuvants & Spraying Aids



in the shed

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

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Open vessel with a spout for pouring (7)
- 5 Black garment worn by priests or choristers (7)
- 9 Mediterranean island approximately 50 miles south of Sicily (5)
- 10 Cosmetic preparation for the removal of body hair (9)
- 11 Class of shelled, mostly aquatic, animals (9)
- 13 Ascend (5)
- 14 US soap opera described by some as "Dallas with grapes" (6,5)
- 17 Normal brainwave of a person who is awake and relaxed (5,6)
- 20 Dr Who 'baddie', a cyborg from the planet Skaro (5)
- 21 Foster the growth of (9)
- 22 Nickname of the German howitzer gun developed for the first World War (3,6)
- 24 In homosexual parlance, a boyish-looking man (5)
- 25 Brazilian who played for Middlesbrough (1996-7) and Rangers (2003-4) (7)
- 26 Bob Marley song whose full title concludes " /People Get Ready" (3,4)

DOWN

- 1 Type of glassy lava (6)
- 2 Rabbinic texts constituting Jewish canon and civil law (6)
- 3 1903 Joseph Conrad novella whose main character is Charles Marlow (5,2,8)
- 4 Fashionable affectation of left-wing views and lifestyle (7,4)
- 5 Large edible mushroom also called porcino (3)
- 6 Group of MPs chosen to report and advise on a chosen matter (6,9)
- 7 Uninitiated person, layman (8)
- 8 Pacific island nation whose official languages are English and Gilbertese (8)
- 12 Spanish medium sherry (11)
- 15 The jawbone (8)
- 16 Short piece at the end of a novel, usually describing later events (8)
- 18 Gambling establishment (6)
- 19 To barrack or interrupt a performer (6)
- 23 Silvery metallic element, Sn (3)

QUICK 'NINE HOLE' QUIZ

Coaches, Managers or Captain

1. Name the last English manager to lead a team to the old First Division title.
2. Who is the current British Davis Cup Captain?
3. Who was the coach when England won the Rugby World Cup in 2003?
4. Who was Captain (Skip) of Britain's Gold Medal winning curling team in the 2002 Winter Olympics?

5. Who was the Captain of England during the infamous Bodyline Series?
6. Which England Manager is known for the phrase: "Do I not like that.?"
7. Name the European Ryder Cup Captain who revitalised the competition in the '80s.
8. Who was the Manager of the first British team to win the European Cup?
9. Who was Captain of the R&A in 2003?

	8					3	7	
5			1	2		A		9
6	A		4	8				
3			6	4		2		
	1	9	2			C		
7		8		1	5		C	
	8		3	2		B		5
			A			7	4	3
		7		5	6			C
			7	2		6		4
A			1		C	4		3
	9	4						8

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.

	3		1	8		2		
					3	4	8	
9	8						6	
6		2	4					
3	5						7	8
					5	1		4
	6						1	2
	7	3	5					
		1		2	6			3

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 65

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Drainage

It's a job never done before. It's a job never to talk about

By Dick Nugent, Dick Nugent Associates, Lincoln, Nebraska

DRAINAGE is a recent form of trenching. I mean not, "You take a hole and make him dig?" That was the pattern way of saying we use no more irrigation water, make the grass sink, and then we apply pesticides and more water.

Irrigation has been a favorite topic of golf course maintenance industry during the last 20 years. Applying water to the golf course is the competitive, profitable part of turf maintenance. But the other side of that coin is drainage — getting water off the golf course. Drainage is the backstop, the backstop, the last safety valve in golf.

Drainage is not only crucial to quality turf maintenance, it also affects the playability of a golf course. A properly designed and installed drainage system keeps the golf course dry and playable, providing more playing time than a normal course. A drained course has the added advantage that it can be played more often with less maintenance.

Re for Turf Health

Ideally, the combination of drainage and irrigation allows a well-timed agricultural engineer call "field capacity." This is the ideal level of moisture that, when balanced with air, enables aerobic bacteria to do its job and complete the nitrogen life cycle, liberating nitrogen to the grass.

Drainage can lower the water table, allowing the top soil

of the soil to dry out. This forces grass root development, especially during the spring when the water table is usually high in the soil surface. The deeper roots break up the soil and help develop good soil structure. Insects, which also move more quickly during the spring season, generally dig and grow and survive winter reentry. Conversely, water on the golf course is the competitive, profitable part of turf maintenance. But the other side of that coin is drainage — getting water off the golf course. Drainage is the backstop, the backstop, the last safety valve in golf.

System Components

There are a variety of drain types available, including tile drains, French drains, and open ditch drains, as well as some newer systems.

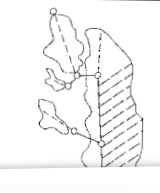
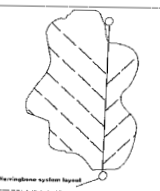
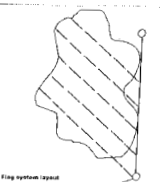
The most popular is the open ditch drain. This type is frequently used in fairways, even at the exclusive Sunningdale Golf Club near London. In the United States, most drains are used on land of low value, such as savings and farms, where more sophisticated drainage systems would not be cost effective.

Open ditch drains are relatively inexpensive to construct, but they do require long-term maintenance, including the removal of weeds and sediments. They are difficult to locate, and maintain the steps within the closely following cars

be a problem. Also, there is the need in drainage of the excavated soil during construction. Although most drains are used for the open ditch drainage system for a golf course, there are occasions when special conditions do not provide adequate drainage or even for drain pipes, and an open ditch may be the only reasonable option.

A variation on the open ditch drain is the French drain, consisting of a narrow open ditch with a layer of gravel on top. A filter fabric can be used to line the bottom and sides of the trench. When the gravel is in place, the filter fabric is overlaid over the top of the gravel. The fabric holds the gravel in place and, in suitable soils, prevents soil from clogging and clogging the drain. The top can be covered with a layer of gravel or sod. Today, French drains are rarely recommended.

Historically, tile drains were constructed with a six-inch diameter, 12-inch long pieces of concrete or clay tile. Concrete polyethylene plastic tubing, which is resistant to damage by soil acids and is now a popular substitute for concrete or clay tile. The advantage of this type of drain is that it is easy to install and it is easy to locate. The filter fabric is installed in a trench, which is backfilled with a layer of gravel. The filter fabric is overlaid over the top of the gravel. The fabric holds the gravel in place and, in suitable soils, prevents soil from clogging and clogging the drain. The top can be covered with a layer of gravel or sod. Today, French drains are rarely recommended.



verts the surrounding level. By locating a sub-surface intercepting drain (SUD) from the wet areas, water can be intercepted and removed.

Storm Sewers — A Plan

The best option for a quality drainage system is a storm sewer system. While golf course drainage systems often do not require storm sewer systems, they should be considered for a quality golf course drainage system.

Storm sewers usually have two types of manhole access: manholes and catch basins. Manholes should be placed at any point where a drain line changes direction, but no farther than 300 feet apart. Manholes have a covered top and a smooth bottom that matches the floor flat of the drainage line connected to it. The catch basins are an open, graded top to allow drainage to flow into a storm sewer, as well as from drains that empty above the bottom of the drain line. The flow is interrupted in a manhole, so it prevents the water from flowing back into the drain line.

There have been cases where drainage water has been recycled for use in the irrigation system. This type of design for the Old Marsh Golf Club in Florida is a case in point. The drainage water is collected and used to irrigate the surrounding area. This type of design is not recommended for most golf courses.

Drainage System Layouts

Drainage systems are specified by their layout patterns.

The Ring system, also known as the grid system, is used in cross areas that have uneven slopes. A variety of catch basins, or interceptors, are placed at each corner and drain into a main line. Drainage lines are placed at 100-foot intervals.

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Interceptor Drains
These are necessary when hollow-core water must be dealt with in preventing erosion and subsequent ponding in low areas. Hollow-voidage occurs when precipitation falls on an area where water is not absorbed.

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Roger Evans explains how to control weeds to get the best quality out of your turf. A chart on plants' susceptibility to herbicides will help you draw up an effective plan of action. Pages 41-45

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Anyone interested in observing this new technology, can contact John Meiklem Drainage Contractors by telephoning 01383 830217 or emailing admin@meiklem.com and quoting: BIGGA 2012

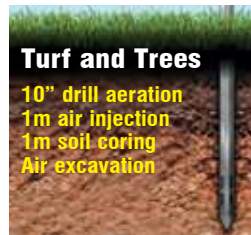
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