Please email your notes to scott@bigga.co.uk on Thursday September 22.

Club. That's all for this month forms shortly so hope to see a space.

year. We have someone in mind Patterson and I will be doing the tee for the time being, so Robert

GC on  the northern region

northern region

Saturday September 22.

Scottish Region

North

North East

North West

Midland Region

Mid Anglia

East of England

South East Region

All the latest news from your Section Around The Green

The Section has its Summer Tournament at Peterlee GC on Monday, July 11. The course was supported by our sponsor Paul Frith and Derek McJannett of Rigby Taylor. Again, contact Bruce Hicks for contributions also.

Mid Anglia

Mid Anglia Director Men

South East Region

Our latest golf day was held on Thursday, August 9th at Peterfield Golf Club.

The weather warm encouraged a good turnout and to be presented in excellent condition by Barry and his staff. The course was played by Terry and many thanks again to Nigel Levatt and Christine Belfield for continued support of the Section and impressive array of prizes on offer. Many thanks again to all of you on the one bar and catering front who again looked after us very well. Many thanks also to Tracey Maddison, from BIGGA HQ, for providing us and most of you are very welcome. At this point I would like to thank all of you who again looked after us very well. Many thanks also to Tracey Maddison, from BIGGA HQ, for providing us and most of you are very welcome. At this point I would like to thank all of you who again looked after us very well. Many thanks also to Tracey Maddison, from BIGGA HQ, for providing us and most of you are very welcome. At this point I would like to thank all of you who again looked after us very well. 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North East

Well here we go again! It’s that time of the year when Section Chairman reports, and I know where the time goes but I have to write this report no matter how time-consuming it is. Anyway here goes, first of all a big thank you to Simon Greenkeeper David Thompson, of Hexham Golf Club, who has just completed curating the gorilla ironing Challenge. This comprises a swivel, cycle ride and a marathon! It was held at Nottingham Water Sports Centre where David drove 2.4 miles in 1 hours 9 minutes followed by a 112 mile bike ride in 5 hours 49 minutes. Then, just to round off the day, he did the marathon 26.2 miles in 4h:1m:5h. Here at Hexham we were very proud of David considering he told us he would probably have to do this event in 13 hours 30 minutes but did it in 11 hours 22 minutes finishing 116th out of 650 competitors. He had trained for 20 hours a week for the last six months but he followed by a week’s holiday. Because he deserved that.

Other news fresh in comes from Newcastle College where James Curry, of Prudhoe Golf Club, who is completing his Apprenticeship, James was one of 29 candidates who was selected for the Regional interviews for the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award out of thousands of greengrass students. Unfortunately James was not selected to go forward to the National Final but this was still a great achievement nevertheless.

I won’t forget that the Autumn Comp. is on at Longthorpe Hall on September 21. Let’s hope there are a lot more members turn up.

Midland

Firstly, let me apologise for the lack of notes in previous reports. In fact I was so busy with other things that I actually have not had much time to write about, combine that with a memory of a season in the business followed by a course walk. Once again talks are ongoing but there should be more news in the near future.

Finally, for this month, I’d like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy half term holiday and all the winter work you will have to plan for over the coming months. This is mainly due to frost and snow which will require a lot of work. I can see the grass changing colour from brown to green. It always amazes me how grass can recover so quickly. However, I do say that there will be some areas that will have been too badly damaged and will require overseeding. Happily this month’s kind calendar sponsor is Matt Gresty/Professional Anxiety Grass Seed Specialist. You can call Matt on: 07767 278 335 or email him: matt.gresty@bigga.co.uk

Congratulations to Matt Gresty/Professional Anxiety Grass Seed Specialist, sponsored by Sherriff and Ammerman, for being presented in excellent condition around the course (well done Russ, when we can find you) and the four Nearest the Pin prizes, sponsored by Sherriff Ammerman x2, Global Surfaces and Trojans.

The results were as follows: 1. Steve Thompson, 42pts; 2. Ed Hopkins, 39pts; 3. Mike Hughes, 35pts; Division 1 Paul Evans, Division 2 Dave Felton, Division 3 Tony Wilson; Division 4 Paul Turner, Crocodile Golf, and Gross won by Ed Stant.

The Scorpio Double Finals is played later this month so best wishes to the four lucky players who will be going to enjoy the fantastic Wensum West course. Good luck to all.

The Section has an Education Day to Tiller’s Turf, through to Tony Cheese and Rigby Taylor, arranged for September 28. So if you have not already done so please contact them as the Quarter Finals will have taken place, so a quick well done. Commiserations to all that have got this far and may still have further to go. I’ll be there with you as the teams of: P. Frith & N. Colley, K. Farnham & A. Porter; I. Hopkin & J. Booth, M. Bunyon, D. Bronson & A. Henshaw, M. Marvel & G. Thar- mus, M. Wright, G. Stansborough and G. Buxton & S. Banks.

You will all be soon receiving your entries for the Autumn Comp. and AMP. This will be held at the excellent Forest Hill GC. If anyone is having any problems for the committee and would like to help, just ring me at Nickle Mills, I can be contacted on m51@btinternet.com

Regards
Peter Smith

East Midlands

Results from first our inaugural par-3 competition. This was played at Nailcote Hall, home to the National par-3 Championship, and sponsored by Rigby Taylor. Nine teams took part and, in the case of at least one, were undone by the smallest inadvertent green. Third place went to a team put together by Nigel Colley; second to a team of ‘drifters’, put together by Simon Banks. But the real stars of the day were the winning teams from Market Harborough, consisting of Lee Menen, Chris Worrall, Glynn Buckley and Nicki Miles, with particularly impressive displays coming from Chris and Lee. Nigel Colley and Steve Thompson took all but three of the prizes. They were last seen heading of to a new Trump course down south, again to our sponsor for the day, Rigby Taylor.

Moving on the Headland pairs competition and we are now into the Quarter and Semi Finals stages, with the final being played at Beaumaris Lakes GC on Sept 21. By the time you read this the Quarter Finals will have taken place, so a quick well done. Commiserations to all that have got this far and may still have further to go. I’ll be there with you.

Another item in discussion at the moment is the Autumn Cup, when you entertain over the winter is an education seminar this will consist of morning of talks from some of the best in the business followed by a course walk. Once again talks are ongoing but there should be more news in the near future.

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Regards
Peter Smith

East of England

Our latest golf day was held on Thursday, August 5th, at frying Pebble Beach Golf Club. The warm weather encouraged a good turnout with高达 many people present. I would like to thank President Simon Greenkeeper Glen Hopkins for kindly sponsoring us with £400, while Trade members should take this the Quarter Finals will have taken place, so a quick well done. Commiserations to all that have got this far and may still have further to go. I’ll be there with you.

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Peter Smith

South East

Mid Anglia

Another month gone by and time to put pen to paper once again!

A very warm and sunny day on Sunday, September 19th, to mark our Autumn Fix in the Dorchester Room at the Plough and Harrow, Foxhill. Many thanks also to Tracey Maddox, from Bigga HQ, for paying a visit and talking to us about membership and other ac.

Mid Anglia

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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 both would 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 Chelsfield 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.sosongbga.co.uk please contact me on 07764-862.337 or at essixbigga@talktalk.net. Arnold Phipps-Jones, Head Greenkeeper at Royal St George’s, and all the members of the BIGGA Open Support Team, especially Bill McMillan and the rest of the Green Pod. Steve Thompson, Bearded 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
grswayan@hotmail.com
www.kerrygreenkeepers.com

How to conduct a one-to-one meeting
How to conduct a team briefing
How to prepare for an appraisal
How to recruit the right staff
How to write a job description

“How To...” guides are now available exclusively to BIGGA Members, on a range of Human Resource topics.

These short, handy guides provide practical, step by step guidance on a range of subjects. The guides can be downloaded and used to help you develop your knowledge and implement new processes within your workplace.

To access the “How To...” guides, log on to the BIGGA Members Area at www.bigga.org and click on Member Resources.
South East Region

South West

When it was said “Golf a good walk spoilt”, they clearly didn't walk around Royal St George's during the 2011 Open...I did, and it was remarkable! Being part of the throng and noise was another great experience. I don't want to bore many of you with details, but if you would have read all about it as you've flicked through this month's magazine and scenario I am sure, that's if you're not too fast asleep.

Congratulations to our London Section Chairman, Aaron Percival, on his new appointment at Stolzle Planes. All the best in your new venture. Lee Cox, at Muswell Hill Golf Club, has just got engaged, and I am sure that there are many happy moments 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 being new starters, there is little wonder over the next few months there will be plenty to talk about in the lounge, but it is an important month for them if you would like to have your say within our Section. It's your Section and place in the golf industry, so I would urge you to like.

Our summer meeting at Finchley Golf Club has just played and all players were most impressed by our Section Chairman and his green staff for their hard work in preparing the course. Thank you to Finchley for hosting our tournament and to all the committee for your time spent. We look forward to hosting Finchley again in the future.

The annual golf tournament at Tankard GC has been well received and all players were most impressed by the course and the many others facing similar issues at their facilities. I in nearly every instance the responses are well reasoned and

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 welcomed by Club Captain, Tony Cumming, who was very welcoming and made everyone feel at home. June Jones, who toured the course on a buggy with lain Grant. This will next be in great shape than Mark Walshe and his team so well done to them. It was good in the main apart from a few sharp showers. The meal following the golf was fine. Steve Minton, from Tacit, was on hand to present the prizes as follows. 1. Andy Haskins, 37pts; 2. Rhys Williams, 34pts; 3. Steve Chappeall, 33pts. Best Trade/Host: Peter Lacey, 31pts. Nearest the Pin: Tony Ladbury. Longest Drive Ian Kirby.

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 is on Monday evening, and the Section Seminar, which is important if you would like to have your say within our Section. It's your Section and place in the golf industry, so I would urge you to like.

The annual golf tournament at Tankard GC has just moments away (or it has already started...?) you wouldn't believe it if you don’t have the time, but I am sure that there are many happy moments 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 being new starters, there is little wonder over the next few months there will be plenty to talk about in the lounge, but it is an important month for them if you would like to have your say within our Section. It's your Section and place in the golf industry, so I would urge you to like.

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South Coast

Hi, All, it's been a busy week 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 The Links of Weybridge 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 condition and was a credit to the committee, organiser, Kevan Glass and his team. Truly faultless. Work in August were blessed with ten days of sunshine, before twelve days of sunshine, before ten days of sunshine, before a 10 day finish-off. It was again a great experience. I don't want to bore many of you with details, but if you would have read all about it as you've flicked through this month's magazine and scenario I am sure, that's if you're not too fast asleep.

Lastly, the Section Seminar, organised by the West Section is to go ahead on October 26, at Milton Abbey School, in Dorset. This is a new venue and we hope it will be an excellent educational day out for all. It will be a great chance to get along with walks around the livestock and school facilities.

Tony Gaid

I recently had the opportunity to attend a couple of BIGGA Regional Board meetings and it has been great to catch up with many of you. We prepared to give up their time to play a part in the Association's governance.

I would like to thank our members for their support for 2011, Ecosol, Irritech Ltd, Countrywide, British Seed Company and Tacit, for sponsoring the day and in any case. While I was away at The Open, I made many new friends....You guys know who you are because you considered it unfair to treat it as junk mail. Read it over the next few months there will be plenty to talk about in the lounge, but it is an important month for them if you would like to have your say within our Section. It's your Section and place in the golf industry, so I would urge you to like.

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Brian’s career started, some say at 7, in the coal-mines but his dignity and now successor, Paul Robinson, assures me that it was at sunnyingdale GC, followed by a disillusion in the insurance industry, then Wentworth GC, Woodplon GC, then Sunningdale again before returning to sunnyingdale 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, he could have a chance to that level of excellence. Worsplon GC gave him a grand send-off and won a BBQ attended by some 120 members and friends. He said, ‘I had my breakfast, will be moving to their new home down in the New Forest, at New Milton, and hope to play some golf as members of Barton on Sea GC.’

I have myself realised that time in life when the State will repay money that I have lent and it has been 49 years in the way of an old age pension. This, although greatly reduced, will keep me in the style of life to which I have become accustomed and so, if you feel like it, dispatch of a mes- sage from yours truly, please do not allow me to do it by email.

Read carefully, the instructions and leave cash only please in the specified hiding place for my later collection. This does mean that you will still be able to enjoy re-ading every month, in this exceptional journal, stories of my life and my time in life when the State will repay money that I have lent and it has been 49 years in the way of an old age pension. This, although greatly reduced, will keep me in the style of life to which I have become accustomed and so, if you feel like it, dispatch of a message from yours truly, please do not allow me to do it by email.

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