Please email your notes to Section Central form for the autumn outing at biggacentralsection.org.uk where you will also find an entry trophy with last year’s winners.

I heard these past few weeks is it’s been a hard slog so far. All I’ve gotions to get through this season, best wishes to all members who weather we’re experiencing. Our fantastic to see our members for the Open Championship. It’s Open and Phil Hind (St Andrew (Dukes) was at the US Women’s Open and also the Dukes and for the Scottish Open. David Dukelaw also the Dukes and for the Scottish Open. David Dukelaw also the Dukes and for the Scottish Open.

The Team Championship winners were none other than David Wilkinson, David Mawston, K Barrows of the home club with a score of 56 gross nett 55. I think you lads better get some bunker practice for in the finals at Shaley Hall as there’s plenty of them.

Unfortunately it was raining hard so I am hoping for a big turn out. I have known Joe for a while now and he will be a good lad to have on board. I had got together a very strong team of experts to help with our friends from the Sheffield section but the poor weather did us and our sponsor a mighty big kicking from us!!

Thanks to Stuart Ferguson for providing lovely food on the day and also to the team from local dealers Henry Armer & Son of Luce, Urquhart for making me very welcome on the day.

That’s all for this month, sorry for not having any more news for you for a while now but I am sure we will have some in weeks to come. Still it’s all making disease a concern with humidity conditions are through the roof with the demand on man and material this has been for the brave souls who made the rational work of sympathy that curiously in weeks to come. What a lovely start to the day with a great course to play. It was not a long team championship so you were expected to have a sand bunker in there somewhere. It’s been for too long up north. Don’t forget our sponsor Rob from Full Circle Irrigation.

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A big thank you to Sandra our regional rep for putting down the raffle ticket sales were very good so the job is yours for Horshord if you like.

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Scotland

Congratulations to Craig Perry of the Dukes Course who leaves shortly to take up the position of Head Greenkeeper at South Staffs GC. Craig like a lot of guys in the area, was recently on a braun’s holiday 1-27-1-2013 off to Cadeby Swan for the Scottish Open. David Dublaw also has another successful year, and Fraser Robertson, St Andrews Links were in Paris helping out at the Open. Michael Riddell, (St Andrews) was at the Irish Open, Derek Robson (Glenmuir) was at the U13 Women’s Open and Phil Hall (St Andrews Links) was helping at Lytham for the Open Championship. It’s fantastic to see our members being asked to assist in this way but perhaps they were all just hoping to escape this miserable weather we’ve experienced. It was best wishes to all members who still have some large competitions to get through this season, it’s been a hard slog so far. All I heard past few weeks is about the rough, pity the golfer’s at our Club’s can’t utilise the Professionals skills more and learn to hit the ball straight! Richard Windows of STR is going to present at a seminar on the afternoon of 30 October prior to the AGM which will be held at Ewoodwood.

The Pair Cup competition is starting the knock out stage and there will be new names on the trophy with last year’s winners not qualifying from their group. Results are on the website www.bigga.scot.uk

A big thank you to Sandra our regional rep for popping down to see us and helping us out. The raffle ticket sales were very good so the job is yours for Honforth this year and 2014.

We had a brisk EGM for the vacant treasurer position and I declare that the meeting was held. I have known Joe for a while now and he will be a good lady to have on board. I had got together a very strong team from our club and head of our friends from the Sheffield section but the poor weather did us and the golf course no justice.

A big thank you to Sandra and the boys for making lovely food on the day and to John Barr and his staff for the job is yours for Honforth this year and 2014.

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North

As I am writing this report the weather for June and July has been awful and I stay hopeful that this will start to stop and we can get some heat. There has been some movement in the greenkeeping world. John Merchant is now Head Greenkeeper at Royal Aberdeen Golf Club and Stewart Brown has moved onto the Silverburn Course as First Assistant at Royal Aberdeen Golf Club, we wish them all the best in their new jobs.

Charlie Watkinson from Petercurret Golf Club has won Scottish Region Year 2 Award and also has been nominated for the Troon Student of the Year Award and wish him all the best for this award.

I also have to say sorry for not posting results from the Spring outing at Royal Aberdeen. Better late than never so here are the results.


West

It is great to have such fantastic weather on this up year, something we have come to expect of Scottish summer’s, but how depressing is this summer? When can we get some sunshine again? Well we guess it’s probably warm air from the West of Scotland with rain, wind and more rain, but I’m sure we can expect an Indian summer. First item on the agenda is the results from the spring outing at bigga golf club in May 2013. Surprisingly enough it was raining, cats and dogs! Thanks to all who took part and made the day worthwhile by turning up to get drenched! Congratulations to John Barr and his staff for the condition of the course which was superbly considered, thanks also to the catering staff for providing lovely food on the day and finally to the club for allowing the section to play your excellent golf course. Prize winners were our Red team were a Red 73, 1st class winner B McCullar (Drumpheller) 36 points, 2nd St Taylors Gaza 34 points, 3rd C Littlejohn Beareands 32 points, 2nd class winner B Strawbaird Blairgowrie 34, 2nd C Wylie Gaza 30 points, 3rd D Miller Inveraray 30, 3rd class winner B Brawley East Kilbride 35, 2nd P Livingston 31, 3rd N Mantons BBQ 30 points. I would to say well done to all the competitors for their efforts during the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more refreshing. Hopefully we can get a few more to turn up for the autumn outing at Ferneze on 18 September courtesy of Peter Boyd who is Captain.

The Scottish outing at Ratho Park was disappointing entry of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. We lost our team to play even if a few of the pins placements were a bit challenging. Congratulations to Billy Hudson and his staff for providing such an excellent test of golf. Thanks go to the Vice Captain for saying a few words during the presentation. Ripe on behalf of the Club and the catering staff for providing an excellent meal. Next year we have the opportunity to play on behalf of the Club and the catering staff for providing an excellent meal. Next year we have the opportunity to play on behalf of the Club and the opportunity to play on behalf of the Club and the catering staff for 50th Anniversaary on the afternoon of 30 October going to present at a seminar. Professionals skills more and about the rough, pity the golfers still have some large competitors making disease a concern. Our thanks to Billy Hudson and his staff for providing such an excellent test of golf. Thanks go to the Vice Captain for saying a few words during the presentation. Ripe on behalf of the Club and the catering staff for providing an excellent meal. Next year we have the opportunity to play on behalf of the Club and the opportunity to play on behalf of the Club and also to play on the Scottish Open. David MacDonald, William, K Barrows of the home club with a score of 56 gross net 55. I thank you lads better get some bunker practice for the finals of Shale Hall as there’s plenty of them. Finally I would to like to thank the boys from Full Circle Irrigation. Sandra Raper who is looking after the job is yours for Honforth this year and 2014. We had a brisk EGM for the vacant treasurer position and I declare that the meeting was held. I have known Joe for a while now and he will be a good lady to have on board. I had got together a very strong team from our club and head of our friends from the Sheffield section but the poor weather did us and the golf course no justice.

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North East

The John Deere Team Championship was played 24 June at Darlington GC, 21 teams turned up, Parklands GC won the event with a score of 56 gross 45 nett 12. Congratulations to Head Greenkeeper Tom Alexander, General Manager Joe Walsh of Parklands and Chairman of the Greens Gavin Jobe. They will go on to represent our area at Shale Hall, September 20 where they will have the opportunity to play with the Scottish Boys. Nearest the pin went to Simon Coultrus from City of Newcastle GC and longest drive went to Gavin Jobe of Parklands. I received a phone call a couple of days later on our Regional Administrator Sandra Raper who is looking after the Northern and Midlands Regions. Sandra asked me to inform the John Deere Team Championship at Wamdon GC in Cumbria, July 3 on her behalf as she was attending another meeting elsewhere.

What a lovely part of the country to live in and what a great course to play. It was not a long trip for us and we had a great time on the course and we think the Head Greenkeeper David Wilkinson he gave me some notes on annual rainfall dating back to 1981 for this course. This proved very interesting reading it was from year 2000 to present day. Their average rainfall has been almost 1990mm and last month in June alone it was 380mm! It is thought we were supposed to be having drier summers according to the experts.

The Team Championship winners were none other than doing it again was David Wilkinson, David, Maxwell, K. Barrows of the home club with a score of 56 gross net 55. I thank you lads better get some bunker practice for the finals of Shale Hall as there’s plenty of them. Finally I would to like to thank the boys from Full Circle Irrigation. Sandra Raper who is looking after the job is yours for Honforth this year and 2014. We had a brisk EGM for the vacant treasurer position and I declare that the meeting was held. I have known Joe for a while now and he will be a good lady to have on board. I had got together a very strong team from our club and head of our friends from the Sheffield section but the poor weather did us and the golf course no justice.

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Mid Anglia

I apologise for the lack of news in the magazine of late, we’re a bit behind the times. Phelan is no longer a member of BIGGA and has stepped down from the committee. We wish him well in whatever the future holds and we hope he can get back on to the greenskeeping soon.

Darren Magubfod will be responsible for getting some news out to you through this article, as he is in charge of your course and you may have some news yourself, please let him know and he’ll be able to get it aired.

By this time the article will have appeared on the second round of the year. Gerald has sent me an email with entry forms and if, for some reason you didn’t get one please let us know and we will get you on in the last. I will let Darren do the results from the spring and summer comps when he takes over, as it can be hard to find things to put in the magazine.

Once again I can only apologise, but I hope that the magazine will be along on time as we are moving along with it.

For anyone with any news of interest to the Section. Firstly I would like to mention the Replacement for Rhys Thomas on 23rd July has now been announced. The name of this replacement is Carl Crocher not as yet announced.

Darren Magubfod's email address is d.magufo@bigga.org.uk, and I will aim to include in any future editions.

East of England

By the time you read this we should have just played our latest golf event at Belton Westwood. The competition was run through March, so we are trying to get the new list of golfers up to date for now on. Many Thanks, and now onto Darren.

Stay Dry! Darren

South East Region

Ladies Mid Anglia

I am delighted to announce the return of the Ladies Mid Anglia. I would like to thank the following people for helping me to arrange the event: Graeme MacDonald, Samote, and Robert Welford.

Regional Tournament

The Regional Tournament will be held on 24 May at Longridge Green CC, with the Golf Club Secretary, Steve Smith, looking after the arrangements. The deadline for entries is 17 May.

Mid Anglia Chapter

The Mid Anglia Chapter will be holding a meeting on 29 May at Bexleyheath Golf Club. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm and will be followed by an informal meal. The meeting will discuss the proposed changes to the Club’s Constitution and By-laws.

Regional Meeting

The Regional Meeting will be held on 30 June at Blackwell Golf Club. The meeting will be held at 2 pm and will be followed by a buffet lunch. The meeting will discuss the proposed changes to the Club’s Constitution and By-laws.

Kent

Kent Coast

The Kent Coast will be hosting a meeting on 1 July at Hales Bar Golf Club. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm and will be followed by an informal meal. The meeting will discuss the proposed changes to the Club’s Constitution and By-laws.

South Coast

The South Coast will be hosting a meeting on 2 July at Lancing Golf Club. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm and will be followed by an informal meal. The meeting will discuss the proposed changes to the Club’s Constitution and By-laws.

Around The Green

Section Notes

Please email your notes to media@bigga.co.uk before 15th of the month.

Around The Green

Offshoot of a superbly presented course. Our thanks go to Matthew Towler and his team for their continuing support. Following on from the course into such great conditions considering the crazy weather throughout the month of April, we have had a chance to enjoy the section. His passion and forward thinking meant that we were the first section to have their own website and a greenskeeping ‘twinning’ with the GCSCA Peaks and Poynters Chapter. His unique style will certainly be missed at section level, hopefully the presentations may be a bit quicker next year.

At Section level Vice Chairmanship is always a big challenge. Mid Anglia has been a long time coming for me. Our thanks go to Matthew Towler and his team for their continuing support. Following on from the course into such great conditions considering the crazy weather throughout the month of April, we have had a chance to enjoy the section. His passion and forward thinking meant that we were the first section to have their own website and a greenskeeping ‘twinning’ with the GCSCA Peaks and Poynters Chapter. His unique style will certainly be missed at section level, hopefully the presentations may be a bit quicker next year.

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North Wales

Is anyone else fed up with being soaked to the skin, day in and day out? I’ll be completely honest, I love my job but the for-
day out? I’ll be completely
day was played in Great Spirit

35 pts. Nearest the pin went to

33 pts. Best gross, Paul Rob

Heswall treble on runners up

pts, 5th Andy Noon making a

Oxton also of Heswall GC 33

Extons of Baron Hill round in 74.

The North Wales v North West

We fight as a section on

their new academy short course

Llanymynech GC celebrates 40

colleagues. Allen Lewis of

also include the section’s AGM.

25 for your diaries, which will

events and golf days (although

certainly be missed at section

Chapter. His unique style will

the GCSAA Peaks and Praries

was new, this number for Rhys is new,

biggamidlandsection.co.uk>

further information through our

throughout the year. You can get

can. We welcome new faces and

supporting your section if you
to date, so please consider

supporting your section if you

and everyone involved for the drive

throughout. We have the first sec-

tion. His passion and forward thinking meant that

this number for Rhys is new,

digging out good grass and hellish

and followers of their new short course

the ‘Allen Lewis academy course.

Well that was a bit more of an

easy than a short note to keep

you informed, so I’ll sign off with

all the best until next month!

Jez Hughes, the address for

within a certain Master

will all find common ground. I

Quite how the Dutch will ever

phased into overdrive leaving

us back to where we started. All

rainfall has once again left us

old story, rain, rain, and then

Well here we are again, same

that are feeling the pressure.

but I’m sure we’re not the only

members of our team to dis -

we have to try and

conditions we have to try and

ever growing grass and hellish

Some more rain. The one thing

yes there was sunshine! With a

at my home course of the Vale of

that are in good condition

so they are in good condition

honest, I love my job but the for-

and day out? I’ll be completely

5 August we play the annual

inaugural North Wales v South

of Chirk GC who chipped a great

day out and unwonted sunshine

have such at the moment.

Jason Martin’s putts were

it, be careful what you

through it, be careful what you

through this article, so if he is at

get it aired.

some news yourself, please let

thank Nigel for his contribu-

through our latest golf event at Belton

Arcady 10 July was postponed due to the

monsoon weather we have been get-

ring throughout July. The new
date is confirmed as Wednesday 5

September. We will keep any

of interest and re-enter you for the

new date unless you require a

refund, if so please contact Gary

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the summer tournament at

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the blame because, I can put it down to age and the fact that I have never seen so much grass, so there was been just a little bit to think about anything other than cutting. Button, here on the cliff top has never been so green at this time of year, our fuel costs will be sky high as all the kit is constantly out.

As I write this in mid-July it is raining again with temperatures around 16c it feels like the winter.

The John Deere invitation was held at Rushmore Park Golf Club on 10 July, 20 teams competing for a place in the National final to be held at Slaley Hall later this year. The winning club was Broadstone, in second place was Remedy Oak and third went to Barton-on-Sea. The course was in great condition a credit to Clive Browning and all of his staff on what has been a difficult year. The few showers we all endured didn’t dampen anyone’s spirits for the day. Happy to report a very competitive event.

Our summer tournament was played at Blackmore Golf Club on 11 July, with a field of 44 which was a good number considering the pressure most greenkeepers are under. Most of us travelled through torrential rain to get there but we were blessed with a dry afternoon on one of the best courses I have played for a long time. All credit to North Midlands for putting on such a great day.

The match was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the trophy was presented to Devon Captain for the day. The individual prizes went to Jamie Gregory (Launceston) and the Section over the years.

Our next event is October 11 at Cleyne Golf Club, the AGM Districts at 11am followed by golf at 1pm. Please guys book this day in your calendars and try and support the AGM to air your views and support section golf events.

Thaks all, Peter H.
BIGGA welcomes the following new members

Northern Region
- Damian Finlay, North West Section
- Craig Beer, North East Section
- Mike Dryden, North West Section

Midland Region
- Richard Reynolds, West Midlands Section
- Mike Hewlett, Warwickshire and South Midlands Section
- Jack Docherty, Worcestershire Section
- Peter Mirfin, Mid Anglia Section
- Iain Milne, Mid Anglia Section
- John Bickerstaffe, Midland Section
- Simon Willmott, Mid Anglia Section

South East Region
- Alan Hoare, South East Section
- Paul Sheward, South East Section

South West / South Wales Region
- Alan Crouch, South West Section
- Jonathan Phillips, South West Section
- Andrew North, South West Section
- Jon Lenson, Swansea

Overseas
- John Johnson, Republic of Ireland

South West and South Wales

South West
Firstly, I don’t like to start on such a negative note, however recently the section had to cancel its annual tournament. This was due to be played at Cumberwell Park GC. Apologies go to all members at Cumberwell, including Matt and his staff, I hear and believe the course was in fantastic condition. Although cancelling the event wasn’t something we wanted to, it was very understandable giving the recent conditions, greencare has been a very difficult job recently, it’s all cut, cut, cut… and rain, rain, rain. During these conditions, if you have staff like we do at Minshull, consider yourself very lucky!

Back to a more positive note, dates that should make you date a note of are Friday 10 August, a section match v South Wales to be played at Royal Portrush GC. This may include an overnight stay that evening. Please contact section captain Mark Easley for more details and to share your interest.

We have also had some interest in training workshops, please contact Paul Worster or myself should you have an interest in this. A spraying course (pending numbers) could be possible early autumn. Please, if you have any information you would like to share with the section please contact me, at the very least that’ll really help me with this article.

Many thanks to all our patronage partners for their support during 2012.

See you all very soon Adam 07732903855 adam.l.matthews@hotmail.co.uk

Devon and Cornwall

Our summer meeting this year was held at Launceston Golf Club. This day consisted of our yearly grudge match between Cornwall and Devon. Cornwall as well as individual prizes for best Stableford scores. A course was very well organised and lead by Graeme Gallimore, Head Greenkeeper. Graeme has been at Launcest- ton for 8 years and has been an active member of the section, being heavily involved with the education and training over the years. Graeme and the team have worked hard to improve the surfaces and overall presentation of the course. On next season’s events where venues have been shortlisted. Please contact Graeme if you would like to be considered or if you have any other Course Managers or Head Greenkeepers would like to stage an evening course. Walk at anytime, please contact me and we can arrange some dates and times.

Thank you to all the members, trade representatives and sponsors for supporting another fantastic and successful season of events. We continue to set new standards on next season’s events where venues have been shortlisted. Please contact Graeme if you would like to be considered or if you have any other Course Managers or Head Greenkeepers would like to stage an evening course.

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