**SOUTH WEST & WALES**

The weather must be men- 
then, after one of the wettest 
December’s record, a solidly 
framed January and a set, 
cold and dark start to February (some might call it winter) there are 
glimmers of a rope on the 
horizon. This morning the sun 
is shining, temperatures are up 
ever so slightly and there is a 
touch of spring in the air, long 
may it continue.

On 5 March the section is 
holding a brilliant event at 
Chippingham Golf Club. The 
deck will involve a course walk in 
the morning hosted by Course 
Manager Chris Sealey who will 
give everyone a tour of the 
recently constructed holes and 
detail the trials and tribulations 
that challenged the club during 
and since construction. 
Follow on in the afternoon there 
will be five presentations given 
by greenkeepers from across 
the region, most of which you will 
know.

As promised most of the 
years features have been 
finalized and are as follows: 
Wed 24 April, Atkin Minchinhampton 
Golf Club, Wed 29 May Section V 
Secretaries The Manor House, 
Wed 12 June Summer Tour-
ament Kingsdown GC, Thur 15 
July Section V Welsh Chip- 
ping Riverside, Thur 26 Sept 
Section V South Coast North 
Wilton GC, Wed 16 Oct ACM 
Giffnock GC and finally Thur 19 
Dec Christmas Tournament Ogbourne 
Downs GC. Please note that the 
Summer Tournament tee times 
have been pushed back to 1pm 
with light lunch before the end 
of the day to make it after a 
morning at work.

We will get all of these dates 
onto BIGGA South West Facebook and also they will 
be coming out via email mailing 
lists. If anyone is not receiving 
Section Emails please email 
Adam or myself and we will 
give your address onto the list. 
adam.1.mathew@hotmail.co.uk.

It was had by all and some of us 
even found time to catch up 
with mates both old and new 
looking long days in both the 
show and Continue to Learn. 
Keep up the support, see you all 
at the upcoming Section days 
and keep the news coming.

Jonay Goodchild (07984422905) 
goodchild@bigga.co.uk

**DEVON AND CORNWALL**

Our February meeting was 
held at Thurlestone Golf Club, 
South Devon. After some very 
unusual overnight conditions includ-
ing snow within a few miles away, 
we were very pleased to come 
complete this event and thank 
you to the 50 attendees who 
made the journey. The golf 
format for the day was individual 
Stableford playing for the Toro 
Trophy. Results: 1 John Welsh 
(Warren) 34 points, 2 Pete 
Newman (Wanglinton) 35pts, 3 
Gordon Tatham (Milton) 31 
pts. Gordon also won longest 
drive and nearest the pin.

The remaining members were 
taken on a course walk led by 
Vic Dyer (Head Greenkeeper). 
Vic has been at Thurlestone for 
18 years and has been 
Head Greenkeeper for seven years. 
The attendees saw all parts of 
the course which was in 
fantastic condition and a credit 
to Vic and the team. The walk 
culminated in a visit to their 
brand new maintenance facili-
ties. The new complex has 
been extremely well designed and laid 
out taking into consideration 
visual impact and economy of 
space. I would strongly suggest 
that anyone were considering 
upgrading their facilities to visit 
Thurlestone.

A huge thank you to our spon-
sors for the day, Devon Garden 
Machinery and Martyn Lane 
Golf for sponsoring the day 
and the prizes. Also, a big thank 
to Vic, the Greenkeeping team 
and all the staff at Thurlestone for 
helping it become a very suc-
scessful and enjoyable day.

Section Minibus was taken 
up to Harragoe again this year, 
sponsored by Furama and Sher-
riff Amenity a big thank you to 
both for supporting the Section. 
Nine members made use of this 
including Kevin Paterson (Tre-

coso) sponsored by the Region, 
Martin Cornish (Launceston) 
selected and sponsored by 
Duchy College. Special thanks to 
Anthony ‘Jackie’ James for driving 
the bus again, especially with 
the wintry conditions, thanks Jackie!

Our Spring Seminar this 
year will be at St Mellion on 
Wednesday 13 March, details of 
which should have been sent to 
you by now. If you have not 
already secured a place, please 
contact me up to Harrogate again this year, 
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**SOUTH WALES**

Good Morning South Wales, 
it is Tuesday and Wednesday 
and all the staff at Thurlestone 
are considering some of the machin- 

ergy guys were not in attendance 
and more importantly the hor-
rendous driving conditions on 
the way up.

I’ve never seen so many 
guys from South Wales make the 
over 500 mile round trip (even 
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