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 tramania’s holiday on the Isle of Skye for the Scottish Open. David Duhler also has just started a “six month secondment” for Fraser Robertson, its Assistant to the Clay whom I met for a tour of the Links and was in Paris helping out at the Parc des Princes and was back in Paris helping out at Castle Stuart at South Staffs GC. Craig like a lot of guys in the area, was recently on a tramania’s holiday on the Isle of Skye for the Scottish Open. David Duhler also has just started a “six month secondment” for Fraser Robertson, its Assistant to the Clay whom I met for a tour of the Links and was in Paris helping out at the Parc des Princes and was back in Paris helping out at Castle Stuart.

As I am writing this report the weather for June and July has been awful and I stay hopeful that this winter will stop and we can get some heat. There has been some movement in the greenkeeping world. John Merchant is now Head Greenkeeper at the Golf Centre and Stewart Brown has moved onto the Silverburn Course as First Assistant at Royal Aberdeen GC. Stewart Brown is very happy with the new job and has taken the initiative to change the practice of the Club and make things run nice and smoothly.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected. The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

North

As I am writing this report the weather for June and July has been awful and I stay hopeful that this winter will stop and we can get some heat. There has been some movement in the greenkeeping world. John Merchant is now Head Greenkeeper at the Golf Centre and Stewart Brown has moved onto the Silverburn Course as First Assistant at Royal Aberdeen GC. Stewart Brown is very happy with the new job and has taken the initiative to change the practice of the Club and make things run nice and smoothly.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected. The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.

The Scottish outing at Ratho was a good one and the prize giving ceremony of 42 players compete for a wonderful variety of prizes on a lovely golf course. Everyone played their part in making a success of the day, the total entrants of 34 was a bit more than expected.
 Penalised for the lack of news in the magazine, we have appointed a new assistant greenkeeper to the course in mid-summer. Darren Mugford has joined the team.

Mid Anglia

On the other side of the country, back in the midlands, the weather has been far kinder. Jeff Allinson of Patshull Park GC has had a busy summer thus far. The club has held two competitions, and Jeff has managed to organise these events and golf days (although the presentations may be a bit quicker now).

At Level section Vice Chairman Alan Beveridge hopes that the team can get back over as Chairman for the time being.

Darren Mugford will be managing the new course from now on. He assures us that the new manager is happy with the progress and that all clubs are feeling the pressure.

North Wales

North Wales and South Wales will be entering their second competition. On the 2nd August we play the annual North Wales v North West match at Oxley Park on 11 July was a real mess. Two days pushing fairways and putting bases was followed by another 35mm of rain putting us back on the course. This coupled with warm temperatures and salt spray has sent our grass faces into overdrive. With the weather, constant rainfall has once again left us wishing for nothing but to be able to get out on the course to play some great golf. If anybody has any info for the results please email me at d.mugford@rigbytaylor.com as soon as possible and please aim to include in any future editions.

Stay Dry! Darren

South East Region

Mid Anglia

I apologise for the lack of news in the magazine of late, we’ve had so much going on. Peter Maybury is a member of BIGGA and has stepped down from the committee. We wish him well in whatever career path he has chosen. We are sure he will be a big loss to the team.

At the time this article was written we will have played our second competition of the year. Gerald has sent and 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 summer and spring comps when he takes over, as it can be hard to put things in the magazine.

On my own course just trying to keep it tidy and under control for the upcoming summer. Just a heads-up to those who I believe is ex-Willingdon.

Still just as busy as ever and the course resembling a silage factory into overdrive leaving the course into a real mess. Two days pushing fairways and putting in the race.

The weather still hasn’t improved much, the course resembles a silage factory into overdrive leaving the course into a real mess. Two days pushing fairways and putting bases was followed by another 35mm of rain putting us back on the course. All this coupled with warm temperatures and salt spray has sent our grass faces into overdrive. With the weather, constant rainfall has once again left us wishing for nothing but to be able to get out on the course to play some great golf. If anybody has any info for the results please email me at d.mugford@rigbytaylor.com as soon as possible and please aim to include in any future editions.

Stay Dry! Darren

East of England

By the time you read this we should have just played your latest golf event at Belton Park from 3rd to 5th July. It was a good month. The big news in the section this month does not involve any club news but the departure of our section chairman Wayne Eaves. Allan Walker has been our Chairman for the past few years, and it was about time he moved on to take on another role. We will miss Wayne, and we wish him all the best in future ventures and hope to see you back with us soon.

The first event of the season was the Spring Tournament held on 31st May at Letchworth Golf Club. The weather was terrible and the group of players had to endure the constant threat of rain. The 33 players largely managed to stay dry and enjoyed the challenges of a superbly presented course. Our thanks go to Matthew Towler and his team for their outstanding efforts. However, the course into such great expectations considering the crazy weather conditions they were facing. We can only look forward to next year’s spring/summer.

The results from the Spring Tournament were as follows:

1st Place – John Haley from North Wales GC with 35 points.
2nd Place – Simon Woolley from Brickendon Green GC with 36 points.
3rd Place – Brian Harris from Krewston GC.

Next pin on went to T_STYLE.

Darren should drive on 4th until Gerald Bruce.

Just incase anybody didn’t know that the Dutch Open has now been lifted! Since it was implemented there has been record rainfall for April, June and July all total a washout. Let’s hope the sun shows itself at some point soon to lift our spirits and help the grass to grow. Of course with the kind of putting surfaces we all have in store! Not much to write about this month, other than the rain is pouring in and the grass continues to grow. It seems to me we are all trying to get out between showers proves to be a big challenge as barely a day goes by without another cloudburst soaking us all up. It’s a bit like you really appreciate good drainage. I hope that those of you who are in the other parts of the country that have been hit far more severely than us will not come down to this with the extreme conditions and that, when the weather finally turns and the waters recede, you still have some reserves. But course before work to make your magic on.

Our summer pairs knockout is in full swing and the format is the same as last year. Thanks to all those who entered this great, fast championship.

Check the website for up to the minute results.

Darren Mugford will be in charge of the section meetings and to educate them in golf course management.

Our search is for someone who is looking to start a career in golf course management. The person we require would have to be very keen and be prepared to learn on the job.

On my own course just trying to keep it tidy and under control for the upcoming summer. Just a heads-up to those.
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- ever growing grass and hellish conditions is keeping it tidy and under control is driving me and the other greenkeepers at the moment that are feeling the pressure. Oh well... now we finally played the mid- summer / spring tournament at Broughton, thanks to Pete and his team for the great facilities. I love doing is putting on my greenkeeping skills - and I am quite sure that he already will all find common ground. I expect the section will extend an invitation at Hales Bar. 

As for the weather, constant rain, then some more rain. The one thing I love doing is putting on my greens, fertilising our complexes... and then more rain. It’s so frustrating, I have been employed to try and keep it tidy and under control but so I can go fly fishing. I usually work on the course with the weather running through it, be careful what you wish for. I do not envy those that have to deal with this environment. 

The summer tournament at Oxdy Park on 11 July was postponed due to the monsoon type weather we have been get- ting throughout July. The new date is confirmed as Wednesday 5 September. We shall keep any members who enter the competition for the new date unless you require a refund, if so please contact Gary Rigbytaylor.com.

As for the weather, constant rain has once again left us with grass very accessible by boat! Not quite as bad as 2007 but far off. 40mm of rain in low lying areas is not really real mess. Two days pushing up greens with heavy rolling and cul- tivating bases was followed by another 35mm of rain putting us back a week. All this coupled with warm tem- peratures has sent our grass faces into overdrive as we try to keep the course resembling a golf course to the best of our ability. It’s times like this when we really appreciate good drainage. I hope that those of you involved in the weather in other parts of the country that have been hit far more severely than us are not experiencing this spring/summer. Despite this, our latest golf event at Belton Wood was a great success and we would like to thank everyone who entered and contributed to making the event a huge success. 

On this first occasion of the year the weather was Gary Negus from Willingdon GC and the course seemed to drain well. At the beginning of the year we had to thank everyone involved for the drive and enthusiasm we have had so far in the season. His passion and forward thinking meant that we were the first section to have their own website and a glossy magazine 'Turfing' with the GCUSA Peaks and Paries Chapter. His unique style will certainly make an impact on national events and golf days (although the presentations may be a bit quicker now)

At Section level Vice Chair- man is now in the position of providing a monthly look into the life of Midland Region Chairman and Vice Chairman Rob Welford will now assume this position. On behalf of everyone in the section I would like to wish Allan all the best in his new venture. Quite how the Dutch will ever recover in the complex world of greenkeeping, I am as far as one can go. You simply can’t do it. And finally, I would like to welcome a young back to our profession, a certain Master Marcus Dicke, who is now with the team at Stratford-Upon-Avon GC. He is literally at the start of his career and will be a big help in the near future.

I hope that those of you involved in the weather in other parts of the country that have been hit far more severely than us are not experiencing this spring/summer. Despite this, our latest golf event at Belton Wood was a great success and we would like to thank everyone who entered and contributed to making the event a huge success. On this first occasion of the year the weather was Gary Negus from Willingdon GC and the course seemed to drain well. At the beginning of the year we had to thank everyone involved for the drive and enthusiasm we have had so far in the season. His passion and forward thinking meant that we were the first section to have their own website and a glossy magazine 'Turfing' with the GCUSA Peaks and Paries Chapter. His unique style will certainly make an impact on national events and golf days (although the presentations may be a bit quicker now)

At Section level Vice Chair- man is now in the position of providing a monthly look into the life of Midland Region Chairman and Vice Chairman Rob Welford will now assume this position. On behalf of everyone in the section I would like to wish Allan all the best in his new venture. Quite how the Dutch will ever recover in the complex world of greenkeeping, I am as far as one can go. You simply can’t do it. And finally, I would like to welcome a young back to our profession, a certain Master Marcus Dicke, who is now with the team at Stratford-Upon-Avon GC. He is literally at the start of his career and will be a big help in the near future.

I hope that those of you involved in the weather in other parts of the country that have been hit far more severely than us are not experiencing this spring/summer. Despite this, our latest golf event at Belton Wood was a great success and we would like to thank everyone who entered and contributed to making the event a huge success. On this first occasion of the year the weather was Gary Negus from Willingdon GC and the course seemed to drain well. At the beginning of the year we had to thank everyone involved for the drive and enthusiasm we have had so far in the season. His passion and forward thinking meant that we were the first section to have their own website and a glossy magazine 'Turfing' with the GCUSA Peaks and Paries Chapter. His unique style will certainly make an impact on national events and golf days (although the presentations may be a bit quicker now)

At Section level Vice Chair- man is now in the position of providing a monthly look into the life of Midland Region Chairman and Vice Chairman Rob Welford will now assume this position. On behalf of everyone in the section I would like to wish Allan all the best in his new venture. Quite how the Dutch will ever recover in the complex world of greenkeeping, I am as far as one can go. You simply can’t do it. And finally, I would like to welcome a young back to our profession, a certain Master Marcus Dicke, who is now with the team at Stratford-Upon-Avon GC. He is literally at the start of his career and will be a big help in the near future.

I hope that those of you involved in the weather in other parts of the country that have been hit far more severely than us are not experiencing this spring/summer. Despite this, our latest golf event at Belton Wood was a great success and we would like to thank everyone who entered and contributed to making the event a huge success. On this first occasion of the year the weather was Gary Negus from Willingdon GC and the course seemed to drain well. At the beginning of the year we had to thank everyone involved for the drive and enthusiasm we have had so far in the season. His passion and forward thinking meant that we were the first section to have their own website and a glossy magazine 'Turfing' with the GCUSA Peaks and Paries Chapter. His unique style will certainly make an impact on national events and golf days (although the presentations may be a bit quicker now)

At Section level Vice Chair- man is now in the position of providing a monthly look into the life of Midland Region Chairman and Vice Chairman Rob Welford will now assume this position. On behalf of everyone in the section I would like to wish Allan all the best in his new venture. Quite how the Dutch will ever recover in the complex world of greenkeeping, I am as far as one can go. You simply can’t do it. And finally, I would like to welcome a young back to our profession, a certain Master Marcus Dicke, who is now with the team at Stratford-Upon-Avon GC. He is literally at the start of his career and will be a big help in the near future.
Our summer meeting this year was held at Launceston Golf Club. The day consisted of our yearly grudge match between the sections and 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. For supporting another fantastic and successful season of events and next year’s season’s events where venues have been shortlisted. Please contact biggestgreenkeepers@bigga.co.uk if you would like to be considered or considered the recent heavy showers would like to have an event at any specific venues.

General Pitts
Section Secretary
BIGGA Devon & Cornwall
07909 754401
gittf.yelverton@gmail.com

South Wales
We have also had some interesting in training workshops, please contact Paul Wootter 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, myself, at the very least that would really help me with this article...

Many thanks to all our patronage partners for their support during 2012. See you all very soon
Adam 07732503855
adam.l.matthews@hotmail.co.uk
North West & South Wales

Our summer meeting this year was held at Launceston Golf Club. The day consisted of our yearly grudge match between Devon and Cornwall. The match was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston 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 his team have worked hard to improve the course and overall presentation of the facilities. The Section have donated and presented the Section’s pin and longest drive trophies to Graeme for his ongoing support of the Section and the course. The match was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston 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 his team have worked hard to improve the course and overall presentation of the facilities. The Section have donated and presented the Section’s pin and longest drive trophies to Graeme for his ongoing support of the Section and the course.

South West

Winners, with an obscene score for the stifling hot day, was Tom Lees with a 39 and 3rd was Barry with 40. 44 points was the next score and was a good number of points considering the pressure most greengrass keepers are under.

South West and South Wales

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

Back to a more positive note, dates that should make you mark your calendars for 2012 are:

- Saturday 14th April - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 20th May - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 17th June - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 1st July - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 15th July - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 22nd July - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 29th July - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 5th August - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 12th August - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 19th August - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 26th August - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 2nd September - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 9th September - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 16th September - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 23rd September - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.
- Saturday 30th September - Devon vs Cornwall match between Devon and Cornwall, this year was held at Launceston Golf Club, Cornwall. The day was won by Devon after a 3 year drought and the Section over the years. Graeme has been at Launceston for 8 years.

For more information on these dates please contact your Section/Club Captain, details can be found on the members area of the BIGGA website.
Diary of Events

Details of your Section’s forthcoming events in 2012 can be found here...

**Date** | **Event** | **Venue** | **Contact**
--- | --- | --- | ---
**AUGUST**
August 1st | East Anglia Golf Event | Royal Norwich Golf Club | Ian Willett Tel: Mobile 07929 203398 or email: info@biggaeastanglia.co.uk
August 2nd | East of England Event | Belton Woods Hotel & Golf Club | Bruce Hicks Tel mobile: 07931 714922 or email: brucae@biggae.co.uk
August 9th | Midland Region Golf Management Event sponsored by Tacit Golf UK | Verulam Golf Club | Sandra Raper on Mobile: 07866 366966 or email: sandra@bigga.co.uk
August 16th | Scottish Team Event Golf Day | Auchterarder Golf Club | Gordon Moir Email: gmoir@standrews.org.uk
August 22nd | Scottish East Section Tournament | Mortonhall Golf Club | Stuart Ferguson Email: stuferg@btinternet.com
**SEPTEMBER**
September 5th | BIGGA Seminars | Saltex, Windsor Racecourse | BIGGA House, 01347 833800 option 3 or info@bigga.co.uk
September 11th | North Wales Section Event | St Melyd Golf Club | Jez Hughes, Tel mobile: 07876 776265 or email: jezpro69@aol.com
September 13th | North West Section Event | Penwortham Golf Club | Chris Sheehan, email: jsheehan@blueyonder.co.uk
September 13th | Scottish East Section Tournament | Blankney Golf Club | Bruce Hicks Tel mobile: 07931 714922 or email: brucae@biggae.co.uk
September 18th | Scottish West Section Golf Day | Granton-on-Spey Golf Club | Dale Robertson, email: daleturnbery@aol.com
September 19th | Scottish East Section Autumn Event | Murrayfield Golf Club | Stuart Ferguson, email: stuferg@btinternet.com
September 20th | Scottish Central Section Golf Day | Piperdam Golf & Leisure Resort | Gordon Moir, email: gmoir@standrews.org.uk
September 26th | Essex Section Event | Stoke-by-Nayland Golf Club | Arnold Phipps-Jones, email: essesbigga@talktalk.net

### BIGGA Seminars at SALTEX 2012

**Wednesday 5 September 2012**

**at The Grandstand, Royal Windsor Race Course**

**BIGGA** is delighted to have once again, been invited by the IOG to present a series of seminars at SALTEX 2012. This year we will be bringing you some of the greatest hits from the extremely successful **Continue to Learn at BTME 2012**.

#### 10.15 am – 11.15 am

**Managing Winter Kill**

David Cole, Golf Course Estate Manager, Loch Lomond Golf Club

In the winter of 2009/10 the greens at Loch Lomond suffered from devastating winter kill. This session will give an insight to the damage that occurred and the precautions that were taken in 2010/11 to prevent similar problems.

#### 11.30 am – 12.30 pm

**From Grazing to Scottish Open Status in Five Years**

Chris Haspell, Course Manager, Castle Stuart Golf Club

In this session Chris will discuss his experiences of building a links golf course and it’s grow in. He will also describe the journey towards the Scottish Open 2011, the event, the rain and the recovery.

#### 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm

**Organic Matter – Friend or Foe**

Paul Lowe, Technical Sales Manager, Symbio

Measuring organic matter levels is becoming very popular, almost an industry standard procedure. This information can be invaluable to green keepers and grounds men. However, how do we decipher between thatch and organic matter and why it is important to do so. This seminar will discuss the various differences between problematic thatch and beneficial organic matter, the problems with working to a figure, the difference between drainage and percolation rates and how you can turn the thatch to your advantage.

**BIGGA CPD Credits**

0.5 CPD credits are available for each seminar.

A CPD register will be available at the end of each seminar.

**BTME is back**

for it’s 24th year, at the Harrogate International Centre

**BIGGA TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION** 22-24 JANUARY 2013
# Diary of Events

Details of your Section’s forthcoming events in 2012 can be found here...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>East Anglia Golf Event</td>
<td>Royal Norwich Golf Club</td>
<td>Ian Willett Tel: 07929 205398 or email: biggaseastanglia.co.uk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>East of England Event</td>
<td>Belton Woods Hotel &amp; Golf Club</td>
<td>Bruce Hicks Tel mobile: 07931 714922 or email: <a href="mailto:bruichicks@gmail.com">bruichicks@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Midland Region Golf Management Event sponsored by Tacit Golf UK</td>
<td>Verulam Golf Club</td>
<td>Sandra Raper On Mobile: 07866 366966 or email: <a href="mailto:sandra@bigga.co.uk">sandra@bigga.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Scottish Team Event Golf Day</td>
<td>Auchterarder Golf Club</td>
<td>Gordon Moir Email: <a href="mailto:gmoir@standrews.org.uk">gmoir@standrews.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Essex Section Day</td>
<td>Rockford Hundred Golf Club</td>
<td>Arnold Phipps-Jones Tel: 07766 862337 or email: <a href="mailto:essxbigga@talktalk.net">essxbigga@talktalk.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Scottish East Section Tournament</td>
<td>Mortonhall Golf Club</td>
<td>Stuart Ferguson Email: <a href="mailto:studferg@btinternet.com">studferg@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Northern Section Event</td>
<td>Hooftforth Golf Club</td>
<td>Andrew Slingby Email: <a href="mailto:slingsbyfamily@virginmedia.com">slingsbyfamily@virginmedia.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Scottish North Section Golf Day</td>
<td>Granton-on-Spey Golf Club</td>
<td>Dale Robertson, email: <a href="mailto:daleturnberry@aol.com">daleturnberry@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>BIGGA Seminars</td>
<td>Saltex, Windsor Racecourse</td>
<td>BIGGA House, 01347 833800 contact 3 or email: bigga.co.uk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>North Wales Section Event</td>
<td>St Michael Golf Club</td>
<td>Jez Hughes, Tel mobile: 07876 776265 or email: <a href="mailto:jenpro69@aol.com">jenpro69@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>North West Section Event</td>
<td>Penwortham Golf Club</td>
<td>Chris Shervan, email: <a href="mailto:jsherban@tbcynder.co.uk">jsherban@tbcynder.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>East of England Section Event</td>
<td>Blankeney Golf Club</td>
<td>Bruce Hicks Tel mobile: 07931 714922 or email: <a href="mailto:bruichicks@gmail.com">bruichicks@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Scottish North Section Golf Day</td>
<td>Granton-on-Spey Golf Club</td>
<td>Dale Robertson, email: <a href="mailto:daleturnberry@aol.com">daleturnberry@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Scottish West Section Golf Day</td>
<td>Frenneze Golf Club</td>
<td>Fraser Ross, email: <a href="mailto:karen.ross@tesco.net">karen.ross@tesco.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Scottish East Section Autumn Event</td>
<td>Murrayfield Golf Club</td>
<td>Stuart Ferguson, email: <a href="mailto:studferg@btinternet.com">studferg@btinternet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Scottish Central Section Golf Day</td>
<td>Piramid Golf &amp; Leisure Resort</td>
<td>Gordon Moir, email: <a href="mailto:gmoir@standrews.org.uk">gmoir@standrews.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>South Coast Section v/s South Wiltshire Golf Club</td>
<td>Salisbury &amp; South Wiltshire Golf Club</td>
<td>Alex McCombie, email: <a href="mailto:southcoastsecretary@gmail.com">southcoastsecretary@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Essex Section Event</td>
<td>Stoke-by-Nayland Golf Club</td>
<td>Arnold Phipps-Jones, email: <a href="mailto:essxbigga@talktalk.net">essxbigga@talktalk.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**BIGGA Seminars at SALTEx 2012**

Wednesday 5 September 2012
at The Grandstand, Royal Windsor Race Course

BIGGA is delighted to have once again, been invited by the IOG to present a series of seminars at SALTEx 2012. This year we will be bringing you some of the greatest hits from the extremely successful Continue to Learn at BTME 2012.

### 10.15 am – 11.15 am
**Managing Winter Kill**

David Cole, Golf Course/Estates Manager, Loch Lomond Golf Club

In the winter of 2009/10 the greens at Loch Lomond suffered from devastating winter kill. This session will give an insight to the damage that occurred and the precautions that were taken in 2010/11 to prevent similar problems.

### 11.30 am – 12.30 pm
**From Grazing to Scottish Open Status in Five Years**

Chris Haspell, Course Manager, Castle Stuart Golf Club

In this session Chris will discuss his experiences of building a links golf course and it’s grow in. He will also describe the journey towards the Scottish Open 2011, the event, the rain and the recovery.

Measuring organic matter levels is becoming very popular, almost an industry standard procedure. This information can be invaluable to green keepers and grounds men. However, how do we decipher between thatch and organic matter and why it is important to do so. This seminar will discuss the various differences between problematic thatch and beneficial organic matter, the problems with working to a figure, the difference between drainage and percolation rates and how you can turn the thatch to your advantage.

### 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm
**Organic Matter – Friend or Foe**

Paul Lowe, Technical Sales Manager, Symbio

BIGGA CPD Credits
0.5 CPD credits are available for each seminar.

A CPD register will be available at the end of each seminar.

---

BTME is back
for it’s 24th year, at the Harrogate International Centre

BIGGA TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION  22-24 JANUARY 2013
Back in time looks back at cuttings of greenkeeping news from days gone-by. 2012 is a landmark year, being the centenary of Greenkeeping Associations, as well as 25 years since BIGGA was formed. Each month we will look back at the current month, but in a different year, from over the last hundred. Here, we travel back to the not-too-distant August 2001, when the Open also happened to be at Royal Lytham and St. Anne's.

Do you have any old artifacts from days gone-by? Perhaps your granddad was a greenkeeper and has something stored away in the loft? Maybe an Association tie, or a journal? If so we would love to hear from you. We are particularly interested in the early part of the last century, but anything you have would be worth considering for future editions of this article.

Please contact us on 01347 833800 or email Elliott Small, BIGGA Past Chairman, elliott.edna@hotmail.co.uk

It's amazingly now eleven years since David Duval won the 2001 Open, at Royal Lytham and St. Annes, his only major championship, three strokes ahead of Niclas Fasth. This August edition of GI featured a final page column from then Chairman, Clive Osgood, entitled 'Lytham Delights'. The current Regional Administrator praised the BIGGA support team for their work at the Open and also Paul Smith, who had then just completed his first Open Championship as Course Manager.

A feature on the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award (top right) highlighted the finalists of that year and an article by the 2001 winner, Jonathan Cleland, revealed how enjoyable and useful his prize of a trip to the US had been. This issue also included a survey about aeration by Ray Clark, of Harleyford GC, and Martin Gunn, of Temple GC, an announcement that Roger Black M.B.E. would be speaking at BTME 2002 and a feature on BIGGA's support team at Lytham.

In the news section it was reported that Ian Willett, Course Manager, at Thorpeness GC, had collected a certificate for academic achievement and Brian Sullivan, Superintendent of the Bel Air Country Club in LA, had flown to the Open at Lytham to collect his Master Greenkeeper blazer.
Back in time looks back at cuttings of greenkeeping news from days gone-by. 2012 is a landmark year, being the centenary of Greenkeeping Associations, as well as 25 years since BIGGA was formed. Each month we will look back at the current month, but in a different year, from over the last hundred.

Here, we travel back to the not-too-distant August 2001, when the Open also happened to be at Royal Lytham and St. Annes.

It’s amazingly now eleven years since David Duval won the 2001 Open, at Royal Lytham and St Annes, his only major championship, three strokes ahead of Niclas Fasth.

This August edition of GI featured a final page column from then Chairman, Clive Osgood, entitled ‘Lytham Delights’. The current Regional Administrator praised the BIGGA support team for their work at the Open and also Paul Smith, who had then just completed his first Open Championship as Course Manager.

A feature on the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award (top right) highlighted the finalists of that year and an article by the 2000 winner, Jonathan Cleland, revealed how enjoyable and useful his prize of a trip to the US had been.

This issue also included a survey about aeration by Ray Clark, of Harleyford GC, and Martin Gunn, of Temple GC, an announcement that Roger Black M.B.E. would be speaking at BTME 2002 and a feature on BIGGA’s support team at Lytham.

In the news section it was reported that Ian Willett, Course Manager at Thorpeness GC, had collected a certificate for academic achievement and Brian Sullivan, Superintendent of the Bel Air Country Club in LA, had flown to the Open at Lytham to collect his Master Greenkeeper blazer.
This month David looks at the education and training ladder for greenkeepers with a particular emphasis on career progression once you have joined the greenkeeping profession.

Stepping onto the first rung of the ladder for the first time can be a hairy moment and often it is with uncertainty as to how high you will eventually climb the ladder, but when it comes to a greenkeeping career, the GTC can help you climb the ladder to the very top!

The golf club employers in Britain have, for many years, been very well served by the tried and tested Greenkeeping Apprenticeship Scheme which has produced many of today’s top Course Managers, and long may it continue.

Government funding has and continues to help many employers opt to employ an apprentice with the valued input from the Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper, progress with the chosen GTC Qualified Assured Centre, can be rapid.

The Apprenticeship includes the Level 2 Work based Diploma in England and Wales, SVQ Level 2 in Scotland training with some additional qualifications to benefit the apprentice and progression onto WBD/SVQ Level 3, which often is the natural progression route.

The Government is forever changing its funding priorities, but often the learner struggles if they are not allowed to become involved in Supervisory duties.

For those not able to gain any sort of work on a golf course there are courses such as the National Certificate in Greenkeeping offered by several Centres.

This qualification very much complements the Level 2 Work Based Diploma/SVQ as there is both the knowledge and practical elements included with either experience gained at the college’s golf course or work experience organised for the learner on a golf course.

Progression from Level 2 to Level 3 can be smooth IF the employer allows their learner to gain the required experience on the job but often the learner struggles if they are not allowed to become involved in Supervisory duties.

It doesn’t have to be the work based route to get you to the top rung of the ladder but experience and the practical skills, as you climb the ladder, are crucial.

Higher Education has become more and more popular as colleges make the qualifications more accessible.

When it comes to formal qualifications this sector has all bases covered, from the work based Apprenticeship to a Degree and everything in between!

Greenkeepers Training Committee

David Golding, GTC Education Director, with a monthly update

Greenkeeper to Manager?

A Career Path

The GTC firmly believes that everything in between!

Our monthly puzzle page to keep you entertained when you’re forced indoors!

LinkedIn answers

61

60 AUGUST 2012