For the benefit of any individual Learning Accounts, if the number applying matches the entries for this year's essay competition then they will have to take on extra staff.

The Learning Experience 2001

Applications for the Learning Experience 2001 are flooding in to BIGGA HOUSE and places on the Workshops are filling fast. The deadline for applications for the Learning Experience 2001, sponsored by Testzon Turf Care and Specialty Products, is January 10, 2001. Make sure of your place by sending in your entry NOW. Extra copies of the Learning Experience brochure and application form are available from BIGGA HQ.

Visit the Royal Hall on Thursday 25 January and receive even better value than previously advertised in the Learning Experience brochure. Appearing at 11am until 11.30 will be Chris Byrd, from Milliken Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products, and Stuart Macintosh, from BB&O.

The Finals of the TORO Excellence in Greenkeeping and Student of the Year Competitions were held at BIGGA HOUSE at the end of October. Full details are printed elsewhere in this magazine but I would like to congratulate all finalist, especially Iain Ritchie, the Excellence Award winner and Jonathan Clelland the Student of the Year. The weather almost caused problems and three finalists had to be evacuated from South Lodge. It was a difficult job to separate the finalists and select the winners in both competitions as the Standard was as high as ever. Thanks to the continued sponsorship by TORO these competitions go from strength to strength.

Regional Training Courses

There are still plenty of places available on a number of courses being held in the New Year. These are:

- Essential Management Skills for Greenkeepers
  - Moat House Hotel, Sheffield
  - Cost for BIGGA Members £1200.00 + VAT
  - Interviews and Appraisals
  - East Cliff Hotel Bournemouth
  - 21 and 22 March, Frank Newberry
  - Wokefield Park, Reading
  - 12 and 13 March, Frank Newberry
  - Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle, Northern Ireland
  - Brand Foundation £1200.00 + VAT

Making Budgets Count

- Quality Hotel, Walsall
- 12 and 13 February, Brin Bendon
- Cost for BIGGA Members £550.00 + VAT

Health and Safety Update

- Old Fold Manor Golf Club, Barnet
- 6 February, Tony Rees
- Cost for BIGGA Members £550.00 + VAT

Negotiation Skills

- BIGGA HOUSE, 26 February, Brin Bendon
- Cost for BIGGA Members £550.00 + VAT

Manual Handling and Risk Assessments

- Old Fold Manor Golf Club, Barnet
- 7 February, Tony Rees
- Cost for BIGGA Members £550.00 + VAT

On Course

Remember to visit the OnCourse stand at BTME if you want to obtain more information on this extremely useful software package. Designed to assist greenkeepers to maintain records on staff and machinery, the golf course, stock, budget and health and safety, the package is available from BIGGA priced at £800. Demo disks are available at BIGGA HOUSE.

BIGGA welcomes...

Scottish Region

- Perry Anderson, West
- Graeme L Brye, Central
- Richard W Cotter, North
- Keith Robert Halley, Ayrshire
- Stephen Peter Hemsley, Central
- Graham MacKin, North
- Stuart Maunders, Central
- James Mure McGowan, West
- Brian David Reeds, Central
- John Hadlow, Ayrshire

South East Region

- Paul James Andrews, Kent
- Louis Alan Ayres, Surrey
- John Paul Bell, Sussex
- Adrian Bynoe, Surrey
- Ian William Carty, Surrey
- John Grace Clarke, London
- Luke Denton, Sussex
- Steven Elliott, Kent
- Darren Elliott, Kent
- Ian Faulkner, Kent
- Lee Felton, Kent
- Dominic Foster, Surrey
- Andrew Stuart Furness, London
- Philip William Oll, Surrey
- Andrew Greedy, Surrey
- Paul Greenfield, Sussex
- Alan Edward Jaggard, Essex
- Paul Old Loran, Kent
- Sarah Martin, Kent
- Darren Pettengull, Sussex
- Richard Henry Phillips, Essex
- Jonathon Scaife, Kent
- Richard William Wallis, Surrey

Northern Region

- Bryan William Berry, N West
- Andrew Hall, Shetland
- Andrew Grenatt Hall, Northern Ireland
- Stephen Kenyon, N West
- Ken Ian Miska, N West
- Scott Lee Ratford, N West

Midland Region

- Paul Bramley, E Midlands
- Ian Bates, Midland
- Mark Terrance Coppage, Midland
- Brian Fox, BB&O
- Michael Ginger, BB&O
- Russell Mark Howarth, E Midlands
- Peter John Holden, E Midlands
- Andrew Howlowes, Midland
- Stephen Wilkins, Midland
- Norman John Knox, BB&O
- Richard Alan Mclntosh, BB&O
- Ginnie Reeves, BB&O
- Richard Scholes, Midland
- Russell Philip Swinney, Midland
- Ben Ronald Swift, BB&O
- Trevor John Ward, Midland

East Region

- Jeffery Lamb, Ayrshire
- John Nolan, Kent
- Alan William Simpson, Ayrshire
- Andrew Smith, Kent
- John Ward, Essex
- Peter Peter Ward, Surrey

International Members

- Stewart Macintosh, Germany
- David Muhlner, Germany
- Frank Schafer, Germany
- Roy Douglas Mackin, Spain
- Javier Perez, Spain

Associate Members

- Kate Easthirle, Northern Ireland
- Simon Henry, Northern Ireland
- David Burton Smith, E Midland
- Olive Dryden, Surrey
- Gene Bates, USA

Student Members

- Glenn Cammors, East
- Gorton Grant, North
- Richard Cleworth, N West
- Tony Owen, N Wales
- Ben Cerity, E England
- Timothy Parker, N Anglia
- James Peter Lowe, Surrey
- Gavin Yeoman, Surrey
- Daniel Dobson, N West
- Mark Farquhar, Rep Ireland

BIGGA's Education and Training Manager, Ken Richardson reports on the latest education and training developments

In October, more than 90 new members joined BIGGA, and began to take advantage of the many savings and benefits available to them. Tracey Maddison gives details on just a few of them...