This month, Tracey and Susannah from BIGGA's Membership Services Department, would like to welcome almost 75 new members to the Association and keep you up to date on 2002 Membership news.

**Get the most from your membership**

If you have renewed your membership or joined BIGGA this year, you will have received a Membership Pack through the post which includes information on all the benefits and services offered to you as a BIGGA Member. This pack is important and needs to be referred to if you require further information, or in the case of a full greenkeeper member, require the use of the legal helpline or need to claim from the personal accident insurance cover. A second membership pack will not be sent unless requested.

From 1st January 2002, the Membership Department are going to issue plastic Membership Photocards for all Greenkeeping Members of BIGGA. This card will be sent to you together with a renewal letter and leaflet updating you on the benefits and services of membership to BIGGA. If you have mislaid your membership pack you will need to contact Membership Services for a replacement. We cannot send you your membership card until we have a photograph of you. Beat the rush and send your photograph to Tracey or Susannah in the Membership Services Department today! Don’t forget to write your name, date of birth and membership number on the back.

**BIGGA to introduce Minimum Qualification**

As from 1st February 2002 all NEW applicants applying for Greenkeeper Membership will need to state on their application form whether they hold a minimum NVQ/SVQ Level 2 Sportsturf qualification (or equivalent) and enclose proof of competence e.g. a copy of an NVQ certificate or indicate whether they are in training to achieve this minimum qualification. This will effect the category of membership for which the applicant is applying.

The application form, although longer than in previous years, will be easy to complete and will include guidelines. See Education Update on page 10 for further information on the minimum qualification.

**Increase your personal protection benefit**

As part of the Greenkeeping Membership, all Greenkeeping Members are covered by the standard BIGGA personal protection package. This provides cover for Greenkeepers for any accident they may have at home, work or even on holiday. Each member can increase this personal protection by completing the tear off slip attached to the information leaflet in the membership pack. A simple, one off payment could secure members up to £50,000 in increased benefits. If any member would like further information please contact the Membership Services Department.

**Important news for members**

The December and January membership renewals will be mailed out in November, if you have moved and need to advise us of your change of address please contact the Membership Services Department.

**Leisurewear that’s well worth a look!**

BIGGA now offer you a fantastic choice of BIGGA logo Leisurewear. Cutter & Buck Classic Polo Shirts complete with BIGGA logo are available in sunflower with navy trim, and navy with cream trim only £35.95 inc. VAT, post and packing. Sizes Medium, Large, XL or XXL.

Peter Scott BIGGA logo Jumpers Available in three styles:
1. Round neck, available in navy and chalky stripes from £38 to £45, 24% poly inc. VAT, p+p
2. V-neck long sleeve, available in navy only, sizes from £40 to £47, larger sizes available on request. £45.05 inc. VAT, p+p
3. V-neck no sleeves, available in navy only, sizes from £40 to £47, larger sizes available on request. £45.05 inc. VAT, p+p

Sun & Rain Waterproof Suits Available in navy consisting of a jacket with matching trousers with a drawstring waistband. Sizes from M to 2XL £95 inc. VAT, p+p

**Shankle Golfball Caps**

Available in navy with navy peak, one size fits all with adjustable strap. £12.95 inc. VAT, p+p

**BIGGA Members Loyalty Badge**

BIGGA have introduced a new "Members" enamelled loyalty badge. Available to all members at the special rate of £25.00 inc. VAT, p+p

For further information contact Tracey or Susannah in Membership Services.

**October’s Monthly Membership Draw Winner**

Introduce one or more new greenkeeping members to BIGGA and your name will be placed into a draw to win a fantastic BIGGA sportswatch. Our congratulations go to October's winner, Martin Mabey, Wareham Golf Club.

**Scottish Region**
- Malcolm O'Brien, Midland
- Neil J. Robertson, Mid Anglia
- Gary D. Solomon, E of England
- John L. Wakens, Midland

**South East Region**
- David Bellamy, Kent
- David Bache, Sussex
- Paul A. Brown, Essex
- Robert S. Hunt, Kent
- Andrew P. Butcher, Kent
- Neil M. Coleman, Kent
- Mike A. Eves, Kent
- Steven Everitt, London
- Mark Foster, Kent
- Kevin Francis, Kent
- Alan R. Hopkins, Kent
- Darren J. Swann, Surrey
- Andrew J. Alexander, E of England

**South West Region**
- Kevin P. Cole, S Coast
- Paul J. Cooper, S Coast
- Christopher P. Dorman, Devon & Cornwall
- Philip Ducket, S West
- Paul J. Heath, S Coast
- Kevin J. Hennessy, S Coast
- Craig Reve, S West
- Ian P. Reeves, S Coast
- Justin M. Smith, S Coast
- Barry Stevens, S West
- Wayne Trimmour, S West
- Dan J. Young, S West

**Northern Ireland**
- Gerard Cooper

**Republic of Ireland**
- Christian J O'Sullivan
- Alan Walsh

**International Members**
- Gordon MacGregor, Scotland
- Paul E. Simpers, Germany
- Joseph R. Swing, Germany
- Donald J. Denny, Denmark
- Mikael Waldner, Norway
- Michael Ann, USA
- Gareth J. Davies, USA
- Brian R. Hume, Canada
- Rhod Trainer, Canada
- James M. Farrer, Australia

**Associate Members**
- David Storey, Northern
- Peter Halpa, BSBO
- Ryan Peddle, Surrey
- A. Lockhart, S West
- Kevin H. Morton, S West

**Student Members**
- Mark C. Crossley, N West

**Next month... September’s latest members**
- Brian Goodwin, USA

**Associate Members**
- David Storey, Northern
- Peter Halpa, BSBO
- Ryan Peddle, Surrey
- A. Lockhart, S West

**Student Members**
- Mark C. Crossley, N West

**People**

You may have heard their names mentioned in conversation, or even seen them in print, but have you ever wondered who the individuals are who help BIGGA to run so smoothly as the leading Association in the fine turf industry? Read on...

**Ian Holoran**
- Board Member
- Name: Ian Holoran
- Golf Club: Middlesbrough Municipal
- Association Position: National Board of Management
- How long have you been a member of BIGGA?: Since 1987
- Where do you hope the Association will be in 10 years time?: To have an improved image, so that every greenkeeper wants to be an active member
- For what would you most like to be remembered?: Apart from being a lottery winner, it would be making a contribution to running a members’ Association that we can be proud of. And for the Whittlesea Bowl Golf Tournament in Cambridgeshire
- For what would you least like to be remembered?: The Section golf match with North East Section and being beaten by Jimmy Richardson who has never let me forget.
- Why did you take on a more involved role in the running of the Association?: To give something back after taking so much out
- Name one thing which would improve the Association?: Members to have immediate access to support systems if problems arise in the course of their work
- What is your claim to fame?: None, not acceptable?
- Being asked to present Prince Andrew with a gift on behalf of the Association
- Describe BIGGA in 15 words: Association forming a communication link for all greenkeepers. Helping to improve standards in the greenkeeping profession