Rachael and Gemma would like to welcome 39 New Members to the Association and this month will talk about an important change to the Legal Helpline Scheme.

Renewal Packs

The December and January renewal packs are on their way out to those of you who renew at this time of year. Included in your pack is an application form for you to pass on to anyone interested in becoming a member and a newsletter detailing any changes to your membership.

For those of you who pay your own subscriptions you will also find a direct debit mandate and a tax relief form to assist you in claiming tax relief on your subscription. You are able to do this because BIGGA is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a legitimate professional body.

To make renewing even easier you can now pay for your subscription over the telephone.

If you have not received your pack or have any queries regarding your membership please do not hesitate to call Gemma on: 01347 833800.

A Fond Farewell

I just wanted to say a few words to you all, as I will be leaving the Association for pastures new on December 8. Thank you to you all for making me feel so welcome and for putting up with me on my many visits to regional and section events. It is down to you that I will be leaving the Association with many happy memories. A special thank you also to all those who have served as Section Secretaries in recent years, for your help and ideas. I wish you all well for the future and only hope that I have the good fortune to work for such a friendly industry again.

BIGGA welcomes...

SCOTTISH REGION
Matthew Baird, Central
Calum Fraser, North
Brian Marson, Central
Robert O'Donnell, North
John Wilson, Ayrshire

NORTHERN REGION
Jonathan Roberts, North West
Greg Wellings, North West

SOUTH EAST REGION
Wayne Ates, Kent
Richard Gupace, Essex
Michael Hird, Sussex
Liam Somsers, Surrey
David Seggat, Essex

SOUTH WEST REGION
Daryl Gardner, South Wales
Luke Halpin, South Coast
Graham Hattie, South Coast
Vincent Ley, South Coast
Luke Longstone, Devon & Cornwall
Robert Patrick, South Coast
Adam Payne, South West
Clive Staddon, South West

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS
Philip Law, Spain
Paul Monaghan, Germany

STUDENT MEMBERS
John Casserly, North West
Rob Jones, North West
Andrew Knott, North West
Will Law, North West
Ian Lucan, South Coast
Allan Macdonald, East Scotland
Michael Slater, Devon & Cornwall
Matthew Thomas, South West

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
David Binks, Midland
Ceri Davies, South West
Andrew Eckley, South West

GOLDEN KEY MEMBERS
Mark Keysett, East Anglia
Mark Robinson, Sheffield

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY...

General Legal Protection (GLP) has provided members with a good quality service for several years and many have benefited from the advice given and legal help provided. In reviewing the scheme the Association has identified an alternative company (Arc Legal Assistance) that it feels will be able to improve on the level of service through their agents Irwin Mitchell Solicitors.

Irwin Mitchell are a leading legal practice with national cover, including Scotland, and through their bespoke call centre in Sheffield they will be able to offer advice and assistance on any aspect of the law for the member and anyone in their household. Please remember that advice is not just available on matters of employment law but also covers many of the everyday situations in which we can find ourselves.

With effect from 1st January 2007 the helpline service will be transferred to Arc although GLP will continue to give legal advice and assistance relating to incidents that occur on or before 31st December 2006. It is important that all potential claims for which GLP may be liable are reported to them without delay. All incidents arising after 31st December will be the direct responsibility of Arc.

CONTACT DETAILS:
Before 1st January 2007 - General Legal Protection
Freephone 0800 019 2569

From 1st January 2007 - Arc Legal Assistance
Freephone 0800 177 7891

Full policy details of the cover with Arc will be sent out to members as they renew however, anyone requiring a copy before that time should contact Gemma by telephone: 01347 833800 or e-mail: gemma@bigga.co.uk