COMPETITION:

Win one of three mobile phones, a BIGGA polo shirt, a waterproof pair of socks or a fleece just by answering the following question:

Which of the following is not a BIGGA Membership Benefit?

1. Legal Helpline
2. Reduced rates at selected beauticians
3. Personal Accident Insurance

Email your answer to vanessa@bigga.co.uk and quote your name and membership number and you could win one of the prizes.

We have three Nokia 6233 mobile phones up for grabs with Bluetooth, 2 mega pixel camera, large high quality screen with stereo speakers and a memory card for additional storage.

There is also a BIGGA polo shirt, a pair of waterproof socks and a fleece to be won.

BENEFITS REMINDER:

Legal Helpline:
Offering legal advice on employment matters, health and safety issues, consumer rights and any other legal matter for Greenkeeping Members and their families. Call on 0800 1777891.

Personal Accident Insurance:
This includes cover for time off work due to an accident at home, work or even on holiday as well as one off payment dependent on the type of injury. Call 01277 251000.

Car Rental:
National’s Affinity Leisure Programme offers BIGGA Members exclusive rates on car and van hire in the UK an on international car hire in over 80 countries. Call us on 01347 833800 for more on this.

Discounted Workwear:
ARCO offers BIGGA Greenkeeper Members 20% discount off a choice of goods. *Discount not available on selected products. Call 01482 611773 for more on this.

BIGGA WELCOMES

SCOTTISH REGION

Taylors
Dunblane
North

MacDonald
Perth
North

Craig
Stirling
North

NORTH EAST

North
Clay
North West

David
Glenrothes
North West

Mark
Linlithgow
North East

Mark
Dundee
North West

Christopher
Selkirk
North West

Dean
Tranent
North West

Jim
Barnes
North East

MALCOLM REID

Malcolm
Barrow
Midland

Martin
Newcastle
Midland

Richard
Highgate
Midland

Marian
Lanska
East Midlands

Michael
Bolton
Mid Angle

Russell
Smallfield
East of England

Lee
Bredon
Bucks/Rocks & Dean

NORTH EAST

Joseph
Cromer
North East

Marion
Bassetsgurgar
Hurry

Russell
Newcastle
East Anglia

Adam
Midlouk
East

Daniel
Morgan
Kent

Martin
Newcastle
Kent

Steven
Darlington
London

David
Sunderland
South West

Nicky
Barnet
East

Jeff
Taylor
East

Andrew
Thorley
Essex

Mark
Cramlington
London

5TH WEST & WALES

Malcolm
Chester
North West

Marian
Newport
East Wales

Richmond
Brecon
Wales & Cornwall

INTERNATIONAL

David
Clewlow
UK

Rocky
Hemel
USA

Simon
Hastings
USA

Mark
Kuhns
USA

BIGGA Library:

The BIGGA Library is available to all members and stocks over 800 titles. You can borrow up to two titles from the library at any one time, for a period of six weeks. Call 01347 833800.

These are only a few of the benefits that BIGGA offers you. For a complete list go to www.bigga.org.uk

HOBBIES

Here’s something you didn’t know about me...

Name: Ian Stephens
Club: Carholme GC, Lincoln
Position: Head Greenkeeper
Hobby: National Trust Volunteer

How long have you worked for the National Trust?
“I started off at 19 and am now double that – so in answer to your question probably too long!”

In exactly what capacity do you work for them?
“I am a volunteer and a member of the South Downs National Trust Volunteers (SDNTV) that involves carrying out conservation work at the weekends. At the moment I am a ‘sleeping’ member as it is a bit far to travel from North Hollands to Sunny Sussex. In my years with the group I have been a party organiser, social and fundraiser organiser, as well as Chairman.”

How and when did you get introduced to this hobby?
“I found out about volunteering in my Dad’s Daily Telegraph. There was an article on weeklong conservation projects. My best mate and I decided to go to a property in Northumberland working on Hadrian’s Wall, doing a bit of archaeology, I definitely got the bug for the work from that!”

What is it about the work that appeals to you?
“I have always loved the outdoors and having been brought up on wildlife, walking and the countryside it was a perfect way to keep busy over the weekends doing stuff that I enjoy, doing my bit for the environment and meeting friends from many walks of life.

“The biggest reward and appeal by far for me is meeting my wife Jenny when we were both starting out in the SDNTV. We’ve now been married for 15 years. Our friends in the group even changed our ‘work in progress’ sign to ‘wedding in progress’ and posted it outside the church.

“Our biggest honour came in 1995 when I was Chairman and we were invited to attend a Centenary event for the NT. We were introduced to Princess Alexandra as representatives of conservation volunteering.

“It’s a great way of making friends. I would recommend this to anyone wanting to get out and about and active in the countryside. The skills I’ve learnt from this work really help in the work environment - fencing, hedge-laying and coppicing.”

NEW RECRUIT

Brad Anderson’s temporary move from Receptionist to Membership Services Assistant at BIGGA HQ, is now permanent. Congratulations Brad!”