An update and summary of the last six months...

For the first five months of this year I was in the position of Acting General Manager and Head of Membership Services, no wonder time has literally flown by. I don’t think I remember very much about the first half of this year! And with losing Brad Anderson, Membership Services Assistant, at the end of April, the department is currently stretched to its limits.

However, please be assured that we, here at BIGGA HOUSE, are not about to let standards drop, in this interim period of change with staff, our aim is to continue to offer good customer service to our members. See Contact Details (panel on the right) for ways you can get in touch.

During April we offered BIGGA members the opportunity of purchasing the ‘tastecard’, at an exclusive members rate. The offer was available for a two week period and proved quite popular. Watch our aim is to continue to offer good customer service to our members. See Contact Details (panel on the right) for ways you can get in touch.

During April we offered BIGGA members the opportunity of purchasing the ‘tastecard’, at an exclusive members rate. The offer was available for a two week period and proved quite popular. Watch this space as we are negotiating with ‘tastecard’ to offer this again later this year.

BIGGA also teamed up with Jemca Business Centre, London to offer BIGGA members preferential rates on out-right purchase or contract hire of Toyota HILUX vehicles.

All details of these offers and all membership services and benefits are available in the Members Area of the BIGGA Website www.bigga.co.uk.

The Importance of Networking Section Events

With 26 Sections around the UK there is always a ‘friend’ nearby. Whether you are just starting out as a sports turf professional (greenkeeper or groundsman) or at the pinnacle of your career, networking is likely to play a large part in your career.

Networking is about creating a set of contacts and subsequently building a trust and creating a genuine relationship with the people you meet. It provides the opportunity for you to discover people who may be able to help with queries/problems you encounter during your career as well as the opportunity for you to offer your assistance to others.

For people new to networking, it might seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Top tips for networking:
- Be yourself
- Be open
- Smile
- Let people talk
- Push yourself
- Know what you want
- Enjoy it

Bulletin Board

Current members of BIGGA can gain access to the Bulletin Boards where members can gain access to a vast amount of useful, important and vital information for greenkeepers and other sports turf professionals, golf clubs and businesses involved in the fine turf industry. Here you can discuss popular topics such as ‘Education and Training for Greenkeepers’ or ‘Fusarium Scarring’ and keep updated about Section seminars and events.

BIGGA is about promoting:
B est practice in sports turf management
I ndustry targeted learning and development
G reenkeeping as a career
G roundsmanship as a career
A better understanding of sports turf care

Open Support Team, Royal St George’s, 2011

Good luck to the BIGGA Open Support Team, who will be supporting Graham Royden and his team at Royal St George’s this month. For more information on the Open Support Team and what’s involved visit the Members Area of the BIGGA Website and search down the left hand side for ‘Open Support Team’.

TOPIC OF THE MONTH

• Enjoy it
• Know what you want
• Push yourself
• Smile
• Be open
• Be yourself

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South East Region
Mark Lindsell, Central Section
Mark Dingle, Central Section
Mark Brooks, Central Section
Bill Poynter, Kent Section
Melvin White, Kent Section

South West Region
Paul Poynter, Kent Section
Richie Brown, Kent Section
Bill Poynter, Kent Section
Melvin White, Kent Section

South Wales Region
Mark Lindsell, Central Section
Mark Dingle, Central Section
Bill Poynter, Kent Section
Melvin White, Kent Section

Overseas
Scott Bidby, Kinkoahg Golf Resort, New Zealand

For more information on new members log in to the Members’ Area of the BIGGA Website.