

BIGGA launches two new Sections in Northern Ireland

BIGGA has extended its influence across the Irish Sea with the creation of two new Sections in Northern Ireland.

The move comes in response to demands from existing Ulster members and potential new members who wished to take advantage of the wide range of services and networking opportunities which have been available to members of the 26 Sections already in Scotland, England and Wales since BIGGA was formed in 1987.

The new Sections were launched officially at a meeting held at Greenmount College, Belfast, and will be known as the North East and South East Sections. The former will cover Counties Antrim and Londonderry and the latter Counties Down and Fermanagh. Greenkeepers living in Counties Tyrone and Fermanagh will have the choice as to which Sections they wish to be affiliated.

"We are delighted that our members in Northern Ireland, and hopefully many new members, will now have the same opportunities to attend training courses, share ideas and experience the many social activities that BIGGA members in Sections in mainland Britain already enjoy," said Neil Thomas, Executive Director of BIGGA.

Both Sections are now preparing for the IOG Sportsturf Growers NI Exhibition 1997 to be held in Belfast on October 2. Members from each Section's committee will be on the BIGGA stand along with BIGGA staff where they will be available to talk to members and non members and answer any questions they may have about the new sections.

The IOG Show will be followed by a Christmas seminar open to all greenkeepers to be held at Greenmount College on December 1.

Anyone wishing to join either section should contact the relevant Section Chairman:

- North East Section: Philip Baldock, Royal Portrush Golf Club
- South East Section: Graham Wylie, Bangor Golf Club

Your final chance to enter our BTME 98 quiz!



MAKE A DATE FOR THE EVENT OF 98

★ Over 175 companies are set to promote their products and services at the forthcoming BTME. Only two spaces remain for sale – so if your company is thinking of exhibiting at the industry's

premier event, call Amanda Mayo on 01347 838581, or you could be too late.

Details of the Educational Seminars and workshops are listed in the Learning Experience brochure in this magazine.

The BTME Gala Dinner will be moved to Hall D in the Harrogate International Centre which will be spectacularly transformed for the occasion. Booking details are also in the Learning Experience brochure.

This could be YOUR big chance

It's the greenkeeper's dream holiday – an expenses paid trip to the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition. If you're a winner, we'll pay your rail fare, put you up in one of the best hotels in Harrogate and give you a free pass to Europe's most comprehensive educational seminar programme.

All you have to do to stand a chance of winning one of the three superb prizes is answer these six questions – two appeared in August's magazine, two last month and the final two are detailed below. Complete the form and return it to us by October 31, 1997.

■ August questions

On what date does the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition start?

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On what date does the BIGGA National Education Conference start?

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■ September questions

Name BIGGA's Education Officer

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Name the new workshop

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■ October questions

Who won the 1997 Open Championship at Royal Troon?

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Which Region won the 1997 Hayter Challenge Final?

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FIRST PRIZE: Return rail travel from anywhere in the UK plus three nights' accommodation at a top hotel in Harrogate and entry to all the education seminar sessions. **SECOND PRIZE:** Return rail travel from anywhere in the UK plus two nights' accommodation in a top Harrogate hotel and entry to all the education seminar sessions. **THIRD PRIZE:** Return rail travel from anywhere in the UK plus one night's accommodation in a top Harrogate hotel and entry to all education seminar sessions.

Name:

Address:

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Send your completed entry form to BTME Competition, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Airedale, York YO6 2NF, to be received by October 31, 1997. The first three correct entries opened after the closing date will win the prizes. Judges' decision is final.

