

## In May, Tracey Maddison, BIGGA's Membership Services Officer, welcomed almost 80 new members to the Association. This month, she would like to highlight some valuable money saving benefits for members...

# Money, money, money!

### Do you pay for your own membership subscription?

If you pay for your own subscriptions, then you can apply to the tax office for a refund of 23% of the subscription amount. For example on a Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper fee of £75 that's over £17! And a potential saving of £11.50 for an Assistant Greenkeeper.

The reason for this is that BIGGA is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a legitimate professional body, and membership fees to such bodies are eligible for tax relief.

To benefit, all you have to do, is inform your local tax office that you are paying your own fees, or

send them a completed form (available from BIGGA HQ), or visit [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk). It couldn't be easier to save money on your membership!

### Refund of Education/ Training Fees

Don't forget that all greenkeeping members who pay for their own fees are eligible to apply for a refund. In order to apply you must be able to meet the following criteria:

- You must be a member of BIGGA and have been a member for at least two years.
- You must have paid your own fees and be able to provide proof of payment eg. receipt/credit card slip or statement.
- You must have completed a course or component part of a course and be able to provide evidence of completion e.g. certificate/end of course report etc.

## BIGGA welcomes...

### Scottish Region

Graeme Beatt, East  
 Ewan Brough, East  
 Thomas Byrne, West  
 James Campbell, Ayrshire  
 Donald Clark, West  
 Russell S Crighton, Central  
 Iain C Elliot, East  
 Craig S Irving, Ayrshire  
 Alan D Leonard, West  
 Ali N MacFadyen, Central  
 Stephen McAdams, East  
 Scott McLean, East  
 Scott R McNeil, East  
 Derek Pettigilo, East

### Northern Region

Matt Bolton, Northern  
 Kevin Crick, N East  
 John H Daniel, Northern  
 John Dobson, Northern  
 Alan Evans, Cleveland

Steven P Foxcroft, N West  
 Paul Gawthorpe, Northern  
 David Goldstrong, N West  
 Stephen Hatfield, Cleveland  
 James Hall, N West  
 Simon Hardcastle, Northern  
 Colin Jones, N Wales  
 Kevin O'Neill, N West  
 Michael Patrick, Northern  
 Mark N Pryce, Northern  
 David Trevel, Cleveland  
 John A Turner, N West  
 Peter Turner, N West

### Midland Region

Jacques M Barkhuizen, BB&O  
 Malcolm Brooks, E Midland  
 David G Collins, E Midland  
 Ross P Fitzgerald, BB&O  
 Derek Forster, E Midland  
 Terry Fuggle, BB&O  
 Paul Gethin, BB&O  
 Colin Goldfinch, Midland  
 Ben Hastie, BB&O

Andrew R Kelly, Midland  
 Erik M Kinton, BB&O  
 Andrew J Law, BB&O  
 Frank C Lewis, Midland  
 Lee Randall, BB&O  
 Robert T Randall, BB&O  
 Nicholas D Smith, Midland  
 Alex Smith, BB&O  
 Boyd Smith, BB&O  
 Aaron D Smith, BB&O  
 David Sparrow, E Midland  
 Antony Venn, Midland  
 Darren M Yates, Midland  
 David W Yendall, E Midland

### South East Region

Anthony Arter, Essex  
 Phillip M Coleman, Kent  
 Samuel Cook, Essex  
 Judy R Hawkins, Essex  
 Lee Histed, Surrey  
 Sam Hoggett, Surrey  
 Nicholas C Pomfret, Essex  
 Chris Venables, Kent

### S West & S Wales Region

Neil Andrews, S West  
 Alistair Bruce, S West  
 Kevin Griffiths, S West  
 Peter R Morgan, S Wales  
 Robin S Nicholas, S West  
 Richard J Poneford, S West  
 Ben P Shave, S West

### Northern Ireland

Stuart D Davidson,  
 Kyle Irwin,

### Republic of Ireland

James M Fisher  
 Con Nugent

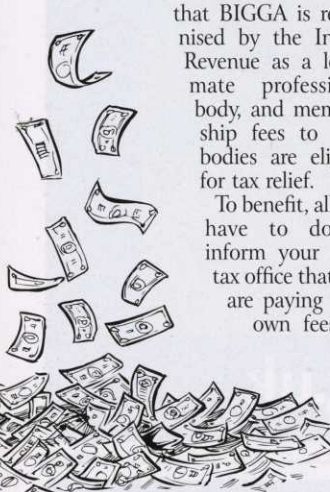
### International Members

David F Bartley, Germany

### Associate Members

Mark Atkins, Northern  
 David M Evans, S West  
 Graham F Prosser, N Ireland

Check out August's edition for June's new members!



### And finally...

I would like to thank our Northern Ireland members for making Scott and myself most welcome on our recent visit. Although my third visit to Northern Ireland since I started with BIGGA, this was my first opportunity of seeing some magnificent golf courses and beautiful countryside. And as always it is a pleasure for me to meet our members face to face. So thank you!

A reminder to all members: Unfortunately, the 10% discount on car insurance was withdrawn in December 1999

# The Web just got BIGGA

BIGGA relaunched its website in June 2000 in recognition of the increasing access and participation on the internet by Greenkeepers both in the UK and worldwide.

The new expanded site at [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk) has been completely redesigned and replaces the original website set up in July 1996.

A recent survey of members on the use of computers and access to the internet showed their increasing use and importance in Greenkeeping and as a result it was decided to develop the BIGGA site to expand the content and provide additional benefits.

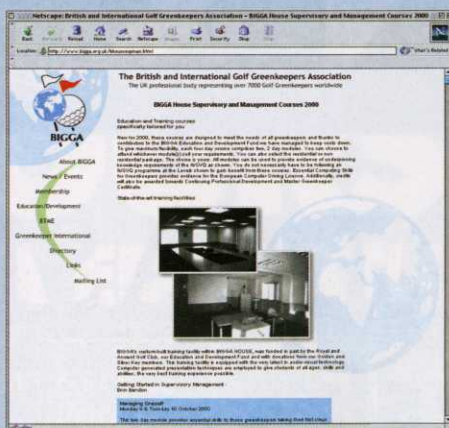
Features of the new site include sections dedicated to Membership, including a member's only area with jobs, a 'bulletin board' style discussion forum, and a searchable database of articles from Greenkeeper International magazine.

The Education & Training section provides career advice, competitions and training course details. There is a product Directory, to search for manufacturers, distributors and service providers.

A links section with website hyper-links to hundreds of useful associations, golf clubs and training providers worldwide, offers a tremendous facility to 'surf' to other sites of interest within the industry.

News and events, gives a calendar of important meetings, shows and exhibitions in the greenkeeping diary.

The section dedicated to BTME, the turf industry's largest European indoor trade exhibition and conference, has a hall plan of exhibitors to help you plan your visit, or book stand space, with details of the conference and seminars are included.



Extracts from Greenkeeper International, the association's award winning monthly magazine, are updated regularly in keeping with the aim to improve BIGGA's communication both with its members and people involved in greenkeeping and the fine turf industry. We hope you will visit the site and find it worthwhile, returning to on a regular basis, there are easy ways to let us know what you think and what you would like to see. We look forward to receiving your e-mail.



[www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

