

As Membership reaches a record breaking 7,100 with a fantastic Greenkeeper membership figure of 6,200, Tracey Maddison, BIGGA's Membership Services Officer asks "Can you afford not to be a BIGGA member?"

BIGGA wants you!

Why become a Greenkeeping Member of BIGGA?

I had the very same question asked of me recently but with a slightly different edge... what do the Golf Club gain from their Greenkeepers being members of BIGGA?

I started with the obvious, Greenkeeper International. A monthly copy of this award winning magazine drops on the doormat of every member each month. Full of news, views, reviews and updates, section information and editorial features. (Subscription to this magazine alone would normally cost £36 per year). A must for all in the industry.

I then highlighted the new Greenkeeper Training Courses which are designed to meet the needs of all greenkeepers. These courses are heavily subsidised thanks to contributors to the BIGGA Education and Development Fund. Courses range from 2 day courses in Getting Started in Supervisory Management, Making Budgets Work, Human Resource Management - Leading Teams into the 21st Century to 1 day courses in Essential Management Skills for Greenkeepers, Making Meetings Work and Skills in Computing amongst others.

Not forgetting BTME which is held in January at Harrogate each year. With over 200 exhibitors and 7,000 delegates, this is Europe's largest indoor fine turf exhibition and features a showcase of the latest advances in machinery, products and services within the industry. Running alongside BTME, 'The Learning Experience' is perhaps the most comprehensive education programme available to the greenkeeping profession. All BIGGA members are eligible for discounted rates on accommodation, seminars, the National Education Conference and workshops.

Then something new - thanks to contributors to the Education and Development Fund, BIGGA is encouraging the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) of greenkeepers by the introduction of its free CPD scheme for members. Further information can be obtained from the Education and Training Department at HQ, or in your CPD2000 Brochure, which was free with last month's magazine.

Also, members have the use of the BIG-GA Lending Library, containing over 600 books and 250 slides and FREE field guides are available.

All the above Education and Training opportunities are aimed at bringing members up to date with what's new in the industry, and helping them carry out their jobs more effectively. Golf Clubs can only continue to benefit from their Greenkeepers being members of BIGGA.

BIGGA welcomes...

William Coyne, West Brian J Cusick, West Bryce M Houston, West

Scottish Region

Bryce M Houston, West Jonathan D Lester, North James Matthew, West Clinton J Maxwell, West Brian Toall, East Fraser Wright, Central

Northern Region

David S Bennett, N West Raymond Birchall, N West Geoffrey K Hedley, N E Martin L Hughes, N West Gary P Hutchinson, Cleveland Jonathon McIntyre, Cleveland Christopher M Newton, N E Philip S Niven, Northern William R J Peake, N E Flichard Pickin, N Wales Mark D Rawlinson, N West Stuart Rogers, Northern Sitchard Sumner, N West Stephen Taggart, Cleveland Jonathan Taylor, Northern Stephen M Tomilinson, N West Philip Watson, N West

Midland Region

Stephanie A Bell, BB&O Mark Caldwell, E Midland Joey M Carroll, BB&O Charley D Carroll, BB&O Steven Coyne, E Midland George Crawley, BB&O Crispin D Dew, BB&O Charles Eastwood, BB&O Gary Eastwood, BB&O Tristan J Elward, BB&O Steven M Guntripp, Midland Jason Harriman, E Midland Richard M Harris, E Midland Colin Hedges, BB&O Darryl W Keen, E Midland Simon Large, Midland Richard Mason, Mid Anglia, Darren Povey, Midland James Powell, BB&O Jenz Shirra, Midland Jacon J C Snyman, BB&O Russell Willams, BB&O

South East Region

Daniel W Beard, Sussex Adrian M Brady, London Avon Bridges, London Terry Bush, Kent Barry J Cooke, E Anglia Nigel Dillon, Surrey David A Fosh, London Peter Hagger, London Paul L Harrington, Surrey Peter P Hendry, E Anglia Gavin S Kinshott Acklan, Susse Simon Kirkham, Surrey Philip G Medgett, Kent James W Mills Kent John M Pearl, Kent Mark Piper, Sussex Craig Rodwell, Sussex Grant Warner, Essex Scott Wilson, Kent Alisdair D Wright, London

S West & S Wales Region

Germa Brand, S Coast Nicholas Dash, Dev&Cnwll Michael J Evans, S West Paul J Handy, S Wales Peter Holmstrom, S Wales Stuart C Jones, S Wales Adam Moule, S Wales Michael L Philips, S Wales Andrew Ricketts, S Wales

Northern Ireland

Sydney Houston, James Lindsay,

International Members

Karel Silhan, Czech Republic Derek J Grendowicz, USA Stephen P Dowd, New Zealand

Associate Members

Peter Heaton, N West Richard D Millar, N West Michael E Upton, E Midland Agnar Kvalbein, Sweden

Student Member

Piotr Malespzy, Poland

Check out November's editio for September's new members!

Watch the web for the latest news

At the risk of being accused of excessive navel gazing - the magazine talking about the Website talking about the magazine - the BIGGA Website is an excellent complement to Greenkeeper International, giving as it does a shortened version of that month's magazine content.

There is also a database of the last 14 months of Learning Experience, in association with Textron, articles to draw from, while a similar database is shortly to be introduced to include some of the other significant articles which appear each month.



In more general terms BIGGA Website is becoming an increasingly worthwhile tool for members, as useful Association information can be posted urgently if it has become available after a magazine deadline.

So always make a point of checking the latest news on the Web, it may sometimes be more up to date than the magazine!

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