

Rachael Palmer from Membership Services would like to welcome 36 new members to the Association and asks "do you do it with a debit?"

How well do you know the people who work for the Association?

In this new series we give you a chance to learn a little more about a member of BIGGA's Headquarters staff



Sarah Sowerby

Position:
PA to Executive Director

What does your role involve?
Providing a secretarial service to the Executive Director, organisation and administration of BIGGA Golf Day and National Championship

How long have you worked for the Association?
Five years

Where were you born and brought up?
Ripon, North Yorks

Where did you work before you joined BIGGA?
Yorkshire Television, Leeds

What are your hobbies?
Going to the cinema/theatre; dining at the Drum & Monkey; being amused by my seven nieces/nephews

What is your favourite food?
Paella

What is your favourite film?
In no order: Shrek/Goldfinger/Jaws/The Thomas Crowne Affair

What was the last book you read?
Knots & Crosses by Ian Rankin

Who is your all time hero?
My Mum

What was the best event you've ever attended?
The Wimbledon Championships each and every year I've been (89/98/99/02)

What is your claim to fame? (None not acceptable)
Sitting next to Beppe (from Eastenders) in the theatre while watching Madonna in her West End acting debut. After just having seen Tom Cruise and other celebs arrive for the premiere of Minority Report in Leicester Square. (Maybe I should be working for Hello!)

Changes to the Direct Debit Scheme

Due to problems with our normal supplier we have decided to administer the direct debit scheme ourselves. Implementing these changes has made the scheme both more flexible and cheaper for you, the member. You now have the choice of paying your membership in either 5 equal instalments or 10 equal instalments which is a change for the better from the previous scheme. If you would like to pay for your membership by direct debit this year then please contact Membership Services and we will send you a direct debit form which needs to be completed.

INFORMATION FOR EXISTING DIRECT DEBIT PAYERS

If you are already paying for membership by direct debit we will be contacting you when your membership is due for renewal with details of how to change over to the new scheme until then your payments will continue to be taken by Premium Credit. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me on 01347 833800.

Paying for your own subscription?

Don't forget to apply to the tax office for a refund of 23% of your subscription amount. To claim your refund all you need to do is give either Rachael or Gemma a call for a claim form on 01347 833800. It's really quick and easy to fill in then just pop in the post to your local tax office. Don't delay - do it today, after all it's money with your name on it! For example if you are a Head Greenkeeper you will be entitled to a refund of over £20. An Assistant Greenkeeper would be looking at over £12 which would go some way to

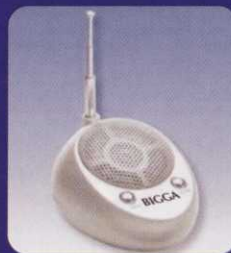


paying for a night in the pub at least. You are entitled to this refund because BIGGA is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a legitimate professional body and membership fees to such bodies are eligible for tax relief.

FEBRUARY'S MEMBERSHIP DRAW WINNER

Just introduce one or more new greenkeeping members to BIGGA and your name will be placed into a draw to win a fantastic BIGGA Clock/calculator/calendar and alarm. Our congratulations go to February's winner, Matthew Evans of Whiteleaf Golf Club

Message of the Month Winner



Each month the person who has written the best message on the BIGGA Bulletin Board, which is found on the BIGGA website www.bigga.org.uk, receives one of these FM desktop scan radios.

Our congratulations go to February's winner John Davenport from Turton Golf Club who's message was posted on 18th December 2002 under the 'Talk about Turf' section.

BIGGA welcomes...

Scottish Region

Peter Reid, West

Northern Region

Stuart Wilson, North East

Midland Region

Roy Burden, BB&O
Kevin Butcher, BB&O
Tom Evans, BB&O
Adam Grantham, BB&O
Sam Lennox, East Midland
Jerome Pearce, BB&O

South East Region

Lee Amos, Surrey
John Chapman, Kent
Gary Davies, Kent
Brian Finn, Sussex
Roy Fogg, Kent
Robert King, East Anglia
Billy McCausland, Kent
Shaun McKenna, Kent
Richard Moss, East Anglia

S West/S Wales Region

Steven Steele, South West
Gerald Tonkins, South West

International

Jan Bay, Denmark
Henning Lund, Denmark
Jan Norregaard, Denmark
Jaimie Stirling, Denmark
Daniel Wiechers, Canada

Corporate Members

Angus Bicker, N Ireland
Jason Briggs, East Midland
Denis Glass, N Ireland
Peter Glass, N Ireland
Lynn Hilton, North West
David Luxford, Surrey
Ian Mackay, West Scotland
Ian Stevenson, N Ireland

Associate Members

Andrew Ferguson, N Ireland
Richard Le Sueur, East Scotland
Derek Marriott, Sheffield
Victor Robinson, Devon & Cornwall
Richard Stafford, South Wales

Student Members

Graham Cartwright, West Scotland
William Fraser, West Scotland
Graeme Hall, Northern