

Education



Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

BIGGA GOLDEN KEY and SILVER KEY MEMBERSHIP

Unlock the doors to progress through BIGGA's Education and Development Fund - the key to a great future for greenkeepers, golf clubs and the game of golf.

Golden and Silver Key Membership is available to both companies and individuals.

For details, please contact Neil Thomas on 01347 833800 or via neil@bigga.co.uk

Golden Key Supporters



HAYTER



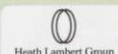
Golden Key Company Members

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Silver Key Company Members

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Syngenta Professional Products	0041 613 233 028
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Clive A Archer; Douglas G Duguid; Alan Holmes; Robert Maibusch MG; Richard S Mullen; Elliott R Small; Steven Tierney; Richard Lawrence; Clive Osgood; David Robinson; Richard Stillwell; Stephen Dixon; Ian Semple; Paul Jenkins; Robert Hogarth; R Steele; Lee Relf

Following a busy start to the year which saw ever more delegates at the Continue to Learn sessions in Harrogate and some very successful local training courses, I decided to follow Sami's example and take a few weeks holiday in the sun. Not only did I manage to soak up the rays, but I also found time to visit a superb golf course at Aphrodite Hills, near Paphos in Cyprus. Peter Bradburn and his team have had a difficult job bringing this 18-hole course into play but it was looking magnificent on the day that I visited. My wife thinks that I have got a plan to visit a golf course on each of our wedding anniversaries as we were at Carden Park last year and Aphrodite Hills this year. Where next?

Once back in the office, it was time to check on the plans for Continue to Learn 2004, check on progress with the Golf Environment Competition, to sort the entries for the Student of the Year Competition, to follow up actions from the Future Committee meeting, to remind Regions and Sections to bid for local training courses and to organise the posting of 1,700 Machinery Training and Assessment Manuals.

Continue to learn 2004

There will be a number of significant organisational changes to Continue to Learn 2004 at Harrogate, which takes place from 19 to 22 January. Prospective delegates should start their planning now to ensure that they get the package that they require. The changes are:

ACCOMMODATION

The continued expansion of BTME/ClubHouse and the subsequent increase in visitors requesting accommodation makes it impossible for BIGGA HQ to continue to administer requests for accommodation. Therefore, all Continue to Learn packages will be sold on a non-residential basis and delegates will be able to book their own accommodation. This can be done direct with hotels or through our booking agents Reservations Highway. They can be contacted on: 01423 525577 or www.reservation-highway.co.uk using the access code 'bigga'.

The BIGGA Headquarters Hotel will, still be the Majestic Hotel which will also host the Education Dinner on Monday 19 January and the Exhibitions Banquet on Thursday 22 January.

Remember, you can choose your own accommodation, however, so can every other delegate so book early to avoid disappointment.

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE AND BTME/CLUBHOUSE SEMINARS

The BTME/ClubHouse Seminars 2004 will be held in Hall D of the Harrogate International Centre and not in the Royal Hall. The National Education Conference, whose theme will be 'Golf, Sport and Business', will take place on Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 January 2004. The BTME/ClubHouse Seminars will take place on Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 January 2004.

Watch out for further updates on speakers, subjects and booking information in future editions of this magazine.

CONTINUE TO LEARN WORKSHOPS

There will be three one-day, Continue to Learn Workshops in January 2004. They will cover Health and Safety at Work, Water on the Golf Course and Influencing Skills – How your Golf Club Really Works.

BIGGA Golf Environment Competition

Entries for the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition 2003, supported by the R&A, Scotts UK Professional and Syngenta Professional Products have been passed to STRI for judging. Watch out for further details in the next issue of this magazine.



Regional Training Course

There is still time for Regions and Sections to apply for training courses to be run during the autumn/winter 2003 and spring 2004. BIGGA subsidised local training by more than £40,000 last year so make sure that you get the training that you want at low cost in your local area by letting us know what you want.

Training Vouchers

Delegates at the Gold and Silver Key meeting held at Aldwark Manor, last month, agreed to discontinue the Training Voucher Scheme and allocate the funds to other training projects.

Student of the Year Competition

The first round of judging for the TORO Student of the Year Competition takes place during the week commencing 30 June 2003. Regional interviews will take place in Scotland, the North of England, the South East, the South West and the Midlands, when the judges will select up to 8 national finalists. The National Final will take place at BIGGA House on Monday 29 September.



Higher Education Scholarships

BIGGA continues to award Higher Education Scholarships to its members thanks to generous support from Ransomes Jacobsen. Twenty-four members are attending higher education courses, ranging from N/SVQ Level 4 to MSc thanks to this scheme, which has awarded more than £22,000 so far.