

# Sunshine state beckons for BIGGA Delegation

The 10 BIGGA members who will be part of the 2005 BIGGA Delegation, sponsored by Bernhard, will be jetting off to Orlando, Florida, to visit the first ever GCSAA & NGCOA Golf Industry Show early in the new year.

In previous years the delegates have visited the GCSAA Conference and Show, however 2005 will be the debut of the combined GCSAA & NGCOA – National Golf Course Owners Association – tradeshow, which will witness over 800 companies exhibiting in a 750,600 sq.ft arena.

Both the GCSAA Educational Conference and the NGCOA Solutions Summit will be held during the show, which runs between February 7 – 12.

The entire show provides the opportunity for hands-on access to golf course and facility management solutions for the professional members of the fine turf industry.

The 2004 show was hosted in San Diego, which was the 75<sup>th</sup> GCSAA tradeshow, and, as well as visiting the show itself, the 10 delegates spent their week attending educational seminars and lectures and touring esteemed golf courses, such as the Golf Club of California, and the Taylor Made and Adidas Headquarters.

"As the week came to an end it was clear that we all took different experiences from the tour.

"On a personal note one of the most memorable experiences for me came on the last day of the show when we attended a seminar focussing on how a golf course should be set up to host a major event," said Will Bowden, a 2004 BIGGA delegate.

All BIGGA members had the opportunity to enter into the selection process for the trip by completing the entry form attached to the August issue of Greenkeeper International.

Once this was done the entrants passed through a two stage selection route.

Firstly a written element, which asked questions of the entrants, BIGGA and what they believed they would gain out of the visit. The second part was an interview.

The 2005 BIGGA delegates are sure to enjoy similar great experiences as previous members have, during their week in the sunshine state.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the 10 delegates. The tradeshow provides an insight into the developments in the industry and foresight into what will be coming into UK greenkeeping in the near future," stated John Pemberton, BIGGA Chief Executive.

"We thank Bernhard & Co for their generous support with this event, which the delegates will find very helpful in the progression of their education and careers."

**Darren Anderson**  
Head Greenkeeper  
Abergele Golf Club  
Age: 28



**Steven Beverly**  
First Assistant  
Cleethorpes Golf Club  
Age: 25



**Terry Crawford**  
Course Manager  
Clandeboye Golf Club  
Age: 41



**Mike Gash**  
Deputy Course Manager  
Moseley Golf Club  
Age: 39



**Graeme MacDonald**  
Head Greenkeeper  
Newark Golf Club  
Age: 46



**Chris Maynard**  
Greenkeeper  
The London Golf Club  
Age: 24



**Robert Needham**  
Head Greenkeeper  
Hickleton Golf Club  
Age: 50



**Tim Rockey**  
Greenkeeper  
Parkstone Golf Club  
Age: 48



**Chris Sealey**  
Course Manager  
Chippenham Golf Club  
Age: 49



**Denis Tweddell**  
Deputy Head Greenkeeper  
Turnberry Hotel & Golf Club  
Age: 37



The 2004 BIGGA Delegates during one of their numerous golf course tours.