



## Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

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 Ken Richardson on 01347 833800 or via ken@bigga.co.uk

### Golden Key Supporters



### Golden Key Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Gem Professional	01254 356611
John Deere Ltd	01949 860491
Kubota (UK) Ltd	01844 214500
PGA European Tour	01344 842881
Rigby Taylor Ltd	01204 677777
Scotts UK Professional	01473 830492
Ransomes Jacobsen Ltd	01473 270000
The Toro Company/Lely UK	01480 226800
TurfTrax Group Ltd	01722 434000

### Golden Key Individual Members

J H Fry; J H Greasley; WJ Rogers; David S Robinson; Stuart Townsend; Andrew Cornes; Andy Campbell MG; CGCS; Roger Barker; Chris Yeaman; Iain A MacLeod; Bruce Cruickshank; John Crawford; Stuart Cruickshank; Frank Newberry

### Silver Key Supporters



### Silver Key Company Members

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Health Lambert Group	0113 246 1313
RainBird	01273 891326
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### Silver Key Individual Members

Clive A Archer; Douglas G Duguid; Robert Maibusch MG; 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; Raymond Warrender; Nicholas Gray; Trevor Smith; Ian Barr; Richard McGlynn; Alex McCombie; Paul Murphy

# Education Update

Time seems to fly by here at BIGGA House, especially this week, which has seen a very successful inaugural Neil Thomas Memorial Golf Day, a Board of Management Meeting and a meeting of the Standing Committee on Greenkeepers Salaries.

## Toro Student of the Year Competition 2004

The Regional Finals of the TORO Student of the Year Competition take place this month. The Scottish interviews are in Edinburgh on July 5, the Northern and Irish interviews are at Manchester Airport on July 6, the South East Interviews are at Hemel Hempstead on July 7, the South West Interviews are at Cheltenham on July 8 and the Midlands Interviews are at Huntingdon on July 9. Full results should appear in the August edition of the magazine.

## BIGGA Golf Environment Competition

The deadline for entries to this year's Competition has passed. However, there is still time to get your application in to the judges if you are quick. Thanks to our sponsors WRAP, Scotts and Syngenta, we are able to offer even more prizes this year, so don't delay and send in your application today.

## Continue to Learn 2005

Please remember that Continue to Learn 2005 at Harrogate next January will have even more opportunities to expand your knowledge and skills when we present five workshops and three days of seminars that cover subjects from soil science to leadership and management.

We have managed to keep costs down to give all levels of greenkeeper a chance to attend one, several, or all of these exciting sessions.

Students and lecturers have free entry to all seminar sessions that will be held in Hall D of the Harrogate International Centre on Tuesday 18, Wednesday 19 and

Thursday, January 20, 2005.

The Wednesday of Harrogate week traditionally starts with the Presentation of Awards to new Master Greenkeepers and Environment Competition Prize winners. Next year, 2005, will be no exception when at least two new Master Greenkeepers join the current 36 who hold this coveted award.

Congratulations go to Stuart Hogg, currently at Fortrose and Rosemarkie Golf Club and to Ken Ingram who is the Golf Course Superintendent at Bretton Wood, Silver Spring in the USA. The next Master Greenkeeper Examination will take place on 21 and 22 October 2004.

## Regional Training Courses

You should have received a Regional Training Course Leaflet in this copy of Greenkeeper International. If you have not received your copy then contact me or Sami and we shall ensure that you get a copy by return post.

Keen eyed members will see that we have had to increase the cost of the courses to £49 for one day and £99 for two days. They are still excellent value however as each day of

training costs BIGGA approximately £120.

Therefore, each delegate gets a subsidy of £71 per day from the BIGGA Education and Development Fund thanks to our Golden and Silver Key sponsors. The Fund is also subsidising the South West Region Conference, the Midlands Conference, the Scottish Region Conference and a number of Section Seminars.

## British and International Turf Managers Conference 2005

The plan for the first BITMC, which will be held at the Staverton Park Conference Centre on March 19 & 20, 2005, is beginning to take shape.

Speakers have already agreed to present papers on a number of turf science and management topics plus a number

of management subjects including Media Relations, Leadership and Management and Establishing Working Relationships. Put a note in your diary for 2005 to attend this high level conference that is aimed at Golf Course Managers.

## N/SVQ Level 4 Sportsturf Management Review

Along with representatives from all parts of the fine turf industries I attended a meeting held at the offices of Lantra at the National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh, to review the Standards of knowledge and skills required by Course Managers and to decide which of those Standards should be incorporated into the Level 4 N/SVQ.

Fine Turf, ie: Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship, have led

the way in the introduction of N/SVQs and this meeting proved, once again that the Sector was well prepared to present its case for the Sportsturf management qualification to continue.

A further meeting will decide on the actual content of this VQ but Course Managers can rest assured that it will be totally relevant to their needs and to the needs of golf clubs.

## BIGGA Higher Education Scholarships

Thanks to continued sponsorship from Ransomes Jacobsen, the BIGGA Higher Education Scholarship Scheme is set to run for a further three years.

With more than 40 scholars so far, the scholarship scheme is proving vital in the greenkeeper's search for higher

education funding. The first three Masters of Science, supported by the scheme, graduate on 9 July and my congratulations go to Peter Jones, Eoghan Buckley and Barry Dore.