



Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

Harrogate Week 2010

BTME and Clubhouse Exhibitions - Tuesday 19 – Thursday 21, January, 2010

Visit the Membership Services Team on the BIGGA Stand

Come and chat with us on the BIGGA Stand, renew your membership, bring your colleague along to join or simply receive advice and guidance to help you get the most out of your membership.

Remember all members receive a one-year subscription to Greenkeeper International. Look out on the BIGGA website for membership offers at the Show.

Don't miss the BIGGA Social Night – Wild West Bonanza, The Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate

Join us on Tuesday 19, January 2010, from 7pm and be transported into the wild and wooly past of the American Wild West.

Try your hand at poker and replicate Wild Bill Hickok's legendary Dead Man's Hand, a pair of aces and a pair of eights, all black, but beware he was shot dead holding this hand!

The BIGGA Western Saloon offers a Saloon Bar Shootout, Tin Can Alley and the infamous Bucking Bronco, with plenty of arcade game machines and eight luxury full size casino tables this promises to be a wild west night than even Jesse James would not forget!

Tickets are only £25 (+VAT) each which includes a reception drink, two course meal, entertainment, chips for the casino tables and FREE use of all the arcade machines and side stalls and if you are lucky a visit from the tequila shot girls!

Tickets are selling quickly so ring 01347 833800 for yours now!

Save money if you pay for your own BIGGA membership!

Are you one of the 31% of BIGGA members who pay for their own membership subscriptions? If the

answer is 'yes', then you can claim tax relief on your annual membership subscription.

When you can get tax relief for professional fees and subscriptions

The HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) website states that if an employee pays for their own professional fees and subscriptions then they may be able to reduce their tax bill by getting tax relief on any professional fees and subscriptions they pay.

If you are working as a

- a) greenkeeper, a groundsman or are involved in the fine turf industry, and
- b) you are a member of BIGGA and
- c) pay for your own annual membership subscription

then you may be able to deduct the cost of the membership subscription from your taxable income and reduce the amount of tax you pay. The HMRC recognise that membership of BIGGA is helpful to your job and BIGGA's activities are relevant to your work.

BIGGA have been approved by the HM Customs and Excise and we appear on their approved list <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/list3/list3.htm>

It is possible for a person to go back several years to get tax relief.

How to get tax relief

BIGGA produce an easy to complete 'Tax Relief Claim Form' for members to fill in and send to their local tax office, instructions are clearly given on the form but your membership team are always here to help if you have any queries.

Download a form from the BIGGA website, www.bigga.org.uk select 'Members' from the options across the top, select 'Tax Relief Forms' from the menu on the left, here you can download the form. Or contact a member of the Membership Team at BIGGA HQ to send you a copy.

Regional Offices

Scotland & Northern Ireland

Peter Boyd
Tel: 0141 616 3440
Mobile: 07776 242120
pj.boyd@btinternet.com

Northern & Midland

Peter Larter
Tel: 01476 550115
Mobile: 07866 366966
petelarter972@aol.com

South East

Clive Osgood
Tel: 01737 819343
Mobile: 07841 948410
cliveosgood@yahoo.co.uk

South West & Wales

Jane Jones
Tel: 01454 270850
Mobile: 07841 948110
janejones1@btconnect.com



Peter Boyd

Peter Larter



Clive Osgood

Jane Jones

BIGGA welcomes the following new members

Scottish Region

Ian Carr, North
Simon Gunning, West
Aiden Love, Ayrshire
Anke Perplies, Central
Sindre van den Brink, North

Northern Region

Ashley Brear, Northern
Christopher Green, Northern
Will Holmes, Northern
William Price, North Wales
Stephen Yorke, Northern

Midland Region

Christian Brain, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
Stefan Carter, East Midland
Dean Gregory, Mid Anglia
Lewis Mattholie, Mid Anglia
John Merriman, Mid Anglia
Jonathan Taylor, Midland
Peter Tuckett, Berks/Bucks & Oxon

South East Region

Jake Boardman, Surrey
Bob Carriek, East Anglia
James Ellis, Kent
Jamie Faulkner, Surrey
Andrew Gill, Surrey
John Hockley, Surrey
Nick Hollin, Surrey
Mark Hollingsworth, Essex
Patrick Kidd, Surrey
Craig Marshall, East Anglia
Michael Pointer, Surrey
Aaron Robertson, Surrey
Jamie Sedgewick, Surrey
Alan Walker, Essex
Robert Watkins, Surrey
Ryan Watt, Surrey

SW/SW Region

Jacob Armal, South West
Ian Clarke, South Coast
Greg O'Reilly, Devon&Cornwall
Simon Stait, South Coast
Mik Wells, South Coast
Craig Williams, Devon&Cornwall
Craig Williamson, South Coast
James Wright, South West

Northern Ireland

Ross Burns

International

Justin Ruiz, USA

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

(Full Members only)

Personal Accident Helpline
02075 603013
Greenkeepers Legal Assistance
0800 177 7891
Greenkeepers Support Services
0800 174 319
Debt Counselling Helpline
0800 174319