

# Learning & Development

## Key Sponsorship:

### UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL OF GREENKEEPERS

The funding provided by Gold and Silver Key Sponsors is used to produce training and career aids, DVDs, CD Roms, field guides and provide refunds for training fees and subsidised learning and development courses. The funding also helps support seminars, workshops, courses, the lending library, careers advice, posters and manuals.

Many young greenkeepers owe their career progression to the assistance they've had from the Learning and Development Fund. An equal number of established greenkeepers have also been able to access the fund to continue their professional development thanks to the donations of the Gold and Silver Key Sponsors.

### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING KEY SPONSORS



#### GOLDEN KEY



#### Golden Key Individual Members

JH Greasley; WJ Rogers; Andy Campbell MG, CGCS; Iain A Macleod; Tom Smith; Frank Newberry; Christopher Lomas MG, Lee Strutt MG.



#### SILVER KEY



#### Silver Key Individual Members

Ade Archer; Steven Tierney; Paul Jenkins; Iain Barr; Richard McGlynn; Steve Dixon; Sam Langrick.



### Sami Collins, Head of Learning & Development, provides a departmental update...

Harrogate Week is over for another year, and no sooner have Rachael and I soaked our aching toes and rested our stressed out brains are we planning the Continue to Learn Education Programme 2010 - watch this space!

Now that 2009 is underway I am pleased to announce that we have further funding available for education and training purposes through the Refund of Fees Scheme and the BIGGA Higher Education Scholarships supported by Ransomes Jacobsen.



#### Refund of Fees Scheme

Supported by the Gold and Silver Key Members, the Refund of Fees Scheme offers BIGGA Members the opportunity to reclaim a percentage of their course costs for training that is specific to their job as a greenkeeper e.g. computer skills or pesticide licence. Unfortunately the scheme would not support courses such as cordon bleu cookery or embroidery for beginners unless it could be proved that it was job specific!

An 80% refund of course fees can be claimed up to a maximum amount of £350. Every Member who meets the criteria for the scheme can make one claim annually.

To be eligible to apply for the Refund of Fees Scheme you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a full member of BIGGA
- Have been a member of BIGGA for at least two consecutive years
- Have paid the course fee themselves
- Be able to provide prove of payment

A refund will be paid out on completion of the course.



#### Higher Education Scholarships

Thanks to the continued support of Ransomes Jacobsen, BIGGA are, once again, able to offer a scholarship to those members who are undertaking a Higher Education course. The courses that can be supported through this scheme include:

- NVQ Level 4
- NVQ Level 5
- HNC
- HND (Scotland)
- Foundation Degree
- BSc

The maximum scholarship that can be awarded is of 50% of course fees up to a maximum amount of £1500. Only one scholarship will be awarded per member.

To be eligible to apply for a Scholarship you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a greenkeeper member of BIGGA
- Have been a BIGGA member for a minimum of two years

Your application will also be assessed on the following:

- The type of education course
- Previous training and development
- Contribution to BIGGA
- It is desired that the selected course contains an environmental module

To apply for either the Refund of Fees Scheme or a Higher Education Scholarship complete and return the form with the required paperwork. Application forms for both schemes can be downloaded from the BIGGA website (go to the Education page and click on downloads), by emailing or telephoning the Learning and Development Department (01347 833800 option 3).

#### Region & Section Pages

You may have noticed that the 'Your Pages' section of the BIGGA website has been renamed and is now called 'Region & Section Pages'. These pages are still accessed through the Members area of the website.

The Region & Section Pages give you the contact details for the Regional Administrators and Section Secretaries and may list details of events that are taking place.