



Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, this month, highlights a new initiative

While writing this month's column, and occasionally glancing out of the window for inspiration, I find myself mesmerised by a very lively robin flying around a tree in the distance, I then notice that the sun is shining through the branches and it finally hit me...

Spring is here. I suspect I'm not the only one glad to see the back of winter. As Steve Beverly, from Immingham Golf Club, wrote in his East of England Section notes last month 'while the snow is nice to look at, the novelty wears off after a while...'. It sure does Steve!

Talking of Section notes (more commonly known as Around the Green), I would like to congratulate those who write the Section notes, I'm sure they will agree with me that it's not as easy as it looks. The difficulty is making the notes informative while being interesting at the same time.

Anyway, I enjoy reading them every month (yes I honestly do!); it is interesting finding out what members are up to. If you do have any news you would like to share, moving jobs, a special birthday celebration or any baby news then let your section secretary know so the news can be shared among your Section members through Around the Green. Contact details for all the Section Secretaries can be found on the BIGGA website, www.bigga.org.uk, select 'Contact Us' from the top line and then click on 'Contact List' and scroll down.

As the golfing season gets underway so do the section events. Check out the new 'Diary of Events' page for details of BIGGA Section and Region forthcoming events.

Surrey Section Initiative - One year's membership of BIGGA FREE!

The Surrey Section are offering the opportunity for young greenkeepers (aged 20 years or under) who have never previously been a member of BIGGA to get their first year's membership for FREE!

If you know a young greenkeeper, working in the Surrey area, who is attending college or is in formal training working towards NVQ Level 2, is 20 years or under and has never been a member of BIGGA, then tell them about this fantastic offer. The offer is limited to the first 10 applicants on a first come first served basis.

For information visit www.surrey-bigga.co.uk to download an application form or contact section secretary Ron Christie on 02086 543061 Mob: 07778 170077.

New Membership Benefits

We have been working hard at sourcing new membership benefits. The survey undertaken in Jan, 2009, showed that members were keen to find out more about personal health insurance, watch this space for more details.

On that note if any member has any suggestions for new membership benefits or services please contact us at traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk.

Email Addresses

Electronic mail, or email is the most frequently used service on the Internet. People can send messages any time, anywhere, they can send a message to multiple recipients, forward information to people without re-typing, email is fast, files can be attached including electronic documents, video clips, music and photos, messages can be distributed around the world very easily. Not surprisingly then that over two million email messages are sent every second!

But probably more surprisingly a recent survey highlighted that social network sites such as Facebook and MySpace are more popular than personal email.

To ensure you are kept up to date with information from BIGGA, make sure we have your email address on file.

Watch this space for more information on BIGGA and social networking.



Contact Details

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Peter Boyd Peter Larter



Clive Osgood Jane Jones

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

Welcome to this month's New Members

For more information on new members log in to the Members Area of the BIGGA website:

www.bigga.org.uk

...and select 'Welcome New Members' from the Menu on the left hand side.

Scottish Region

Paul Armour, Central
Kevin Peace, North
Graeme Pearston, Central
Las Rae, North
Ryan Stirling, West
Marcos Vich Roadhouse, Central
Kevin Webster, East

Northern Region

Travis Benedict, North West
Lee Jones, North Wales
Martin Jones, North Wales
Wayne Lazenby, Sheffield
David Lewis, North Wales
Jake Petch, Northern
Paul Ramsey, Cleveland
Damian Roberts, North Wales
Marc Wilcock, North Wales
Iwan Williams, North Wales

Midland Region

Paul Davies, Midland
Nicholas Edwards, Midland
Sam Hall, Midland
Richard Haseler, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
Matthew Height, East of England
Paul Howard, Midland
James Kirkby, Midland
John Latocha, Midland
Ryan Leightwood, Midland
Liam Lewis, Midland
Graham Pidcock, East Midland
Simon Pigott, East of England
Justin Waterhouse, Midland

S East Region

Ross Austin, Essex
Steve Chicken, East Anglia
Stuart Cochran, Kent
Stephen Cousins, Essex
Sam Farrow, Essex
Ben Grainger, East Anglia
Matthew Green, East Anglia
Paul Halsey, Sussex
Daniel Hampshire, Kent
Steven Hughes, East Anglia
Stuart McDowell, Sussex
James Morris, London
Wayne Mulcock, Kent
Neil Peachey, Essex
Peter Preston, Essex
Charlie Simper, London

S West/S Wales Region

Paul Clarkson, South West
Jason Hampton, Devon & Cornwall
Graham Hastie, South Coast
Patrick Hobbs, Devon & Cornwall
Jack Willis, South Coast

Overseas

Troy Russell, USA