



# Letters

Please email your notes to: [scott@bigga.co.uk](mailto:scott@bigga.co.uk)

## Toro Student Greenkeeper of The Year Award

I have been fortunate, over the last few years to be involved in the Regional and National judging of The Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award.

The standard of the students has improved year on year; with this years applicants being exceptional. Both at Regional and National level, judging is becoming increasingly difficult and trying to separate the candidates is very hard.

This year's finalists included Sean Borrett who chose to give up a promising career in the City to become a greenkeeper. Sean's teenage ambition was to become a professional golfer, however he followed a very different path and undertook a degree in Business and Finance that led him to a career in the City. Disillusioned with City life, Sean the decided on a career change, following his original passion for golf and decided to retrain as a greenkeeper. Sean is now Assistant at Ellesborough Golf Club in Buckinghamshire.

This Award, now in its 23rd year, offers a great opportunity to Student Greenkeepers. The quality of the candidates proves the future of the industry is in good hands.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Toro for their continuing sponsorship of this popular and important Award.

*Chris Sealey, Course Manager, Chippenham Golf Club  
BIGGA Board of Directors*



Sean Borrett



Cover of the GI issue showing the winner of the award, Andrew Stanger

## Best wishes

I would like to say how sad and surprised I was to learn that our Chief Executive, John Pemberton's decision to resign from his post.

John has held a senior post within the BIGGA Management for some 17 years, firstly as our accountant and number two to Neil Thomas, our first Chief Executive.

It was during my year of Chairmanship that Neil became seriously ill, 2003 was such a tragic year for his wife, Elaine, and the family, when he sadly died. Neil was our first CEO, and did a tremendous job for our Association,

That year was also a difficult time for all at H/Q especially for myself, an 'inexperienced Chairman.' It was at this time we had to find a new CEO, it was the Board's unanimous decision that John Pemberton be offered this position.

John, on a personal note, thank you for your friendship, not only to me but countless others. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for all that you have done for our Association, especially during those, and these, difficult times, I know that I speak for all of our Members in wishing you every best wishes for the future.

*Yours Sincerely,  
George Brown, Turnberry Golf Club*



## Refund of fees

I work at Garforth Golf Club, in Leeds, and just wanted to take the time to thank all of the staff in the Learning and Development department along with contributions by the Gold and Silver key sponsors who have helped me with a big part payment of my course fees.

In this day and age it is very hard to gain anything and a leg up really helps. I would have waited a lot longer to do my course due to the current economical climate. It is with great pleasure that I hope it continues to support and raise the standards of the greenkeeping industry.

*Kevin Moore*

## AGM Notice

The Annual General Meeting of BIGGA will be held on Wednesday January 19, 2011 at 5.15pm in the Queens Suite at the Harrogate International Centre.

All paperwork including the Agenda and proxy voting forms will be available on the BIGGA Website from December 20.

The meeting will be followed immediately by an Open Forum where members will have the opportunity to discuss matters of concern to them with the Board of Directors.

