



Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

BIGGA Website It's here.....the new BIGGA website has arrived!

Look out for the redesigned BIGGA website, it's packed with new features, improved navigation, new content and enhanced design. The website includes an improved security login and members will soon have the facility to make online payments including membership renewals.



Section Events – Why attend a Section event?

Last month Sami Collins and I were invited down to the South Wales Spring Seminar held at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club.

What a great day this was, well done to Steve Chappell and the Section for organising a very informative day.

The title of the day was 'When the Circus Comes to Town', an intriguing title which involved Huw Morgan, Course Manager at Ashburnham Golf Club; Gordon Moir, Director of Greenkeeping, St Andrews Links Trust; Richard Windows, STRI; Ian Kinley, Course Manager at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club, and Jim McKenzie, Director of Golf Courses and Estates Management at Celtic Manor Resort.

All of these speakers provided the audience with a very interesting insight into the preparation for, management during and recovery from a top golfing event.

I was invited to play Royal Porthcawl Golf Club the day before, thank you to Ian Kinley and his team, the course was in fabulous condition and the weather was perfect.

I found myself in what I can only describe as a dream three ball; I was in the esteem company of Jim MacKenzie and Gordon Moir (thanks Gordon for the pot bunker lesson!).

At one point I found myself stepping back and listening to them both chat about the trials, tribulations and the pride of being

involved at the highest level of running two of the most prestigious golf tournaments to be held this year!

It then occurred to me that here I was playing golf and chatting with two guys who, arguably are at the top of the career ladder, but were, with respect, two regular guys chatting about their families and jobs and had a passion for the same thing, managing a golf course!

I realised then what a special professional membership association BIGGA is, there are no real airs and graces, these guys are prepared to chat to all members and share advice and experiences at all levels, Section, Regional and National.

So, the moral of the story.....

You never know who you are going to meet and what you are going to learn at a Section event, so why not go along to one?

I guarantee you will always be made to feel very welcome and find somebody who you have something in common with.



BIGGA is now on Facebook

With over 350 million users worldwide we didn't want to be left behind.

If you have a Facebook profile why not search for us by typing in the search field British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and join the BIGGA Group.



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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

BIGGA welcomes the following new members

Scotland

Colin Berry, Ayrshire;
Christopher Boyd, West
David Braid, Central; Mike Braidwood, North
Iain Cameron, Ayrshire
Keith Donald, North; George Gunnell, West
Darren Henderson, Central
Ross Hodge, Ayrshire; Philip Pelham, North
Ross Prowse, East; James Sharp, Central
Gordon Smith, East; Blair Somerville, West;
Brian Toall, East

Northern Region

Gary Anderson, Northern
Ryan Blemings, North East
Kevin Burke, Cleveland; Alan Connor, Northern
Mark Davies, North West
Ryan Finch, North West
Christopher Harding, North West
James Heap, Northern
Christopher Lewis, North West
Nicholas Raine, North East
Graeme Sanders, Northern
Ken Ward, Northern; Stuart West, North East
Phillip Young, Northern

Midland Region

David Anslow, Midland
Andrew Barker, East of England
Michael Barnes, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
Jon Brownsell, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
James Burberry, East Midland
Mark Elliot, East Midland
Gavin Hackley, Midland
Steven Hardy, Midland
Billy Hayes, East Midland
Christian Houghton, East Midland
Stewart Jeffs, East of England
Tom Mapes, Mid Anglia
Brett Moggridge, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
Gary Moore, Mid Anglia
Andrew Rafferty, Midland
Daniel Robinson, Midland
Lyndon Shaw, Midland
Brian Steele, Berks/Bucks & Oxon
Paul Trafford, Midland; John Walshaw, Midland
Ian Whiteley, Midland
Oliver Woodcock, Mid Anglia

S East Region

Darren Baker, Essex; Paul Barry, London
Joseph Blake, Surrey; David Burrows, Sussex
Ashley Churchill, Surrey
Richard Hill, Surrey; Jack Medlicott, Surrey
Andrew Nye, Surrey; James Rattenbury, Essex
Scott Roberts, Surrey; Michael Taylor, Surrey
Stephen Thompson, Essex; Tom Wear, Kent
Richard Wood, Essex

S West/S Wales Region

Sean Bennett, Devon & Cornwall
Benjamin Bishop, South Coast
Sebastian Cavilla, South West
Andrew Day, South West
Joseph Frampton, South Wales
Daniel James Cornish, South Coast
Kevin Sturney, South Coast
Gareth Thomas, South Coast

Northern Ireland

Peter Roberts

Overseas

Bradley Anderson, USA
James Graham Prusa, USA