



Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

Preferential rates on Toyota HILUX vehicles to BIGGA Members

BIGGA has teamed up with Jemca Business Centre, London (suppliers of Toyota and Lexus) to offer BIGGA Members preferential rates on out-right purchase or contract hire of Toyota HILUX vehicles.

Jemca is an established car dealership group based in the South East, in and around London which has years of experience and is proud to be part of London's prime Toyota and Lexus car retailer group.

Jemca's growth has been based on its key strengths; outstanding commitment to customer service, which is reflected in their continually high customer satisfaction ratings across their services.

Although based in London this offer is open to all BIGGA Members in the UK.

NB: prices are frequent to change due to manufacturer campaigns, but examples of contract hire and purchase can be obtained from emailing membership@bigga.co.uk

Redundancy

If you are finding yourself a possible casualty of the current economic crises then make sure you brush up on your rights. If your employer is thinking about making you redundant, they should consult with you before making a decision. If you think you are at risk from redundancy, here's a suggestion of what to do to prepare yourself: -

Know your rights

Employers are legally obliged to follow strict procedures when making redundancies, make sure you know what the procedure is. Contact the legal helpline, a benefit provided to all FULL BIGGA Members.

Contesting your employer's decision

You have the right to appeal against your redundancy. If you have grounds to dispute your employer's redundancy decision you can take your case to an employment tribunal.

Check for any state help after redundancy

Once unemployed you may be entitled to state benefits such as Jobseekers's Allowance or Income Support. To find out what you can claim you will need to sign on at your local Jobcentre.

Planning your finances

Contact the Debt Helpline (free to members of BIGGA). If you are likely to be out of work for an extended period, check to see if any of your loans have payment protection insurance attached that may cover your mortgage interest repayments or other loans.

Finding your next job

Contact BIGGA to ensure your membership is kept valid so that you can take advantage of contacts and networking as much as possible.

Visit the Members' Area of the BIGGA Website where you can find more information and useful websites to visit - another membership benefit of being a member of BIGGA.

Section Events

Don't forget to keep checking the EVENTS Section of the BIGGA Website (www.bigga.org.uk/events/) where you will find information on all the section events throughout the UK.

If you would like to attend an event outside of the section you are in, just contact the Section Secretary for information. The details of all the Section Secretaries can be located in the 'Contact Us' and 'Contacts List' and select 'Section Secretaries'.

Membership Subscriptions 2011

In April 2009 BIGGA streamlined the membership categories from over twenty to eight categories to simplify administration and reduce confusion. In 2010 BIGGA were able to freeze the membership subscription rates, however, from April 1 2011 membership subscriptions will have a slight increase. Details will be in next month's column and on the BIGGA Website shortly.



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BIGGA welcomes the following new members

Scottish

William Nicholson, North Section

Northern Region

Neil Hamlett, North West Section
Phil Longstaff, Northern Section
Geoff Ward, Cleveland Section

Midland Region

Alistair Botwood, Midland Section
Kyle Cleaver, Midland Section
Mike Cox, Berks/Bucks & Oxon Section
Tom Ditchburn, Berks/Bucks & Oxon Section
Harry Larkins, East Midland Section
Simon Torr, Berks/Bucks & Oxon Section

South East Region

Ronald Keith Penny, London Section
Gerald Scott, East Anglia Section
Michael Willingale, East Anglia Section

South West/South Wales

Steven Blackmore, South West Section
Tony Hughes, Devon & Cornwall Section
Neil Ivamy, Devon & Cornwall Section

Overseas

Johannes Bester, Sahara Kuwait, Kuwait
Aleksander Kravanja, Golf Bovec d.o.o., Slovenia
Temitope Odihili, Ikeja Golf Club, Nigeria

For more information on new members log in to the Members' Area of the BIGGA Website.

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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



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