



Membership

Tracey Maddison, Head of Membership, provides a departmental update

Well that's August out of the way! Saltex this month then it will be countdown to BTME. Have you registered? If not, you can go and register online now.

Register now for BTME 2012

It's that time of year again, time to think about Harrogate Week and if you haven't already, register now. Visit www.harrogateweek.org and click on the 'Register Now!' button.

Put the dates in your diary/smartphone/mobile to remind you, they are 24 – 26 January 2012. See last month's Greenkeeper International, pages 56 and 57 for an insight into what you can expect next year and lookout for the Continue to Learn brochure which will be available next month.

Visit the show next year and help to celebrate 25 years of BIGGA and 100 years of Greenkeeping Associations. The Association has come a very long way since 1987, thanks to the outstanding work of so many of its members, supported by HQ and Regional Administration staff.

Do you want to help BIGGA move forward in the next 25 years? Why not get involved at Section level? Volunteers make invaluable contributions to the Sections, Regions and at National level and play a crucial role in BIGGA's existence.

Why are volunteers so important?

Volunteers are vital to BIGGA because they:

- Provide added value and enable services to be delivered which might not otherwise be possible;
- Act as a link between the membership, the Region and HQ;
- Bring in new skills and a different perspective; and
- Believe in the service and are great advocates within the BIGGA community.

How do you get involved?

- Make a note of your Section's AGM date and go along and meet fellow members and the Section Committee;



- Express an interest to get involved to a member of the Section Committee;
- Find out what 'job' roles exist on the Section Committee;
- Ask to shadow a current member of the Committee

Be reassured, you don't always need relevant experience. Enthusiasm and having new ideas is key to any role on the Committee.

There will be plenty of people to support you from the Section and Region.

BIGGA Website – Members' Area

Within the 'vault' that is the Members Area there is a wealth of information available to members of all categories.

Bulletin Board – if you are wanting some technical, educational or just general information why not ask your fellow members?

Recent topics in the 'Talk about Turf' bulletin board include constructing new greens; sleepers for ponds; green speed targets and thatch fungi. Topics in the 'Talking Shop' section include job interviews, overtime and first cut in semi rough amongst others.

Download the BIGGA Field Guides or the EGU Model Course Policy Document, check out information regarding the Working Time Regulations or use the handy Converter Tool. In the Members Area members will be able to locate the "How To..." Guides.

Make sure you access the BIGGA members area on a regular basis to benefit from the services and benefits on offer.

"How To..." Guides

Do you ever get involved with recruiting, how do you recruit the right staff? Or maybe you are looking at revising or writing a job description or you are in charge of conducting a team briefing or a one-to-one meeting but you are unsure how best to go about undertaking any one of these tasks. Help is at hand!

BIGGA Members can log into the members area and download various "How To..." Guides which will help them tackle topics similar to the above, all are free (thanks to the continuing support of the contributors to the Learning and Development Fund) and available to ALL BIGGA members.



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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