



# Learning & Development

Sami Collins, BIGGA Learning & Development Manager, with an update on education issues

October is here, the nights are drawing in, the leaves are coming down and it's less than 100 days until Christmas – but on a happier note it means that BTME and Continue to Learn are just around the corner!

## Continue to Learn at BTME 2013

The Continue to Learn at BTME 2013 education programme has been launched with this issue of Greenkeeper International and it features the full line-up of education events.

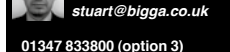
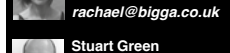
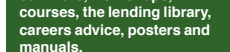
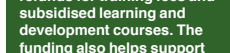
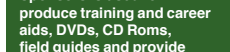
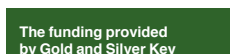
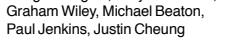
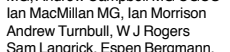
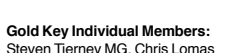
With four days of workshops, seminars, the new 'Focus On' sessions and the Turf Managers' Conference, there is certain to be something for everyone visiting BTME. The education programme will commence on Sunday 20 January and will run until Wednesday 23 January.

A full list of education events is available on [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk) (with an online booking facility) and [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk).

## Seminar Pre-booking for BIGGA Members

Due to the popularity of the Seminar programme in January 2012, some BIGGA members were left disappointed when they were unable to see some of the seminars. To help prevent this happening in the future, we are introducing a seminar pre-booking system, available for BIGGA members only. The pre-booking system will run as follows:

70 seminar vouchers will be made available for each of the Continue to Learn Seminars, held in the Queen's Suite on Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 January. BIGGA members can request a seminar voucher for any of the Seminars listed. The seminar voucher must be exchanged for a seminar ticket in the Queen's Suite of Harrogate International Centre at least one hour prior to the start time of the pre-booked seminar. If the voucher is not exchanged for a ticket there is no guarantee of a



seat. The remaining seats will be available to all visitors on a first come, first serve basis.

You will be able to request seminar vouchers by completing the application form in the Continue to Learn brochure, by logging into the members area of the website and booking via the Events page or by contacting the L&D Department.

We hope that you will be courteous when pre-booking by only selecting the seminars that you have particular interest in seeing.

## Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year 2012

The Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year 2012 Final took place at BIGGA House on 16 and 17 September. Following a very close contest, the title this year went to Thomas Flavelle from Lingdale Golf Club representing Myerscough College.

Thomas is the 24th Student Greenkeeper to be awarded the title. He is now looking forward to his experiences in the USA at the Winter Turf School held at the University of Massachusetts and visits to both the Toro Headquarters and the Golf Industry Show in San Diego.

The runners-up were: Christopher Watson from Peterculter Golf Club representing Elmwood College and Peter Thompson from Sunningdale Golf Club represent-

ing Oaklands College. Both will be attending Continue to Learn at BTME 2013 in Harrogate in January.

My congratulations go to all of the finalists. It was a close contest and a challenge for the judges to select the winner and runners-up.

## Assistants Development Seminar

Last month we ran a successful training event at BIGGA House, for the Course Managers who will be presenting the pilot Assistant Development seminars.

These events will be advertised as: 'So You Want to be Promoted – Essential Skills for your Career Development' and will initially be free of charge and are open to Assistant and First Assistant members of BIGGA.

The first event will be the Northern Region's, to be held at Lymm GC on Wednesday 24 October starting at 4pm. For further details and news of other forthcoming events around the country, check the events page of the BIGGA website for details.

## BIGGA Higher Education Scholarships

Supported by Ransomes Jacobsen The most recent scholarship has been awarded to:

Phillip Worth - Foundation Degree in Sportsturf (online)

The funding provided by Gold and Silver Key Sponsors is used to produce training and career aids, DVDs, CD Roms, field guides and provide refunds for training fees and subsidised learning and development courses. The funding also helps support seminars, workshops, courses, the lending library, careers advice, posters and manuals.

**Contact Details**

 Sami Collins  
L&D Manager  
[sami@bigga.co.uk](mailto:sami@bigga.co.uk)

 Rachael Duffy  
L&D Executive  
[rachael@bigga.co.uk](mailto:rachael@bigga.co.uk)

 Stuart Green  
L&D Executive  
[stuart@bigga.co.uk](mailto:stuart@bigga.co.uk)

01347 833800 (option 3)  
[www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)