



# Destination San Diego

**BERNHARD**

**These are the ten BIGGA members who will be heading to San Diego for the Golf Industry Show next month courtesy of Bernhard – what’s sure to be a once in a lifetime experience.**

As well as the GIS, the delegates will visit golf courses in California and attend educational seminars at the Golf Course Superintendents Association of

America Education Conference.

Many thanks to all members who applied, and to all those who travelled for interviews. BIGGA Chief Executive Jim Croxton said: “Once again the standard of applicants was extremely high and the decision on the final ten delegates was a very tricky one.

“The successful group will enjoy a fantastic development opportunity on both a professional and a

personal basis in San Diego and will, I am sure, represent the Association with distinction.

We continue to be extremely grateful for the support from Bernhard & Co who have now allowed over a hundred BIGGA members to enjoy this valuable experience.”

Here are the successful delegates currently making plans to jet off to San Diego in February...



**LEE BRADY – First Assistant Greenkeeper, Muswell Hill Golf Club**

Lee has been greenkeeping for seven years and has gained his Level 2 and Level 3 in Sports Turf. He says he’s really looking forward to going to the States as he believes it will be a “once in a lifetime” opportunity to meet different people across the industry. He expects to be particularly interested to hear different ideas, visit the show and “promote all the good work BIGGA are doing.”



**ASA ENGLISH – Deputy Course Manager, Rothley Park Golf Club**

Asa began his greenkeeping career in 2002 as Assistant Greenkeeper at Charnwood Forest Golf Club, before moving to his current club. He’s been part of BIGGA’s volunteer support team at The Open Championships on several occasions which he says is “fantastic” for networking and improving as a greenkeeper.

He’s really looking forward to the trip which he hopes will be an excellent educational experience.



**ROBERT CLARE – Course Manager, Brough Golf Club**

Born in Dublin, he worked at several clubs in and around Dublin before leaving to further his education at Myerscough College, and over the course of 12 years completed his National Certificate, National Diploma and Foundation Degree.

He travelled to the USA to join the Ohio State Intern Programme and spent a year working on a course in Perth, Australia. After two years as Course Manager at Skipton Golf Club he then joined Brough Golf Club.

He’s married with two young sons, and as well as playing golf is a member of a target shooting gun club.



**DANIEL NORSWORTHY – Deputy Course Manager, The Richmond Golf Club**

Daniel began his career at Cranleigh Golf & Leisure Club, and after gaining his Level 2 qualification he joined The Richmond Golf Club. He continued his development, gaining his Level 3, and was offered his current position. He says he’s learnt much from Les Howkins MG at The Richmond.

His dream is to run his own golf course, and in his spare time he enjoys going to the gym, catching up with friends and attempting to play golf!





**BRUCE HICKS – Head Greenkeeper, Boston Golf Club**

Bruce has spent his whole 22-year greenkeeping career at Boston and holds City & Guilds 2 and SNVQ 2 qualifications. He is also Secretary and Treasurer for BIGGA's East of England Section, something he says he gets "enormous satisfaction" from. He adds he feels "very honoured" to have been chosen as a delegate. He has many hobbies including swimming and amateur theatre, and says he's "kept sane" by his wife and "driven crazy" by his two teenage kids.



**PAUL HANDY – Head Greenkeeper, Newport Golf Club**

Paul has worked as a greenkeeper at Newport for 15 years, and became Head Greenkeeper six years ago. He studied for his NVQ in Sports Turf at Pencoed College and is currently on a distance learning programme at Elmwood College.

He's been on the BIGGA South Wales Section Committee for five years and is in his second year as chairman. He was a volunteer at the Ryder Cup at Celtic Manor in 2010, and says he's a firm believer in sustainable greenkeeping using traditional greenkeeping practices alongside new techniques. In his spare time he enjoys golf, fishing and motorcycling.



**RICHARD JENKINSON – Deputy Course Manager, G West**

Richard, born in St Andrews, spent 13 years at the famous Old Course before moving to Archerfield Links. He then returned to full-time education, studying his HNC in Golf Course Management at Elmwood College. After completing this he joined the team at G West and was involved in all aspects of the final construction stages of the course. He's married with two young daughters, enjoys golf and football.



**JAMES PARKER – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Close House Golf & Country Club**

James was a student nurse until 2007 when he changed his career path to greenkeeping. He joined Blackwell Grange Golf Club as an apprentice, then three years later was hired by Close House. He's now been on the support team for four European Tour events. He's completed his NVQ Level 3 and is about to begin studying for his Higher National Certificate, and is hoping to gain a greater understanding of American training techniques in San Diego. He's married to Sarah with one young son, and the couple are excitedly expecting another child in April. When time allows he plays golf and follows Leeds United.



**TIM JOHNSON – Assistant Greenkeeper, The Wilmslow Golf Club**

Tim's looking forward to seeing how greenkeeping practices in America compare with the sustainable golf course he works on. He also can't wait to meet greenkeepers from across the world and see the differences - and similarities - in how they overcome daily problems on their courses.

He enjoys playing golf, football and was featured in October's Greenkeeper International after he helped raise thousands of pounds for charity by pushing hand mowers across England with other crazed greenkeepers!



**DERRICK JOHNSTONE – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, The Wentworth Club**

Derrick started greenkeeping straight from school at 16, and studied for his National Certificate and Higher National Certificate, achieving Student of the Year on both courses. He worked for four years on the West Course at Wentworth before being promoted to Deputy Head Greenkeeper on the Edinburgh Course.

He's worked on 25 televised professional tournaments and been awarded Employee of the Year. He's married with a six-month-old son, and enjoys playing golf, watching football and travelling.

