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Tracey Maddison, BIGGA's Membership Services Officer, welcomes almost 120 new members to the Association and gives details on how you could save £££s off workwear with ARCO

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To continue BIGGA's successful partnership with ARCO, which entitles all BIGGA Members to 20%* discount on the UK's widest range of Workwear, Safety Clothing and Equipment and Industrial and Maintenance Products, we would like to promote ARCO's first annual "three into one" ARCO Catalogue.

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ARCO also have their own fleet of delivery vehicles and drivers. This

May's Monthly Membership Draw Winner

Just introduce one or more new greenkeeping members to BIGGA and your name will be placed into a draw to win a fantastic BIGGA sportswatch. Our congratulations go to May's winner, Robert Kimberlee of The Belfry.

Northern Ireland

Norman Orr William R Russell

Republic of Ireland

Eugene Hennessy Graeme Paxton Michael Radford

International Members

Stuart D Cooper, Netherlands

John Nielsen, Sweden Paul G Burch, USA Walter K Kulpeksa, USA Neil Critchlow, Canada

Ian Martin

BIGGA welcomes ...

Daryll L Curtis, Sheffield

Stephen Dutton, Northern

Rodger L Gibson, N West Philip Graham, Cleveland James Hollingsworth, Sheffield

Tom Humphreys, Cleveland Richard L Jones, N Wales Matthew D Lawson, N West Andy Riley, Sheffield Robert E Smith, N West

Ben P Atkinson, Mid Anglia

Ashley D P Cook, Mid Anglia Peter K Cummings, Midland

Robert S M Harrison, Midland

Alex Millar, B&O John M Mitchell, E of England Andrew S Myall, E Midland Mark Orchard, Mid Anglia Sean A Oyston, Mid Anglia

Matthew C Parker, BB&O Simon Plummer, Midland

Michael G Spencer, Midland Mark Street, Midland David R Ward, E Midland

Jonathan D Webster, Midland Martin L Wotton, Midland

Simon J Finch, Midland Alex Hall, BB&O

David P Harrison, Midland Graham Ives, Midland

Alex Millar, BB&O

Midland Region

Scottish Region

Colin R Aiton, North David Anderson, Ayrshire Edward W Brown, North Trevor Cameron, North Steven Couper, Central Richard D Davis, Ayrshire George Duncan, North Frederick Elrick, North Colin Irving, North Matthew J Kyle, Ayrshire Andrew J MaCrae, North Garry McShane, West Gregor N McTavish, Ayrshire James Mutch, West John Myles, Central Sonn Wytes, Central Kyle R A Nimmo, Ayrshire Alan Patterson, North John Renton, Ayrshire Chris MacGregor Smith, Central Gavin Speedie, Central Frank Spencer, North Gareth Thomson, West Joseph Wallace, Central Andrew Wilson, North

Northern Region

Robert F Adams, N West James D Blacklock, N West David J Cooper, N West Andrew Copestick, N West

South East Region

John R Barnard, E Anglia Colin A Beeney, Surrey Andrew Bleach, Surrey Liam F Bowerman, London Greig Bowles, Sussex Andrew Brooker, Surrey Mark C Cecil, Surrey William Chapman, Surrey Darren A Child, Kent Gareth O Clarke, Sussex Colin Clifton, Kent Richard B Cooper, Surrey Steve Daniels, Surrey Richard A Dwan, Kent Lee A Fuller, Kent Stephen Hain, London Darren Hendricks, Kent John C Hunnisett, Kent James Murphy, Kent Michael J Oakes, Essex Michael Peters, E Anglia Chris Philpott, Surrey Aaron Ransom, Si James Sheffield, Surrey Tim Sheldon, London Paul Shepherd, Surrey Tim Simmons, Essex Colin F Smith, Kent Michael A Turner, Surrey

S West & S Wales Region Corporate Members Jonathan P Bradnock S West Andrew Brown, S West Kevin Davis, S West Ian R Larcombe, S West David McCutcheon, S Wales Mark S Rowling, S Wales Paul J Tarring, S West

Tim Webb, Midland Mark Day, Essex

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Mark Chamberlain, Mid Anglia

A J Milburn, N West A J Milburn, N West Brian Davis Jarratt, Kent Garry Naishloss, Surrey Benjamin Willey, Dev & C'wall John Sidney Baker, S Coast Darren Nesbitt, N Ireland Jyri Kaapro, Australia

Student Members

Kevin Johnston, West Robert H Churchman, N Ireland





If you've got an email account why not send an email to the membership department, where we can place you into our exclusive members email address book. We can then keep you up to date with membership news and events as they happen.

Send an email to: membership@bigga.co.uk tracey@bigga.co.uk susannah@bigga.co.uk

means that they provide free delivery, there is no minimum order charge and if your Club wants to enhance and compliment your workwear with the Club's logo, embroidery and heat seal badging is available.

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ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER AS



Name: Simon Berry

Club: Southwick Naval Recreation Centre, Portsmouth

Position: Assistant

Age: 27

1. How long have you been a greenkeeper? 10 years

2. What education are you currently undertaking? About to begin NVQ Level 3, Sparsholt College

3. Which one task do you most enjoy doing? Cutting approaches

4. Which one task do you most dislike doing? Weeding bunkers

5. What job other than greenkeeping might you have ended up doing? Painter and Decorator

6. Who has been the biggest influence on your career Head Greenkeeper, Nick Beadle, and First Assistant, Steve Smees

7. What would you do to improve the life of a greenkeeper?

More consideration from the golfers when we're out on the course because we've got a job to do and often risk being hit by a ball

8. What are your hobbies? Football, darts, cricket and socialising

9. What do you get out of **BIGGA?** Superb magazine and seminars

10. What do you hope to be doing in 10 years time? Be a Head Greenkeeper



As well as providing a wealth of information, the BIGGA website is also a powerful communication tool. Discover how you can use the Association's website to keep in touch, or even get a job ...

www.bigga.org.uk: An important information tool

As part of our continual programme of online improvement, and the addition of new and informative content on the BIGGA Website, it is often possible to forget about some of the other fantastic services that are available for online members.

BIGGA's 'Time to Talk' Bulletin Board is a great way of keeping in touch with fellow greenkeepers, and an ideal way for you to share your knowledge on all matters connected with the fine turf industry. This service also enables all Greenkeeping members of BIGGA to discuss any topic of interest relevant to their profession, online.

How do I chat online?

'Time to Talk' is located in the BIGGA website Members' Area, and can be accessed by logging into the Greenkeeper Members Area. Simply enter your surname and date



of birth, and once in the Members' Area, click on the Bulletin Board icon. A second window will automatically open, from where you can either register (if you are new to the Bulletin Board), or Login, if you have previously registered.

Once you have completed the registration process, you can login, and go to the Home Page of the Bulletin Board.

From here you can organise your home page to meet your own requirements and select and view any of the discussions ongoing. You can create a new topic, or reply to an existing one. How about;

Getting help and advice from fellow members?

Renewing friendships with colleagues?

Sharing ideas and challenges online?

Whatever your question, BIGGA's 'Time to Talk' Bulletin Board is the place to ask it. So visit www.bigga.org.uk and login to the members area for an exciting and communicative experience!

Online recruitment

BIGGA already upload all recruitment advertising from the pages of Greenkeeper

International to coincide with the launch of each issue. Many Greenkeeper members have found the online recruitment section to be of great benefit, particularly if they have left their magazine at work! They can simply log on at home, to the BIGGA website, and access all of the latest jobs available in the fine turf industry. Also, if a member is looking for employment, their advert will appear in this database for prospective employers to read.

Any member who has found themselves out of work as a direct result of the Foot and Mouth Outbreak may wish to take advantage of the BIGGA websiite to help find another club. As a special service to members the Association will allow you to post a Job Shop advert on the website, listing your experience and qualifications, offering your services free of charge.

Further information can be obtained from the Sales & Marketing Department at BIGGA HOUSE Tel: 01347 833800 email: meredith@bigga.co.uk

This offer only applies to website adverts and not those which you wish to appear in Greenkeeper International.

Visit us at www.bigga.org.uk



Got a question to ask or have some information or comments to pass on? Contact us via email at the relevant address below.

Membership Services membership@bigga.co.uk

Education & Training education@bigga.co.uk

Editorial/PR scott@bigga.co.uk

Sales & Marketing sales@bigga.co.uk

Finance admin@bigga.co.uk

Design Services david@bigga.co.uk

Website webmaster@bigga.co.uk

General enquiries reception@bigga.co.uk



What better way to promote your company than by sponsoring a category within the online BIGGA Directory. Receiving 50,000 visitors since its relaunch 9 months ago, this is an opportunity not to be missed - and all for as little as £250. The BIGGA Golf Directory is the most comprehensive guide to the products and services within the turfcare industry.

Published annually, the Directory is a stand-alone publication which provides the industry's buyers with an unrivalled database of contacts from which to make their buying decisions. Easy to use, with over 125 individual product categories, the Directory is proving to be a major resource for buyers as they search for industry contacts. Can you afford NOT to be included?

Entry into the 2001/2 edition starts from just £110 for 3 category listings, with your contact details automatically included in our searchable Online Directory, absolutely FREE of charge! To find out more about the various advertising opportunities available to you and your company, call Cheryl Broomhead on 01347 833800 or send an email to cheryl@bigga.co.uk

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Minimum entry	CLUDES 3	~	£110	www.bigga.org.u
Quarter page ad	LUDES 3	~	£315	
Quarter page DPS	ICLUDES 6	~	£575	Send an
Half page ad	UDES 5	~	£575	cher
Half page DPS	UDES 10	~	£840	And in case of the local division of the loc
Full page INCO	udes 10	~	£1,050	Ga
Full page DPS	UDES 15	~	£1,575	

e by pointing your browser at Ik/directoryapp.html I email Cheryl Broomhead at VI@bigga.co.uk

Cheryl at BIGGA HOUSE on 01347 833800

Visit its online at www.bareautrus

Following his recent accreditation of Master Greenkeeper status from BIGGA, Amy Bird asks Stuart Cagle how he manages to accomplish so much...

A greenkeeping Master

Stuart Cagle, MG, CGCS at Old Oakland Golf Club in Indianapolis, works hard. For the last 14 years, Stuart has gone to work early, stayed late and sacrificed weekends to ensure that Old Oakland's golf course is in the best possible shape for its members. So, after Old Oakland members learned that Stuart had earned his Master Greenkeeper's certificate from the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, they took the opportunity to show him their thanks.

"We (recognised Stuart) in our newsletter, and members got excited, as much from the fact that Stuart has been such a strong superintendent for the 14 years he has been with us, as for the certificate," says Larry Dawson, Vice President of Old Oakland.

"They wanted to thank him in some way, beyond just talking about it."

Proving good on their word, Dawson says that a group of members approached management last autumn about hosting a tournament on Stuart's behalf.

"They came to us, through the pro shop, and asked if they could set a tournament up. We said 'absolutely' and approved it," Dawson recalls.

Personal challenge

Oct. 1, 2000, Stuart's 14-year anniversary with Old Oakland, members held a tournament for Stuart that raised more than \$6,000 to send him and his family to England to accept his Master Greenkeeper certificate.

"I think that primarily it came from wanting to say, 'Stuart, you've done the club a great service over the last 14 years.'... It's their way of giving back," Dawson notes.

"The quality of his work shows. A lot of our members play other clubs, so they recognise his attention to detail - it shows. That is why they stay here. They can see the difference."

Although the tournament was

"I take a lot of pride in my work, but I like to be behind the scenes. I do my job and do the best I can, and I want people to enjoy the course and my staff's efforts.

²We have so many good, quality people here at Old Oakland," he continues.

"I've always been interested in how (the British) maintain courses. I love to watch the British Open... I wanted to get a better grasp of how they managed courses in the U.K., how it was different from here. It's fascinating." After joining, Stuart learned about BIGGA's Master Greenkeeper certificate and, again, attracted to the challenge, decided to pursue his second professional distinction.

organised for Stuart, Dawson points out that it made a positive impact on the club, as well.

"This was a first-time situation. Nothing like this has ever been done in the 14 years we've owned the club. The members did this together, on their own."

Stuart says the fact that members also raised money for his family, showed their appreciation for the sacrifices his family has made over the years, as well.

"I was overwhelmed to the point of tears, and I still get choked up," says Stuart, a 19-year member of GCSAA. "I was overwhelmed that (members) would want to do that, and by the warmth they showed me for receiving certification and for the 14 years I've worked to make this a good course."

Whereas normal club tournaments at Old Oakland draw around 20 to 30 pairs/couples, the tournament for Stuart attracted 96 individuals (48 twosomes). Moreover, many who couldn't participate responded with donations.

"People who said they couldn't play would drop checks off. One member walked by and threw a \$100 bill down and said, 'I can't play, but I Veil Thomas reports on how the event planning on BTME2002 is going, and urgos prospective whibitors to book their stand space fast! BT 332002

ail Thomas reports on how you could job A TA delegation of the GCE. A contemp na way in Orlage 5, class of rebigues 200

Confirmed Exhibitors

Right: Stuart Cagle (center) received his Master Greenkeeper award from BIGGA President Sir Michael Banallack (left) and 2000 BIGGA Chairman Elliott Small (right) during BIGGA's National Education Conference, in January at Harrogate

want you to have a good time.' It was then that I started realising that people really appreciated my efforts," Stuart reveals.

Following the tournament, the club had a cocktail reception for Stuart, his family and the tournament participants. During the reception, the club presented Stuart with a golf bag, a plaque for his efforts and a poster with the tournament name and date that all of the participants had signed. He was also presented with a cigar box containing \$6,000.

As if their efforts weren't enough, Stuart says that several members also gave him their gift certificates from the tournament closest to the pin contests, instructing him to use the restaurant certificates to take his wife, Joni, to dinner.

"I was absolutely overwhelmed. I will never forget all they did," he exclaims, noting that he, Joni, their oldest son, Taylor, and his mother, were able to spend eight days in England in January as a result of the club's efforts. They travelled to Harrogate, January 22-23, to attend the BIGGA National Education Conference and spent the rest of their vacation around London.

Lessons learned, taught

For Stuart, the trip to BIGGA's conference was the realisation of a goal set four years earlier.

"I became certified through GCSAA in 1996 at Orlando (conference and show). That was a personal goal and challenge I had set for myself to learn more and see if I could do it," Stuart offers, explaining the natural progression of his membership, beginning with the desire to increase his knowledge and network with peers. "It was a personal challenge to become a CGCS."

become a CGCS. The following year, at GCSAA's conference and show in Las Vegas in 1997, Stuart visited the BIGGA booth and, intrigued by European golf course maintenance, decided to join. "I've always been interested in how (the British) maintain courses. I love to watch the British Open... I wanted to get a better grasp of how they managed courses in the U.K., how it was different from here. It's fascinating." After joining, Stuart learned about BIGGA's Master Greenkeeper certificate and, again, attracted to the challenge, decided to pursue his second professional dis-

tinction. "The MG certification process is a little different (than GCSAA's). They use different technologies, the education is a little different and there weren't too many people from the United States who had accomplished it," he acknowledges.

"At the time, there were only five individuals from the United States and 22 individuals worldwide who had earned the certificate."

After documenting everything he had done, from his formal education at Purdue to GCSAA seminars, Stuart began the certification process through BIGGA, which included having his course attested by a Master Greenkeeper from the United States -GCSAA board member Robert Maibusch, CGCS, MG, attested Stuart's course in 1999 - and taking a written exam.

"I received a letter of congratulations the first week of June (2000)," he remarks, crediting Joni, Taylor and his youngest son, Adrian, who is 5, for their support. He says his motivation comes from wanting to improve himself and to set an example for his sons.

"(Obtaining certification) was a personal challenge, but I also did it for my son, Taylor, who is 9 years old, to show him that if you set goals, you may not reach everything, but you are on the right path and that, even as you get older, education is still important."

So, beyond feeling satisfaction in having achieved his latest goal, Stuart says he cherishes his son's reaction to the news. "When I got the letter from BIGGA, I showed it to Taylor, and he read it and said, 'Dad, that is a good job."

Our thanks go to the GCSAA for their permission in allowing us to reprint this article, which was first published in the May edition of Golf Course Management If you are interested in enrolling in the BIGGA Master Greenkeeper Certificate programme, you can obtain further information and a brochure from Ken Richardson, BIGGA's Education and Training Manager. Just call 01347 833800 or email; ken@bigga.co.uk



Additional information can be found on the BIGGA website at www.bigga.org.uk Neil Thomas reports on how you could join the BIGGA delegation to the GCSAA conference and show in Orlando, USA - February 2002

The chance of a Lifetime





In February this year, a 10 man BIGGA delegation participated in the CGSA Conference and Show in Vancouver courtesy of sponsorship through Bernhard and Company Limited. Following the success of this new venture, Bernhard have confirmed renewed sponsorship for 2002 which will enable BIGGA to send another ten man delegation, this time to the GCSAA Conference and Show in Orlando, Florida.

The group will consist of two BIGGA members selected from each Region (10 in all) and the costs of travel, accommodation and entrance to the Conference programme will be met by Bernhard and Company Ltd. Applications are invited from BIGGA members who would be interested in representing the Association at this major industry event.

How do I apply to be considered?

You must submit a personal profile consisting of no more than one side of A4 which should include brief details of education and training and career summary, as well as membership history within BIGGA. You will need to explain why you warrant selection for and how you would benefit from the Orlando visit.

Also, you will need to demonstrate an ability to represent BIGGA and the greenkeeping profession in a public relations role at an international event.

This application must be submitted to, and received by, your Section Secretary no later than July 31.

Each Section Committee will consider all the entries received and will then put forward a chosen candidate for Regional selection. This will involve the finalists in an interview with a panel consisting of the Regional

Chairman, Regional Board of Management representative, sponsor's representative and representative from BIGGA headquarters. Each Region will select two of the finalists for the visit and the remaining finalists will receive a voucher worth £100, redeemable against a visit to BTME 2002 in Harrogate. The Regional panels will meet during October and the names will be announced in the December issue of 'Greenkeeper International'. The delegation will be visiting as guests of Bernhard and Company but will be representing BIGGA throughout the seminars, conference sessions and visit to the Trade Show. You must possess a BIGGA blazer and tie and dress appropriately throughout the visit.

Delegates who attended the CGSA Conference and Show in Vancouver are not eligible to enter.

Below: The ten BIGGA delegates pictured with Sam McLean of Bernhards (centre) at the 2001 CGSA Conference Dinner in Vancouver



Richard Whyman, (pictured on the immediate right) Head Greenkeeper at Bude and North Cornwall Golf Club and a member of last year's Canada delegation speaks highly of the experience.

"I saw last year's trip to Vancouver as an important part of my continuing educational development and I learned a great deal from speaking with other Superintendents and greenkeepers and from visiting other golf courses. Thanks to Bernards it was a wonderful opportunity and I would thoroughly recommend BIGGA members to put themselves forward for possible selection on next year's trip to Orlando". Neil Thomas reports on how the event planning for BTME2002 is going, and urges prospective exhibitors to book their stand space fast!



BTME2002: Planning to be even BIGGA and better!

BTME each year evolves through a twelve month cycle. No sooner have we returned to BIGGA HOUSE from Harrogate than the planning process for the next BTME is well and truly underway. There is a comprehensive review of what has been and changes as necessary are put in place for the following year. The freshness and appeal of the week in Harrogate are essential ingredients to its success and there is never any sense of complacency as we reflect on one event and plan for the next. There are many considerations to be undertaken in the planning process and decisions to be made.

Through the pages of 'Greenkeeper International' we plan to keep readers informed with key announcements in the months ahead. We hope that this will ensure a great sense of anticipa-tion for BTME 2002 which no doubt will come around again in quick time.



Record bookings As I write in mid May, 127 stands have confirmed bookings while 40 other exhibitors are currently seeking relocation. Such is the level of booking and enquiry that the remaining portion of Hall B which was not utilised for BTME 2001 will now be used to accommodate new exhibitors and those who require more space.

The GCSAA Conference and Show in Dallas last February proved to be a fruitful source of enquiry in relation to the BTME and will surely enhance the ever-growing international presence in Harrogate.

The decision to allow breakdown from 5.00pm on the Thursday has been widely welcomed particularly amongst smaller exhibitors who have subsequently confirmed their stand bookings.

So, for companies who are seriously contemplating exhibiting at BTME

2002, there is no time to waste. Meredith is your contact at BIGGA HOUSE - speak to her soon!

Automatic pre-registration

One significant development at BTME 2001 was the advent of far longer queues than pre-viously on the Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Luckily the sun shone and to an extent this alleviated the obvious frustration experienced by those stranded outside. As I have said there is no sense of complacency on our part and this problem will be tackled for next January's show. Visitor badges will be sent automatically to all those who registered for the 2001 show while pre-registration will be streamlined through direct on-line and telephone bookings. Life is so much easier for those arriving with a badge! It would be foolish to



claim that queues will be a thing of the past as growth of the show is a primary aim year on year.

We will do our best to cater for that growth and this will include speedier access through the on site registration process where we will attempt to anticipate the growth factor to the best of our ability



Education, training and entertainment

We are well advanced in preparation of the conference, seminar and workshop programmes (see page 10) whilst decisions will soon be made on a keynote speaker and the entertainment programme for the BTME banquet.

We will be aiming to produce pack-ages to suit all tastes and pockets and the focus will very much be on making BTME 2002 once again the premier event in the greenkeeping calendar and one which greenkeepers and companies alike cannot afford to miss.



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Kestrel Golf

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For the very latest BTME2002 news and event information visit: www.bigga.org.uk

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Versatility is important if you're going to get the maximum out of existing machinery or any new equipment you may be thinking of purchasing. Roland Taylor takes a look into the world of tractors.

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June 2001 Greenkeeper International

WORK HORSE



The best-laid plans can sometimes go pear-shaped and none more so than when Mother Nature is involved. Over the last 12 months, hardly a day seems to have gone by when the heavens have not opened. This winter must have taken its toll as even the hardiest of golfers have decided to stay indoors. A combination of the weather plus the foot and mouth outbreak is bound to have had

filters through, it is very likely that readers have to shelve plans, review their operating costs and reconsider replacement programmes or the acquisition of new equipment. In times of financial constraint,

everything goes under the micro-scope in an endeavour to keep costs are going to get the maximum out of existing machinery or any new equip-ment you may be thinking of purchasing.



Machinery One of the most cost-effective pieces of machinery for any course is still a tractor. This prime mover when fitted with attachments can, with the tions such as mowing, carry out virtually all the operations required to maintain a course. Over the last two decades, arable farms have become larger with a resulting decline in the demand for small agricultural tractors. This has meant that manuattention to the amenity sector in the interests of survival. At present, UK sales of compact tractors have lev-elled out to around 1800 units per these now being sold to the amenity, leisure and pleasure sectors. This swing in demand has seen a greater emphasis being placed on designing new models that meet the requirements of the market and there is now plenty of choice.

The tractor has well-proven systems for adding and driving attachments with just a single power source to maintain. Modern engine technolo-gy has led to the introduction of compacts with higher horsepower ratings and virtually no changes in weight or size to previous models. compact tractor is worth placing high on the list for versatility.

More than just mowing

mowers and flail units, which incor-porate collection, will efficiently of either buying another machine or having to carry out the labour intensive operation of raking up. These units will cope with the rough and