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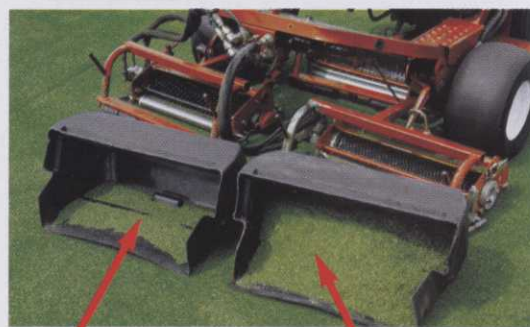
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

# Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL

The official monthly magazine  
of the British & International  
Golf Greenkeepers Association

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12 Preview of the Open at Royal St Georges



16 An overview of waste water use



22 The development of mowing

**WIN**  
**A CASE OF CHAMPERS!**

Summer is the time for champagne. Whether it's a celebration, a BBQ with friends or just relaxing late into the evening, champagne is the ideal drink to get everyone in the right mood. You could win a case of champagne in this month's Buyers Guide competition sponsored by Greenlink International in support of their range of Nutri-Rational foliars.

**See page 44**

## July 2003

Your next issue of Greenkeeper International will be with you by 11 August 2003

## REGULARS

### News

Pages 4, 5 & 7

### Education

Ken Richardson provides a detailed breakdown of Education and Training Department business including the list of entrants for the BIGGA Golf Environment Award sponsored by Scotts UK Professional and Syngenta Professional Products and the latest information on the Toro Student of the Year Award.

### Membership

Including information on the new car leasing deal for BIGGA members.

### Continue to Learn - Turfgrass Irrigation with Wastewater

Drs R. N. Carrow and R. R. Duncan, of University of Georgia, provide an overview of turfgrass management concerns related to wastewater use.



### Letters

### New Products

### Managing a Golf Course - Controlling Finances

Duncan McGilvray continues his series on managing a golf course.

### Letters

### New Products

### Around the Green

### Features Listing

Helping you track down some of Greenkeeper International's past articles.

### As I see it ...

BIGGA National Chairman, George Brown, passes on his compliments to those Course Managers who have already hosted televised events and prepares for the British Seniors Championship on Turnberry later this month.

## FEATURES

### Hitting the Heights

Scott MacCallum meets Neil Metcalf, Head Greenkeeper at Royal St George's, to talk about preparations for The Open Championship.

### The Bunker Rake Debate

What is the perfect rake? Does it exist? Enter the great rake debate.

### Machinery Maintenance

We take a brief look at some of the maintenance products and advice on the market today.

### Mower Tales

Roland Taylor concludes his three part series looking at the development of mowing.

### Legal Help is only a Phone Call Away

What benefits are there from BIGGA's Legal Helpline and how can it help you?

### A Grass for All Seasons

Andy Newell poses the question, "Do bent grasses know what time of year it is?"

Cover photograph by Brian Morgan.



Welcome

## LET'S LOOK AFTER OURSELVES

I read a column recently in the excellent American Golfdom magazine by Joel Jackson who was commenting on the number of American Superintendents who were being lost to ill health way before their time.

He said he knew of one who worked long hours, smoked but who hadn't been to a doctor for a check up in 24 years. Joel commented that he saw the irony of Superintendents taking care of their golf courses better than they took care of themselves.

The truth is that there is a particular breed of person who places work ahead of every other aspect of their lives. For the unfortunate few the consequences are shocking.

Pride in professional performance can come before a personal fall and it would appear that Course Managers and Head Greenkeepers often fit into the category of people who don't just go that extra mile to do a fine job, they complete a marathon - often from dawn to dusk and often for seven days a week.

And do you know what? There will still be a section of people who would still not be satisfied and demand more.

Of course we now live in a time of the Working Hours Directive when European legislation has been passed to ensure that people are not pushed beyond their limits. I applaud this as the correct way to go but probably like you I don't think that the Working Hours Directive applies to me. I've got deadlines to meet and if that involves jumping in a car; driving to the other end of the country; conducting an interview; jumping back in the car and driving home, arriving well into the evening so be it. If I had to turn a one day job into a two day job to meet the Directive I'd see that as complicating my life. Adding stress not removing it.

In your case, if you've got an important tournament coming up and want the course to be at its best you might want to put in a push in the weeks running up to it starting earlier and finishing later to ensure the course looks its best. Treating it as just another day is opening you up to criticism and with that comes stress.

In Britain, making reference to the Working Hours Directive, or even, in some cases knocking off at the appointed hour, and you are made out to be some kind of wimp who can't hack it in the thrusting world that is modern day Britain.

However, common sense and the spirit of the Working Hours Directive, if not the detail, must begin to prevail. It is imperative that we look after ourselves and, perhaps more importantly, those around us much better. Working ourselves into the ground is not the answer.

I'd be prepared to wager that by doing so we'd end up doing our jobs better as a result! A satisfying by-product.

Scott MacCallum, Editor

## ALLAN MCDOUGALL

The Greenkeeping Fraternity, both north and south of the border, was shocked by the recent sudden death of Allan McDougall at the age of 44, especially as it was only months since he buried his father, Bob. Both Allan and Bob put a lot into the Association, particularly in the early days of BIGGA, supporting Tournaments, seminars and other events.

Allan's career started under Jimmy Kidd, at the Glasgow Golf Club (Killermont), before taking up the position of First Assistant at Cawder Golf Club. He then moved on to become head man at Eastwood Golf Club before progressing to Stirling Golf Club. His next move was to Sandwell Park in the midlands before heading to Northern Ireland and Roe Park Golf Club then returning to take up the



position of Course Manager at the Royal Mid-Surrey, which he enjoyed so much.

No matter where he worked he made friends and we shall all miss those "catching up" moments at BTME. His life enriched many people's lives. We should not cry because it's over but smile because it happened.

He shall be missed by his friends, many from home and overseas, who attended his funeral, including The 'Machrie Misfits' of which Allan was President this year.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to his wife, Janette, and his family, Mandy and Bobby, who is carrying on the family tradition of greenkeeping, as well as his mother, Jean, and brother, Donnie.

## ROLAWN

Anyone passing close to one of Rolawn's turfing nurseries may be staggered to see the giant 21 gang mowers being used to cut the fields.

Developed and built by the company itself the mowers fold up onto a manageable road using size, but expand when working to be able to mow 60 hectares per day, which is the equivalent of 60 football pitches.

"We currently have four of the 21 gang mowers, a fifth one is under construction and a sixth one is planned," explained Terry Ryan, of Rolawn.



## AU REVOIR BEN



Ben Petitjean, Sales Manager Barenbrug UK, is to return to his native country to take up the position of Commercial Director of Barenbrug France. He will be responsible for the commercial policy of the company in consumer, amenity and forage product groups.

Ben joined Barenbrug UK in July 1996 as Area

Manager for the Midlands and East Anglia. Quickly mastering the English language, he soon built up a loyal customer base throughout his trading area.

"During the last few years, Ben has taken on overall responsibility for our amenity business," says Paul Johnson, Managing Director of Barenbrug UK. "He and his team have increased our market share across the board substantially."

"All Ben's colleagues wish him every success in his new post, and, as he is staying within the Barenbrug Group, it is very much a case of 'au revoir' rather than 'goodbye'."

## PASSES ALL ROUND



Two members of the BIGGA Headquarters staff have joined the growing band of staff who have attained the European Computer Driving Licence.

Education and Training Manager, Ken Richardson, is pictured with Rachael Foster and Gemma Lee with their qualification certificates.

Email press releases and new product updates to: [scott@bigga.co.uk](mailto:scott@bigga.co.uk)

## WATCH OUT FOR BOGUS CARDS

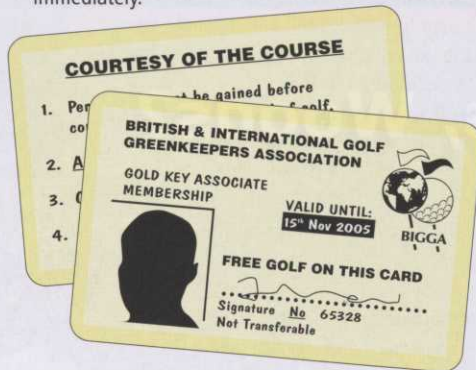
Police investigating a theft have come across a BIGGA membership card included among a number of stolen store cards.

The card, pictured here, is an obvious counterfeit but carries enough relevant information that might persuade an unsuspecting Secretary or Club Professional to give courtesy of the course.

If anyone does come across a card they feel is suspicious here are some points to look for:

1. There is no such thing as Gold Key Associate Membership;
2. Cards are valid for one year and wouldn't be valid for more than a year.
3. BIGGA membership cards do not say "Free golf on this card".
4. BIGGA membership cards are now all in credit card form with the photograph printed onto the plastic.

If anyone does come across cards displaying this, or similar information, they are asked to contact BIGGA HOUSE Tel: 01347 833800 immediately.



## NEW MEN AT TURFTRAX



TurfTrax, the Bedford-based turf, soil and grounds management consultancy, has appointed two new consultants.

Located in the Swindon/Cirencester area, Noel MacKenzie will provide agronomy

advice in support of the company's construction projects in S England and S Wales.

Noel joins TurfTrax from Grass Science where he was a senior agronomist and involved in in-depth resource and recruitment management for golf clubs and local authorities. Prior to this he worked with the STRI as a sports turf consultant in London

and the Home Counties.

James Welsh specialises in plant and soil interactions and has previously worked at Cranfield University on projects as diverse as electromagnetic scanning and interpretation, and precision farming.

Dr Welsh will work as a technical consultant, from the company's Bedford Offices' on drainage and pitch construction projects as well as turf agronomy.

"Both appointments further reinforce our turf management arm," says TurfTrax Managing Director, Justin Smith.

"While specialising on construction and renovation, we are now increasingly asked for and provide a strong aftercare package. This ensures our customers adopt best-practice management to ensure strong, healthy turf growth."

## NAME CHANGE

Independent irrigation consultants, Wardle Consulting Engineers Ltd. have announced that they have changed their company name to Irriplan Ltd.

"The new name is part of an overall plan to revise the marketing and structure of the business and the name Irriplan has been chosen to better reflect our core business of irrigation planning, engineering, design and implementation," explained company founder Giles Wardle.

"Over the nine years since inception, the company has grown in reputation and with

Carnoustie, Royal Lytham, Turnberry, Gleneagles and Queenwood among our clients the company is firmly established as one of the UK's premier irrigation consultancies. Now the company needs to build on that success and the name change is the first step in a plan to re-structure and expand the business to new markets."

In tandem with the name change the company announces the setting up of a franchise for Scotland and Ireland. Irriplan Scotland is to be operated by Phil Langdon, former projects director of Wardle Consulting Engineers Ltd.

## BIGGA'S LATEST RECRUIT...

23 year-old Katie Davies is the latest recruit to BIGGA HOUSE having taken on the role of Sales Administrator in the Sales Department.



Katie joins the Association from her role as Consumable Sales Manager for Dalesauna Ltd, a Harrogate company which sold chemicals to the leisure industry for use in swimming pools.

A native of Harrogate, Katie studied Primary School Education at Chester University before deciding on a change of career direction.

Listing her hobbies as socialising and good food and wine she boasts two fine claims to fame. At the age of six she won a talent competition at Pontins for her rendition of the old Spitting Image favourite "Hold a Chicken in the Air" while four years ago she was voted the "Sexiest Voice in Yorkshire" by the listeners of Galaxy 105 radio station.

## GREAT PERFORMANCE

Scottish greenkeeper Glenn Campbell did the profession proud during the recent Amateur Championship at Royal Troon.

Glenn, 30, who works at Murrayshall GC, in Scone, Perthshire, under Ian MacMillan MG, reached the quarter finals of the event before eventually losing out.

Blaigowrie member Glenn, who at one time boasted the lowest handicap in Britain at +5 but was on +3 at the time of the Championship, received quite a bit of publicity during his run on three counts. One was for sharing a name with the American country singer, the second was for his hatred of practice and not hitting a ball in warm up all week and, finally as being the only one of the last eight who had a full time job.

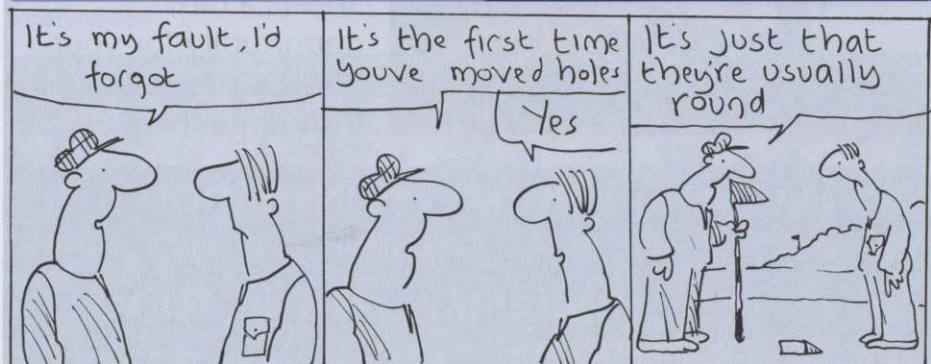
## STAFF REACH THE MILESTONE



Three members of the BIGGA Headquarters staff celebrated 10 years with the Association recently. Pauline Thompson, Sami Collins and John Pemberton each reached the milestone and were congratulated by Executive Director Neil Thomas, who himself is the longest serving member of staff having 16 years under his belt.

## Royal Inverdivot GC...

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After a comparatively dry Wentworth and an exciting finish Volvo-PGA winner Ignacio Garrido is pictured here with Chris Kennedy Course Manager and the volunteer Greenkeeping Support Team.

## EXPANDED ROLE FOR LELY

The Toro Company has appointed Lely (UK) Limited to distribute its consumer products in the UK.

Effective from September 1, the development will see the distribution of all Toro consumer products move from the American company's offices in Bournemouth to Lely's base in St Neots, Cambridgeshire.

Toro says this change is in line with its business model to have its entire product range distributed by one distributor. Lely has distributed Toro Commercial equipment, such as professional turf mowers, aerators and utility vehicles, since 1983. And last year it added the distribution of Toro irrigation products to its Toro portfolio.

"This development is in line with Toro's goal of supporting its valued dealers with the world's finest consumer lawn care products and to provide them with the highest level of customer services. Lely UK has been the distributor of Toro commercial machinery for almost 20 years and irrigation

products for just over one year," said Dennis Himan, Toro's Vice President and General Manager International Business.

Lely has begun the process of setting up a new business unit for consumer products, which comprise Toro pedestrian recycler mowers and Wheel Horse riding mowers and tractors, as well as associated hand-held products like trimmers and vacs.

Lely UK Managing Director, Graham Dale, welcomed the move to expand the Lely-Toro partnership.

"Lely is delighted that Toro is entrusting us with yet another important part of its business. We are formulating our plans to provide a full sales and technical support service and it's our intention to include key staff appointments of current Toro staff members as well as new appointments. The Toro division of Lely UK is a major part of our overall distribution business," said Graham.

## RANSOMES JACOBSEN SEMINAR AT DONNINGTON VALLEY

A seminar to recognise and celebrate the work of the recipients of BIGGA Higher Education Scholarships sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen was held at Donnington Valley Golf Club last month.

In keeping with Ransomes Jacobsen's aim to be the environment friendly company in the industry, the seminar had an environmental theme and took in a number of papers covering those issues.

Richard Hayden, of the Institute of Technology, Tralee, discussed environmental management systems and the progress that has been made in producing fuel from domestic waste.

Dean Cleaver, of FEGGA, outlined the Federation's work in producing a Blueprint for Sustainable Golf.

David Withers, of Ransomes Jacobsen, spoke on Environmental Golf & Greenkeeping, while Barry Ohrman, of Calor Gas, reported on his company's alternative fuel.

David Stubbs, of the Committed to Green, updated the audience on the work of the programme while after lunch Ken Richardson, BIGGA, described the various routes open to greenkeepers hoping to further their careers.

The seminar closed with a paper from Peter Jones, of Peter Jones Associates, who is one of the recipients of a scholarship award and he spoke on the research work this had enabled him to undertake at Cranfield University.



ONLY 7 MONTHS TO GO...

TUESDAY  
20 JAN

WEDNESDAY  
21 JAN

THURSDAY  
22 JAN

- |   |   |
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# Education



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For details, please contact Neil Thomas on 01347 833800 or via [neil@bigga.co.uk](mailto:neil@bigga.co.uk)

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The Toro Company/Lely UK	01202 319987
TurfTrax Group Ltd	01722 434000

### Golden Key Individual Members

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RainBird	01273 891326
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Wolf Proline	01495 306600

### Silver Key Individual Members

Clive A Archer; Douglas G Duguid; Robert Maibusch MG; Elliott R Small; Steven Tieme; Richard Lawrence; Clive Osgood; David Robinson; Richard Stillwell; Stephen Dixon; Ian Semple; Paul Jenkins; Robert Hogarth; R Steele; Lee Relf; Raymond Warrender

Competitions are the main areas of work for the Education and Training Department as the TORO Student of the Year regional Finals have taken place and STRI have begun to judge the entries for this year's Golf Environment Competition.

I included some brief information in the June edition of Greenkeeper International about some changes that would be taking place at Harrogate in January 2004 and I have repeated the information below. Make sure that you book your accommodation as soon as possible to ensure a room in your chosen hotel.

## Continue to learn 2004

### ACCOMMODATION

BIGGA HOUSE no longer has the capacity to handle hotel bookings as the number of visitors has continued to increase. Therefore, all Continue to Learn packages will be sold on a non-residential basis (ie. without accommodation) and delegates will need to book their own accommodation. This can be done direct with hotels or, much more easily, through our booking agents Reservations Highway, who can offer preferential rates. They can be contacted by phone on

01423 525577 or on [www.reservation-highway.co.uk](http://www.reservation-highway.co.uk) using the access code 'bigga'.

The BIGGA Headquarters Hotel will still be the Majestic Hotel which will also host the Education Dinner on Monday 19 January and the Exhibition's Banquet on Thursday 22 January.

Remember, you can choose your own accommodation, but so can every other delegate so book early to avoid disappointment.

### The National Education Conference and BTME/ClubHouse Seminars

Due to the continued poor state of repair of the Royal Hall, the BTME/ClubHouse Seminars 2004 will be held in Hall D of the Harrogate International Centre. The National Education Conference, whose theme will be 'Golf, Sport and Business', will take place on Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 January 2004. The BTME/ClubHouse Seminars will take place on Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 January 2004.

Watch out for further updates on speakers, subjects and booking information in future editions of this magazine.

### Continue to Learn Workshops

There will be three – one-day, Continue to Learn Workshops in January 2004. They will cover Health and Safety at Work, Water on the Golf Course and Influencing Skills – How your Golf Club Really Works.

### BIGGA Golf Environment Competition



The first stage of judging in this year's BIGGA Golf Environment Competition, sponsored by Scotts UK Professional and Syngenta Professional Products has begun and details of successful clubs will appear in future editions of Greenkeeper International. Twenty six clubs have entered this year and they are:

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Fortrose and Rosemarkie | Wetherby           |
| Gullane                 | Worthing           |
| The Duke's Course       | Loch Lomond        |
| Pedham Place            | Downfield          |
| Beaconsfield            | St Andrews Links   |
| Charnwood Forest        | Fulford            |
| Worsley Park            | Winter Hill        |
| Thorpeness              | Allerton Municipal |
| Notts                   | Cottesmore         |
| Bedale                  | Kenwick Park       |
| Wilmslow                | The York           |
| Gog Magog               | Minchinhampton     |
| Blackmoor               | Brighouse Bay      |

### Student of the Year Competition

The TORO Student of the Year judges selected eight National Finalists from the 34 Regional Finalists during the first week of June. Details of successful candidates will appear next month.



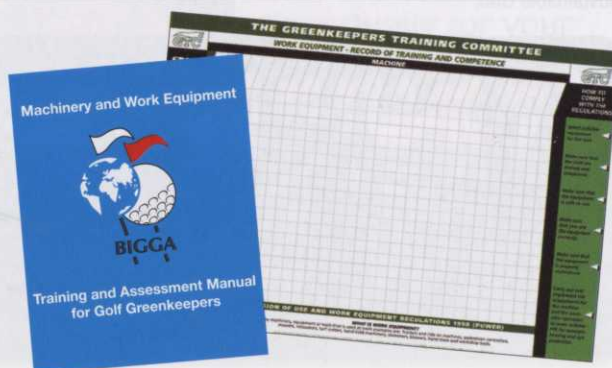
### Regional Training Course

We have received training requests from six Regions/Sections so far this year. There is still time to ask for low cost, high quality training to take place in your local area. Contact Sami or Ken at BIGGA HOUSE for further details.

### Machinery and Work Equipment Training Manual

All Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper Members of BIGGA should have received their copy of the BIGGA Machinery and Work Equipment Training Manual sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen. Please contact BIGGA HOUSE if your copy has not arrived.

The Manual complements the GTC Wall Chart that was sent out earlier in the year to all golf clubs in the UK. If you have not received your copy then contact the GTC on 01347 838640.



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Supporting The  
Voluntary Initiative





Rachael and Gemma from Membership Services would like to welcome 91 new members to the Association and introduce a personal car leasing package following requests from members.

# Put yourself in the driving seat!



**Look out for your member's leaflet in this issue**

Driving a brand new car couldn't be easier. BIGGA has teamed up with Lex FreeChoice, the UK's leading car finance PCP provider, to offer you StaffSelect. This exclusive scheme allows you and your family members to drive the car you've always wanted at a price you can afford.

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**BIGGA welcomes...**

**SCOTTISH REGION**

Michael Anderson, North  
Kenneth Currer-Smith, Central  
James Ellis, West  
Graeme Ferguson, West  
Adam Head, Central  
Darren Hexley, North  
Mark Hodgson, Ayrshire  
Marc McGregor, North  
Christopher Mcleod, Central  
Alexander Nimmo, Central  
John Robertson, North  
Mark Tudhope, North  
Thomas Yeomans, East

**NORTHERN REGION**

Nigel Ardern, North West  
Philip Carter, Northern  
David Cartwright, Northern  
Ben Chruszczewski, North East

Matthew Crofton, North East  
Lee Dacre, Northern  
Michael Hopkinson, North West  
Jason Hurt, Sheffield  
Alan Ingles, North East  
Carl Jacobs, North East  
Russell Jacques, North East  
Michael Jarvis, North East  
Robert Jones, North Wales  
Craig Kinder, North West  
Christopher Moore, North Wales  
Steven Parker, North West  
Richard Smith, Northern  
Terry Smith, Northern  
Tomas Tate, North Wales  
Joseph Walsh, Northern  
Robert Watkinson, North East  
Stephen Wells, North East

**MIDLAND REGION**

Marc Beetlestone, Midland  
Steven Beveridge, Midland  
Mark Chatterley, Midland  
Andrew Cox, BB&O  
David Hills, Mid Anglia  
David Hood, Midland  
Stephen Hursey, Mid Anglia  
Clive Liddiard, BB&O  
Matthew Nutt, BB&O  
Robert Stretton, Midland  
Adam Thompson, Midland  
Simon Watkins, Midland  
Karl Williams, Midland  
Rhys Williams, Midland

**SOUTH EAST REGION**

Christopher Baldock, Essex  
Ian Cambridge, Essex  
Paul Clark, London  
Ian Cormack, Surrey  
Steve Davies, Surrey  
Ian Denny, Essex  
Philip Groves, Surrey  
James Harper, Kent  
Mark Harvey, Surrey  
John Hordley, Surrey  
Max Izzard, London  
Paul Jameson, London  
Peter Mayes, London  
Wayne Rolfe, Surrey  
Malcolm Searle, East Anglia  
Michael Thompson, Surrey  
Luke Turner, London  
Danny Waghorn, Kent  
Richard Williams, Essex  
Matthew Woodhouse, London

**SOUTH WEST/SOUTH WALES**

Steven Barton, South West  
Steven Beverly, South Wales  
Steven Gillett, South Wales  
Graham Godwin, South Coast  
Gary Humphreys, South Wales  
Adrian Pearce, South Wales  
Michael Rawlings, South West  
Clive Riley, South West  
Paul Staples, South Coast  
Dene Stote, South Coast  
Mark Walker, South Coast

**NORTHERN IRELAND**

David Magill

**REPUBLIC OF IRELAND**

James Calderwood

**STUDENT MEMBERS**

Christopher Cobb, North West  
Scott Sweeney, North West

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Keith Grosvenor, Midland  
Allan McGregor, West Scotland  
Colin Scott, Ayrshire  
Blair Young, Central Scotland

**CORPORATE MEMBERS**

Duncan Beall, East of England  
Graham Paul, East Anglia  
Mark Pyrah, Mid Anglia  
Mike Williamson, Mid Anglia

**JULY'S 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 Clock/calculator/calendar and alarm. Our congratulations go to July's winner, Haydn Woods of Raglan Parc Golf Club.