The recent Elmwood College Greenkeeping Conference, which followed on from two days of specialist seminars, proved so popular that further one day seminars are planned for the future. The conference was chaired by Elliott Small, pictured, the BIGGA Scottish Regional Administrator, who skilfully guided the speakers and audience through an enjoyable day. It was announced during the week-end that Elmwood will be offering a new one year full-time National Certificate in Greenkeeping.

Myerscough (Lancashire College of Agriculture) is holding a two day event on May 14th/15th which will specialise exclusively in golf course construction and maintenance. The underlying theme will be to invite manufacturers of construction and maintenance equipment to use the College golf course to demonstrate, not only to clients, but to the many greenkeepers and recreation managers who are expected to attend. As an added feature, the College is also organising seminars relating to current developments in this specialist field. The event is being held at the Myerscough centre of the College, which is situated on the A6, 5 miles from junction 32 on the M6. All those interested in golf course construction- or in sportsturf generally- are welcome to attend. Entry is free, from 10.30am to 4.00pm each day.

Highly successful – that was the opinion of 19 greenkeepers who attended Elmwood’s supervisory course for practicing or prospective head greenkeepers and course managers. This intensive course covered a variety of topics including Time Management; Budgeting & Accounts; Health & Safety; COSHH; Public Speaking and Computers- including an introduction to the TRIMS Ground Management Softwear Package. Highlights of the course were the interview sessions where each greenkeeper was ‘subjected’ to the ordeal of facing a panel of well-known people from the industry for 20-30 minutes. Entry is free, from 10.30am to 4.00pm each day.

Elmwood will be offering a new one year full-time National Certificate in Greenkeeping from August 1991.

Contact: Carol Borthwick, Horticultural Division, Fife Regional Council — Education Committee, Elmwood College, Cupar, Fife.

ARE YOU SEEKING GREENKEEPING QUALIFICATIONS? LOOK NO FURTHER! ELMWOOD IS No. 1 FOR GREENKEEPER TRAINING

★ Block Release Apprenticeship Course (over 3 years)
★ Intensive Single Block for experienced Greenkeepers (6 week from January 1992)
★ Supervisory Course (Distance Learning)
★ Head Greenkeepers’ Management Course (one week)
★ Head Greenkeepers’ Advanced Management Course (one week)

Contact: Carol Borthwick, Horticultural Division
Tel: (0334) 52781 Ext. 225
Fax: (0334) 56795
Book now for Management Courses

Following the success of previous in-house Management Courses over the past two years, five more one week courses are scheduled for the coming autumn, all such courses specifically programmed to attract greenkeepers who may not have received further education or greenkeeper training.

The magnificent Aldwark Manor will accommodate over one hundred greenkeepers during the five courses and for those who have not yet visited HQ, will provide the ideal opportunity to luxuriate at a four star hotel with five days of education.

Those members who have attended either first or second year courses will again have an opportunity to attend, with week five specially created for them. It is anticipated that all five courses will be in heavy demand and members are requested to note specific week numbers and course content before completing the pre-paid booking card to be found facing Page 4 of this issue.

The costs for 1991 are again subsidised by generous support from Kubota (UK) Ltd and The Greenkeepers Training Committee.

YEAR 1
Week 1: 28 October — 1 November inc.
Week 2: 4 November — 8 November inc.
Course content to include: Time Management; Introduction to Computers; Communication Skills; Law; Turf Nutrition; Maintenance, Turf Diseases; Lawns; and Grasses for the Golf Course.

YEAR 2
Priority will be given to those having attended the YEAR 1 Course in 1989 or 1990.
Week 3: 11 November — 15 November inc.
Week 4: 18 November — 22 November inc.
Course content to include: Presentations to a Committee (verbal and written); Preparing a CV; Report Writing; Interviewing; Public Speaking; PEPA/COSH; Spraying; Health & Safety; Turf Nutrition.

YEAR 3
Priority will be given to those who have attended the YEAR 1 and YEAR 2 Courses.
Week 5: 25 November — 29 November inc.
Course content to include: Discipline Amongst Staff; Preparing for Job Interviews; Irrigation; Tee & Green Construction; Preparing & Implementing a Course Maintenance Plan.

Lecturers for all courses will be drawn from GTC Approved Greenkeeper Colleges, The STRI and Private Training Organisations. All courses begin Monday and close noon Friday. Costs are inclusive of all meals and accommodation.

COST PER WEEK: £225 + VAT = £264.38. Please make cheques payable to BIGGA.

Early booking is strongly recommended — select chosen week and complete pre-paid card facing Page 4.

DAVID WHITE reports on the third BIGGA National Education Conference, York 1991

Greenkeeping issues in a walled city

The Romans came to York in AD 71, an occupation that lasted for 340 years. The greenkeepers came, specifically occupying York's Langwith College, nearly 2000 later when about 170 people from around the globe gathered for the most ambitious conference yet staged by BIGGA, made possible through the generous support of Lindum Turf & Associates.

No less than 17 papers were presented, a remarkable feat demanding total adherence to schedule and made possible only by the firm reinvited by Chairman, Gordon Child. Educational opportunities were abundant, and following George Malcolm's introduction, America's Dr Roy Goss began with The Influence of Soils and the many contrasts but by the many similarities revealed. If State-side greenkeeper status appears different it might be because we forget Hodson, as many of you know, is the mastermind behind Lindum Turf. It therefore caused no surprise that he had mastered the nifty little four man presentation, titled: The Golf Course — from Conception to Completion. A whistle-stop tour in just 70 minutes, it was quite stunning. The amiable Steve Cadenelli, GCQA President for 1991, talked of the role the greenkeeper / superintendent plays and in listening one was struck not so much by high contrasts but by the many similarities revealed. If State-side greenkeeper status appears different it might be because we in Britain may have the unique habit of not selling ourselves too well.

Freddie Ten Hage is a name familiar with many, and as Holland's greenkeeping ambassador and most enthusiastic BIGGA member he entertained us in fine style, describing his native golfing country in a fashion that was both humorous and informative. As a historian I'm often puzzled that so few Dutchmen have emerged onto the world golf scene, for golf, or kolf (the short game) and kolf (the long game) as it is titled in Holland, originated in the low countries.

Everyone anticipated something special when Nick Park, Chairman of the R.A. / Unions Sub Committee, chaired a panel on The Way Forward Document & Subsequent Developments. We were not disappointed. First revelation was that a new JOINT GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE — a five man panel from the home unions and the R.A. & BIGGA had been established to co-ordinate the raising of funds for both technical matters and training and recruitment. In both areas BIGGA was visualised as playing a crucial role, with the Technical Section envisaged as fulfilling a similar role to that of the USGA Green Section, both the STRI and BIGGA being solidly represented.

Turning to training, the proposal was that the Golf Unions, the R.A. & BIGGA and those representing the educational bodies should form a panel of experts and, once needs had been established and budgets prepared, refer back to the Joint Golf Course Committee. In turn, the JGCS would ensure suitably realistic levies were collected through the unions, with still further revenue added by R.A. & donations.
impressed upon us three key about change for the better: thus override or outweigh any (from previous page) just the right seasoning of humour to bring sparkle back specifically informative it had which proved to be an inspired quetz set before us in the historic Merchant Adventurers' Hall, followed by the riotously funny act of Barry Williams, which proved to be an inspired choice in sealing the high folk spirits now reveal that I've covered 20,000 miles, being a 'home cookin' meal of delicious taste and proportion with Bill and Carol Theole was followed by a trip with Bill to the desert. Palm Springs is where TORO have a desert outlet and from this base we visited several eye-popping courses and talked with green maintenance staff. The courses at PGA West, La Quinta and Tamarisk especially impressed me and it was at Tamarisk that I saw my first ever Poa trivialis greens, which in both Britain and America we were taught were 'no go'. Seeing was definitely believing! Funny thing, they were suffering the effects of a 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! A 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! A 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! A 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! A 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! A 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! A 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! A 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! A 5 year drought, though on the day I visited it rained more than it had in two whole years - typical! 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