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IRISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
SECOND TURF MAINTENANCE EXHIBITION

Last year’s Fair, the first Irish Turf Maintenance Exhibition, was such a huge success with both exhibitors and buyers, that the IGGA is running it again this year. With a wider range of exhibitors showing more products and services, this year’s Fair already outstrips last year’s.

For further information contact the organisers.

3 and 4 NOVEMBER 1994
ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY, DUBLIN
Fairlink Ltd, 58 Clonard Court, Balbriggan, Co Dublin, Ireland
Tel: + 353 1 841 1362 Fax: + 353 1 841 2934

EUAN GRANT
representing South-East England
Age: 23. College: Plumpton
Euan is a sports nut. He plays rugby union to a high standard, competes in marathons and plays golf off a 14 handicap. After graduating from the University of Leeds with a degree in sport and leisure management, he failed to find a job as a fitness instructor, which was their loss and greenkeeping’s gain.

Euan had gained some greenkeeping experience during his university holidays, working under Dave Purvis at RAF North Luffenham GC. He also had a temporary job at Tyrells Wood GC. Now he is assistant greenkeeper at Effingham Golf Club, Surrey, which encourages education. Euan has completed his City and Guilds phase II in greenkeeping and sports turf management and hopes to do phase III and/or the IoG Intermediate Diploma next year.

“My immediate aspirations are to become a deputy head greenkeeper or first assistant at one of the Surrey heathland championship courses. My long-term aspirations are to undertake a ‘masters’ degree in turf science either in England or America and become an agronomist to the European Tour or the PGA.”

SIMON HEPPENSTALL
representing Northern England
Age: 26. College: Askam Bryan
Simon is a keen golfer. He only started playing two years ago but he is already down to a 10 handicap. He has represented his county at cricket and rugby but says “I now prefer to devote my spare time to golf.”

He is qualified in NVQ levels I and II in greenkeeping, NPTC chainsaw competence and NPTC pesticides, handling and application.

“I feel that being promoted to a position of seniority in such a short period of time is a great achievement and I am hoping to commence the City & Guilds levels 3 and 4 management course soon. My aim is to become a head greenkeeper of a course in the near future,” he says.

VINCENT LEE
representing the Midlands
Age: 28. College: Warwickshire College
Vincent has already proved himself a winner – at BIGGA’s Midlands section spring and summer tournaments. He plays off 18. He also plays football on Sundays. Married with two children, Vincent was recently appointed deputy course manager at Great Barr Golf Club. Previously he was an assistant at Sutton Coldfield Golf Club where he worked for nearly 10 years.

He has also recently completed his NVQ level 2 and aims to take the level 3 supervisory course next year.

KEN MOORE
representing Northern Ireland
Age: 31. College: Greenmount College, Antrim
Ken has been greenkeeping for 12 years. He has been at his present course for five years and has recently completed his City & Guilds levels 3 and 4 management course.
WHO WILL BE THE TORO/PGA EUROPEAN TOUR STUDENT GREENKEEPER OF THE YEAR?

One of these young greenkeepers will win an eight weeks expenses paid trip to America. Two of them will join the PGA European Tour greenkeeping team and help prepare a course for a major event. The others can take comfort from the fact that they are the best student greenkeepers in their region.

All seven greenkeepers are already winners. Each has been picked to represent their region in the 1994 Toro- PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper Awards after an extensive round of interviews.

During the summer 32 students, nominated by their colleges, were quizzed by Ken Richardson, BIGGA’s education officer, Dean Cleaver, a member of BIGGA’s education sub-committee and Pete Mansfield, general manager of Toro Lely UK. They clocked up more than 1500 miles as they interviewed the nominated student greenkeepers at colleges such as Oaklands, Cannington, Pencoed, Warwickshire, Askam Bryan, and Elmwold. Northern Ireland had its own selection process.

The upshot of all this is that seven superb students, representing Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Northern England, Midlands, South-East England and South-West England, will undergo further questioning in the National Final at Aldwark Manor in Yorkshire. And three of them will leave there with a “chance of a lifetime”.

The overall winner will receive the Toro Scholarship which includes a six-week residential turf management study course at the University of Massachusetts in the USA in January/February 1995. There will also be visits to the Toro company’s corporate headquarters in Minneapolis and the Toro Irrigation Division in California. And, if the schedules allow, time to visit the GCSAA’s show in San Francisco. All expenses will be paid for by the sponsors.

The two runners-up will join the PGA European Tour greenkeeping team at two venues just prior to a major PGA event and will also be invited to attend the PGA European Tour’s Greenkeeping Conference which is held every two years. The selected students will become working members of the PGA European Tour advance party, responsible for overseeing preparation prior to and during the tournaments. All expenses will be paid for by the sponsors.

We will announce the winner next issue, but which one would you vote for?

STUDENT GREENKEEPER OF THE YEAR?

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