There are certain times and places where you know you must be if you are not going to miss out. A meeting place where you know you will bump into friends and heroes alike.

In golf it is The Open Championship or the Augusta National lawn during the Masters. In horse racing it is either Ascot or Cheltenham. In greenkeeping it is undoubtedly Harrogate in January for BTME. If a pound was donated to BIGGA’s Building Fund for every conversation which ends “See you at Harrogate” we would have shot past our target figure already.

The popularity of BTME continues to grow by leaps and bounds not only with the number of companies which choose to exhibit or by the increasing numbers of delegates who take the time to fill in pre-registration cards thus avoid queues on arrival but by top class speakers who have reserved space in their hectic schedules to talk at the National Education Conference, Educational Workshop Programme or the Educational Seminar Programme.

Looking ahead to BIGGA’s main event, January 24–26, 1996