Autumn seems to be with us at last and we have even had some rain in sunny Yorkshire. Colder nights and days remind me that it is less than 11 weeks to our annual event in Harrogate with Continue to Learn alongside BTME & ClubHouse providing a full range of activities for greenkeepers, golf course managers, golf club managers and groundsmen.

You should all have received a copy of the Continue to Learn brochure in last month's edition of Greenkeeper International. The brochure gives full details of the Continue to Learn Programme, in association with the Greenkeepers Training Committee, and includes a booking form. Remember, that several changes will take place in January 2004.

In Association with the Greenkeepers Training Committee

The National Education Conference, supported by the John Deere Team Championship, will be held in a purpose built theatre within Hall D of the Harrogate International Centre.

The Continue to Learn Workshops will be held in the Harrogate Moat House Hotel.

Conference and Workshops Reception can be accessed via the Main Entrance to HIC opposite the Moat House Hotel.

BTME & Clubhouse Seminars will also be held in the theatre within Hall D of the Harrogate International Centre.

The BIGGA Annual General Meeting will be held at 5.15pm within the theatre in Hall D of the Harrogate International Centre.

However, the Education Dinner and the Exhibitions Banquet will both be held, as usual, in the Majestic Hotel.

Presentation of BIGGA Awards and prizes, including the Golf Environment Competition prizes and the presentation of jackets to at least three new Master Greenkeepers will take place at 10.30am on Wednesday, January 21, followed by our Keynote Speaker for 2004, Alvin Law. This session, which is supported by Ransomes Jacobsen, should make us all think about the Power of Positive Mental Attitude.

Take your seats at the theatre in Hall D by 10.20am.

Remember, that these courses are subsidised by the BIGGA Education and Development Fund, which gains its income from our Golden and Silver Key members. Their kind contributions enable us to present high quality training courses at minimum cost to BIGGA members. For example, each one-day course costs a minimum of £700 to organise and run. This means that each one day of training attended receives a minimum subsidy of £30 per member.

Regional/Section Training

The autumn range of Regional/Section Training Courses has commenced with several courses fully booked. There are still two places left on the following course:

BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS
BIGGA House, 25 and 26 November

Sami and I are busy preparing for the spring 2004 courses and full details will be sent to all members soon.

If you want a training course in your Region or Section in the autumn of 2004, then contact us as soon as possible.