This month has seen the final preparations of the Continue to Learn Programme that will be part of Harrogate Week 2006. Thanks to the support of the GTC and to the introduction of the new Queen’s Suite facility, we have been able to offer an extremely varied, extensive education programme for January 2006. The programme of events commences on Sunday January 22 with five two day workshops that conclude on Monday January 23. Monday also sees the start of five one day workshops.

The BTME & ClubHouse Exhibition starts on Tuesday January 24 with the opening ceremony closely followed by the presentation of BIGGA Awards and the Keynote Speaker, Colonel John Blashford-Snell. Something new for Harrogate is the half day workshops, sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen, that begin on Tuesday afternoon, alongside the Seminar Programme. Another new event happens on the Wednesday of Harrogate Week when the English Golf Union, the Association of Golf Club Secretaries and BIGGA work together to present a full day of seminars aimed at all golf club secretaries/managers, golf club officials and golf greenkeepers. There are two forums planned for Harrogate, i.e. a Women’s Forum and a Student Forum.

The ever popular Careers Fair will return on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to help you find that next job. Another first for Harrogate is the ‘Big Debate’ that will run on Thursday afternoon and Friday Morning. Presented jointly by BIGGA and the R&A, the 2006 Debate will concentrate on Sustainable Golf Course Management.

The Continue to Learn education programme for Harrogate Week 2006 offers more educational opportunities for more people than ever before. The last Continue to Learn offered delegates approximately 57 hours of education whereas Continue to Learn 2006 will offer more than 120 hours. Watch out for your Harrogate Week programme that will be enclosed in the October edition of Greenkeeper International.

Following a decision by the BIGGA Board of Management to transfer funds to top up the Education and Development Fund, we can, once again, offer a full range of subsidised Regional and Section Training Courses. Full details have been sent to all Regional Administrators and Section Secretaries. So now is the time to contact them to request training in your part of the world.

Briefly, all two day management courses will cost £110 +VAT (£129.25), all one day courses will cost £60 + VAT (£70.50). The cost of two day technical courses will depend on the number of delegates. Each two day course is subsidised by a minimum of £600 and each one day course by a minimum of £300.

If you want to organise a course or a number of courses in your Region or Section, contact your Regional Administrator, Section Secretary or BIGGA HQ. It would help us to help you if you had thought about the type of course and when you want the training to take place. A location for the training is useful as is a list of names of those wanting to attend.

Supervisory Management Training for Golf Course Managers

A course accredited by the Institute of Leadership and Management and designed specifically for Golf Course Managers will be held at Exeter Rugby Club during late October and November this year.

If you live in the South West and want to gain a nationally recognised management training certificate then this course is for you.

There are four sessions:

- October 25 2005
- November 1 2005
- November 8 2005
- November 22 2005

Problem Solving Skills and Planning Change

Cost for the whole course (i.e. 4 days) is £450 + VAT.

Contact Paul Stanton at Direction Training and Management, 11 Lynher Street, Plymouth, PL5 1QD, 01752 360004 or visit www.training-management.co.uk.