Ken Richardson, Education and Training Manager, gives us an insight into Harrogate Week 2007.

Over 1500 delegates attended education sessions throughout Harrogate Week 2006, and Continue to Learn 2007, looks set to provide you with even more opportunities to expand your knowledge and skills.

Ken and Sami have been busy collating feedback back from Harrogate Week 2006, to design an even more extensive, Continue to Learn Education Programme, for Harrogate Week 2007. The Continue to Learn programme at Harrogate Week 2006, supported by the GTC, broke all records with three times more education on offer. Delegates numbers also broke records with more than 1500 attending education sessions throughout the week.

Continue to Learn 2007, will contain even more opportunities for you to attend an educational session to help develop your knowledge and skills. The programme will include five more two-day workshops; four more one-day workshops; extra seminars and a range of ‘fringe events’. We have also looked at the cost of education events and we are planning to offer discounts for quantity ie. the more sessions you buy, the cheaper they get.

There will be two Harrogate Week programmes for 2007, one aimed at greenkeepers, grounds men and their managers and a second aimed at golf and sports club officials.

The R&A has agreed to be involved in Continue to Learn 2007 and they will be running a one-day Workshop and a one-hour Seminar on Sustainable Golf.

Please note that BIGGA will not be booking accommodation for Harrogate Week 2007 therefore you should use our Accommodation Booking Agents – Reservation Highway. You can use their web-site www.reservation-highway.co.uk (password bigga) to book you accommodation. Please remember to ask for January 2007. Reservation Highway can be contacted by phone on 01423 525577.

BIGGA Education and Training Manual

The BIGGA Education and Training Manual has been available through the BIGGA web-site Members area, since early April. The Manual has been designed to give golf course and golf club managers the information they need to recruit, train and develop their staff. It is designed in three main parts:

• Text - that gives you information on ‘why and how’
• Video - that supports the text and is a useful recruiting tool
• Sub-text - that provides a wide range of downloadable documents and hyper links to other relevant web-sites

For those members who do not have internet access, do not like using internet based products or would rather read hard copy, we are looking at producing a hard copy/CD version of the Manual. The hard copy version will cost approximately £30.

Health and Safety

BIGGA and the AGCS are continuing to cooperate in producing an internet based, Example Health and Safety Management System. The System should be available later this year/early 2007.

It is not easy to obtain information on accidents, incidents or near misses on golf courses, or within golf clubs and we would appreciate your help in gathering some data.

If you have had an accident or been involved in a near miss, no matter how minor, then please let us know by sending the details to ken@bigga.co.uk We shall then produce a data base to store and analyse the information ready to publish it to our members.

Silver Key Individual Members

Clive A Archer; Douglas & Dispoite; Robert Melibius MG; Steven Toney; Roger Barker; Ian Sample; Paul Jenkins; Robert Hogates; Nichollson Gray; Trevor Smith; Iain Bar; Richard McIerney; Alex McCumber; Paul Murphy; Roseheath College.