Harrogate Week has been established for 20 years and during that time has grown to become a must-see groundscare event for many satisfied visitors.

Harrogate Week 2008 with its regular elements of BTME, incorporating Clubhouse; the world renowned Continue to Learn programme; a Careers Clinic, Job Shop, Internet Café, banquets, lunches and fringe events ensures that a well planned visit sets you up for the year ahead. And it’s not just of benefit to turf professionals and BIGGA members. Many other golfing and sporting bodies are involved in the week with seminars by the R&A, EGU and GCMA and many other workshops that are particularly pertinent for turf professionals from other sporting arenas.

Inside the exhibition halls will be hundreds of eager industry professionals keen to explain their latest innovative product, whether it be chemical, mineral or manufactured from the finest steel.

All are designed to help make your life that little bit easier. Your job is to prioritise and rationalise so you only buy what is going to make a significant difference to you at a price that doesn’t take up a disproportionate amount of your available funds. But the point is it’s exciting. You can see what’s out there and what is possible if not this year, in the not too distant future.

The BIGGA staff will be on hand throughout the exhibition to give advice and information on all Association matters. Visit the BIGGA Stand to renew your membership, purchase some BIGGA merchandise and the chance to meet the people you only ever talk to on the telephone.

From a training and development standpoint there isn’t a workshop or seminar that doesn’t include a nugget of information which might help some aspect of your professional life. Continue to Learn 2008, supported by the GTC and the John Deere Team Championship, boasts five new workshops including subjects such as Stress Awareness and the Disturbance Theory. Also taking place at Harrogate are the following courses designed to provide you with the perfect opportunity to get your questions answered and to share your problems, as the seasons alter, our climate changes and you face an uphill struggle, dealing with drought one minute and flooding the next: Environmental Management; Current Environmental Legislation; Drought, Drainage & Conservation; Moving Toward Greater Sustainability; The Practical Guide to Growth Regulators; Golf & Turfgrass Management in the Future; Water Management - An American Perspective and Golf Green Fertilisation in our Changing Climate.

The programme also sees the return of several old favourites including An Introduction to Golf Course Design and Moving into Management.

BIGGA’s discount scheme offers savings of up to 52% and is available to all delegates who pre-book Continue to Learn seminars.

Continue to Learn Seminar Discounts

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New to Harrogate Week 2008 is “Have We Got Views for You!” an unmissable event taking place in the Majestic Hotel on Monday 21 January. A panel, comprising Walter Woods BEM, former Links Supervisor at St Andrews; Jack McMillan MBE, former Head Greenkeeper at Sunningdale GC and now Course Consultant to the PGA European Tour; Andy Campbell MG, CGCS; Ken Siems MG, CGCS, Director of Agronomy for Loch Lomond and Stan Zontek, from the USGA, a certified Professional Agronomist; will be ably compèred by Television Producer and Presenter, Roger Greenwood. The panel will answer your questions and regale you with stories from the world of greenkeeping and beyond.