managers

working at the mountainside course which has just spent £550,000 on a new clubhouse but still has no irrigation system.

When the results were announced, he said: “I was shocked but I thought I deserved it. It’s a shame there weren’t enough prizes for all the finalists. They’ve all done well to get here.”

Margeir, a 22-year-old Iceland who’s been studying at Elmwood College in Scotland, says he was just pleased to make the final. “I really didn’t believe I would get through the regional finals,” he said. But winning the tough Scottish final and winning the PGA prize vindicates his costly decision to become a greenkeeper.

Margeir and his fiance came to Scotland so he could achieve his dream of not only being a good greenkeeper, but one of the best. To pursue this dream they had to take out a bank loan which grew to about £10,000 before Margeir went back to Iceland last summer and worked hard at the Homsvollur course, reducing the loan to about £3,500 before he returned to Scotland.

“I’ve invested a lot of money in myself but it’s been worth it, definitely, I don’t really worry about the money because it shouldn’t be a problem. I know I’m in debt now back home but when I went home at the summer to work for seven weeks I made quite a lot of money because I was working all the time,” he told us.

When he finishes his placement at Gleneagles he wants to get a job in Europe or America. “I want to get there at some point because it’s so different. I’ve seen the top here at Gleneagles, I would like to see the same in America. If I can combine the two it will be good for me, and I want to be good at my job.”

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Judge's decision is final. Not open to BIGGA staff.

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Apply in writing with full CV to:

The Secretary

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Please apply in writing enclosing you CV to:

Mr P. Chiverton, Golf Course Manager,

Buckinghamshire Golf Club,

Denham Court Drive, Denham, Bucks UB9 5BG
Brampton Heath Golf Centre
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for this new enterprise opening on 18th May 1995.
The centre will comprise an 18 hole course, driving range,
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The successful applicant will probably currently be a First
Assistant Greenkeeper and must have greenkeeping
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The ability to motivate and organise staff is important, as is
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Accommodation is available.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:
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The Golf-und Land-Club
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to take control of the course and manage
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The successful applicant must also have a
good knowledge of machinery repair and
maintenance, if needed.

Please send CV to:
Frau Margot Robitschko, Secretary,
Golf-und Land-Club Regensburg e.V.
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require a
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Applications in writing, including a full CV, to:
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St Mellons Golf Club
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required for established 18 hole golf course. Applicants must possess recognised qualifications as well as a proven track record in course management and irrigation systems. An ability for hands on management combined with motivation and leadership skills is a high priority.

Excellent terms and conditions (negotiable). No accommodation.

Please reply in confidence to:
Mrs Kenwyn Newling, St Mellons Golf Club,
St Mellons, Cardiff CF3 8XS

Hickleton Golf Club
require a
HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of modern greenkeeping methods, have a practical knowledge of modern machinery and irrigation systems.

Ability to motivate a small staff essential
Salary is negotiable
Accommodation not available.

Applications in writing, including a full CV, to:
The Secretary, Hickleton Golf Club, Hickleton, Near Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN5 7BE

Prenton Golf Club
invite applications for the position of
COURSE MANAGER

Applicants are required to be fully experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping, budgetary control and machine maintenance.

An ability for hands on management combined with motivation and leadership skills is a high priority.

Applicants must have formal qualifications and a proven track record.
Salary negotiable but will not include accommodation.

Applications in confidence with full CV and two referees to:
Secretary/Manager, Prenton Golf Club, Golf Links Road, Prenton, Wirralmer, Merseyside L42 8RW

An East Lincolnshire Golf Course requires an
EXPERIENCED GREENKEEPER
for its 18 hole long established course.

The successful candidate will have working knowledge of maintenance of links as well as parkland and be experienced in personnel leadership and motivation, irrigation, turf maintenance and machine maintenance.

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Box No R4, BIGGA,
Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO2 2NF
No 2: The New Show for the Landscape Industries

Age: Due to be born January 16-18, 1996

Oh no, not another trade show? Precisely! The original idea behind this show was that it would replace shows such as BALI, SALTEX and BTME, but now it looks as if it will be an additional show for the landscape and amenity horticulture market.

Whose idea was it? The Agricultural Engineers Association's Outdoor Power Equipment Council (OPEC) has long been campaigning for one big international 'umbrella' show for this sector and has persuaded P&O Events, which organises exhibitions like the Royal Smithfield Show at London's Olympia, to come on board.

P&O are in for a rough ride, then? Following extensive consultation with members, BIGGA's Board of Management has decided to continue with its exhibition in Harrogate for the foreseeable future. Executive director Neil Thomas says: "It was a difficult decision as there are many varied views within the industry on the need for shows, the number of those shows and their location. BIGGA will continue to consult and to listen and to remain open-minded as to the future. But it will also seek to ensure that the BTME remains the pre-eminent show for our industry. The 1995 show is eagerly anticipated, the 1996 show will be even bigger and more comprehensive."

What about the other shows? Andy Center, marketing director of Independent Exhibitions, which runs SALTEX for the IoG at Windsor, told us: "SALTEX is a living breathing manifestation of an 'umbrella' event for our industry. It has pulled together visitors and exhibitors from across the entire spectrum of the sports, amenity and landscaping trades. There can be no doubts about the future of a show which more than doubles its audience to over 13,500 and whose exhibitors have already snapped up 74% of its 1995 floor-space."

So BIGGA and the IoG aren't throwing in the towel? It wouldn't seem so. Their shows are going from strength to strength. And senior figures from both organisations were seen lunching together during SALTEX.

Does this mean anything? It's too early to say, although a joint statement from BIGGA and IoG is expected soon.

What do P&O have to say about all this? They're continuing with their plans to stage an international exhibition for the landscape and amenity horticulture sector at Olympia in January 1996. Robin Hicks, P&O Event's show director, says: "While we understand and respect their (BIGGA's) position, we will continue with our plans for a new show. This decision is based on the results of the detailed market research which confirmed the need for a truly international event and on our ongoing discussions with senior industry figures."

Detailed research? Their pollsters quizzed 406 (1.19%) of their claimed 34,000 potential visitors and 292 companies.

How many of those questioned were greenkeepers? 103.

P&O say the manufacturers want an international event. A lot of people have trouble believing that anything outside London has international appeal. But Harrogate plays host to numerous major international events. This month there is the Sino-British Trade Fair with many delegations coming from as far away as China and Hong Kong. Just before BTME, there is the International Toy and Christmas Fair. In February there is the International Wine Fair and in September many international medical experts will be coming to discuss cytokines, whatever that is. This year's BTME will have a more international flavour, anyhow. There is a large party of greenkeepers from Sweden coming, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is exhibiting for the first time. The Third European Forum continues after show hours in the bars and restaurants in Harrogate. It sounds as though there is a great atmosphere in Harrogate during BTME? There is. You should try it.

I'd love to but Harrogate is too far away. It's only 12 miles/20 minutes from Leeds/Bradford Airport which is served daily from many major European cities as well as numerous domestic airports; there are 25 trains a day from London King's Cross and 15 from Edinburgh (changing at York or Leeds), and by road it is 9 miles from the A1 and 15 miles from the M1.

OK, so it's not that hard to get to, but it'll be expensive. B&B ranges from £15 per night to as little as £33 per night at a good hotel (see the booking form in last month's Greenkeeper International). Because of all the education that's on offer many clubs pay for their greenstaff to go. Have you asked your club?

But with all these shows on offer, why should I go to BTME when Windsor, Stoneleigh and London are much closer? BTME is the most focused event, aimed specifically at the fine turf industry and in particular at the golf industry and greenkeepers.

What's going to happen in 1996, then? Lots by the look of things. BTME is definitely happening on January 25, 26 and 27. SALTEX will also be happening – the IoG and Independent Exhibitions has signed a five-year deal with Windsor Racecourse. As far as we know, BALI will also happen (although we're still waiting for them to return our phone calls). And P&O Events says its show will happen. Only time will tell...