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Panel interviews will follow and will be held at Aldwark Manor in November/December each year with winners being announced each January at E.T.M.E. and in 'Greenkeeping Management'.

The Award's structure will incorporate a trip for two in London with tickets provided for a major golf event and West End show. The third prize will be a weekend for two in York based at Aldwark Manor (including complimentary golf). The winning entry will be published in 'Greenkeeping Management'.

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At Aldwark - David Golding, Bill Lynch, Roy Kates, Paddy McCarron and Ivor Scoones.

At the printers, left to right, Ivor Scoones, Neil Thomas, Roy Kates, Paddy McCarron and Dennis Archer.

**BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT COURSES**

Sponsored by Kubota (UK) and the Greenkeepers Training Committee

BIGGA’s first in-house training courses enabled 100 delegates to enjoy seminars from leading specialists in their various specialist fields. Every course place was filled.

Delegates from all over Britain and several from Germany gathered at the BIGGA Headquarters at Aldwark Manor near York to learn both from the speakers but also from exchanging their greenkeeper experiences amongst themselves.

For many of the delegates it was their first taste of greenkeeper education and training other than perhaps the occasional lecture or company open day. The week, whilst intense, was very rewarding for all who attended.

The subjects covered during the week were management of time; computers and the golf course; budgeting and auditing; conservation and the golf course; Health and Safety at Work Act; problems and bunkers; communications; personnel management and the management of pesticides and turf diseases.

The sponsorship by Kubota (UK) and the Greenkeepers Training Committee enabled costs to be limited to £115 per week (inclusive of VAT) approximately 30% of the true cost.

Brian Hurtley, Vice President-Director, Kubota (UK) commented: “As major suppliers of tractors and ride-on mowers to the turfcare market we have a commitment to assist greenkeepers. With the golf market expanding rapidly there is going to be a need for more greenkeeping staff and the courses carried out by BIGGA are an important contribution to the future of golf courses in the UK.”

The enthusiasm generated throughout the four weeks will ensure that management courses will be repeated next October/November on a similar format and the courses are likely to be heavily oversubscribed. Attendees enjoyed first class hotel and conference facilities and given that the BIGGA Headquarters are within the venue, the setting is ideal.

The success story of BIGGA’s first series of in-house courses is one that demonstrates that addition to the Greenkeepers Training Committee’s ‘approved’ college courses, many members wish to further their education through the more informal surroundings of BIGGA Headquarters at Aldwark Manor.

**SECOND SITE FOR STA-BRITE**

STA-BRITE Supplies Limited, the rapidly growing grounds maintenance supplies and equipment company, are moving into their newly acquired freehold warehouse and office complex in Basingstoke during December. Their accounting function will remain undisturbed at their existing Farnborough site together with the manufacture of STA-BRITE goal posts and sight screens. So STA-BRITE will be very ready for a New Year of continued expansion, and they are currently looking to recruit 2 or 3 new Territory Sales Managers to meet the demands of an increased customer base throughout the UK.

The new warehouse is fully enclosed and will be racked out for palletised goods, including an ample chemicals store built on a modular design and capable of being extended to contain up to 13 tons of herbicides and pesticides on pallets and loose on shelving. Innovative mechanical handling should make the warehousing operation extremely efficient and the excellent level of service provided to customers at present is set to improve still further. Extra staff are being recruited to ensure that order processing, despatch and delivery to customers will be quicker than ever.

For the new Sales Office, please contact Mike Lyons on (0256) 512596.

For further information please contact Mike Lyons on (0256) 512596.

**THEY**

Association’s Magazine Sub-Committee visited Newcastle recently to assess the progress of their publishing operation. The whistle-stop tour included visits to main sub-contractors such as the printers, the pre-print house and the Mailing House.

Sub-Committee Chairman Roy Kates summed up the Committee’s reaction as “a real eye opening as to what goes on behind the scenes”.

The Committee also met the staff. Particular note was taken of the team building problems encountered following the launch of Greenkeeping Management last June in mid season and the subsequent logistics of setting up the circulation data base.

The Association Chairman Paddy McCarron expressed everyone’s view when he said “we were saddened to hear about David White’s resignation as Editor and thank him for his efforts”. The Committee met the new Associate Editor Mike McClennan.

It was unanimously agreed that the magazine had successfully established itself and had played a major role in the massive increase in membership over the past 6 months. Also of particular note was the current spectacular commercial success and subscription sales. Over one quarter of the UK golf clubs are already taking the magazine and are continuing to do so at the rate of about 25 per week.

Circulation policy, which has been the subject of unjustified comments by outsiders, was discussed and endorsed; the popularity of Greenkeeping Management over the private and public sectors was noted. And, of course, the magazine is now essential reading for the growing membership which has grown to nearly 3,500.

Latest news is that Rene Orban, previously Managing Director with Compact Machinery of Selby, Yorkshire, has been appointed General Manager of Jacobson in the UK.