

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANK you for the excellent two days I spent at Aldwark Manor.

I am sure that I can speak for the other lads in saying that we were treated like five star guests.

Everyone was so kind, helpful and reassuring, especially for the interviews which I thought were conducted in a superbly relaxed way.

I've come back from Aldwark with more confidence about myself and our profession, and feel I can now see the way ahead. With the help of BIGGA behind us the future looks really exciting.

Could you please extend my thank you to the other BIGGA and Toro representatives for such a rewarding two days. It was such a good feeling being part of a group of people so professional and being treated as an equal.

Good luck for the future in your superb new headquarters.

Guy Woods,
Daffords Building,
Larkhall, Bath

WRITE to you concerning my recent visit and consequent success in the Toro Scholarship award at Aldwark Manor.

I would first of all like to convey my sincere thanks to all the BIGGA team who were involved in all the organisation of this highly successful event.

A lot of hard work and dedication must have gone in to organising everything and it was all done with the upmost professionalism.

It is a great pity all the nominees could not have gone to Amhurst.

I am looking forward to my trip immensely and will do my best to represent the BIGGA and the young greenkeepers of Great Britain.

Mark Proctor,
The North Lodge,
Cobblers Cross,
Tarporey, Cheshire.

WOULD like to thank all concerned who were involved in the Toro Young Greenkeeper of the Year

awards, which turned out to be a very successful and well organised few days.

I found the four days spent there enjoyable and relaxing and am sure that I have benefitted from the exhilarating experience and again send my thanks to all concerned.

Simon Fearnley,
94a Kingston Road,
New Malden, Surrey.

Thank you lads for the thanks! It is great to know that Mark, Guy and Simon took time to sit down and express their gratitude.

I am writing to comment on your recent article on "nitegolf". As the company I work for has become the U.K. importers for this product I feel I am worthy to comment on this subject.

One of our directors saw the potential of "nitegolf" in America whilst on a trade show trip to Orlando, he brought the idea back with him to England. He could see the possible "fun" side of this type of golf.

The first showing of the idea was at a competition we held for charity, teeing off at 8 p.m. Sixty competitors took their places for a Texas Scramble start. For the first competition the response for people to play was terrific. The game was played for fun and everybody really enjoyed themselves, all asking when the next one was to be held.

The possibility of marketing this product was seriously looked into as the response was so good. A package was devised and information was sent to every club. A lot of clubs from all over the country took this offer up, some of them were so pleased with their first matches that they have re-ordered and played several more.

To date we have had some 25 nitelite matches at Wexham all of them a success. If the event is properly organised there should not be any accidents.

As regards the "extra work" for the greenstaff, I can honestly say that the only operation my staff have to do is to dig a small hole for a rocket launcher firework tube to go in (which we do not use anymore) and to pick up some of the old lightsticks, which are attached to the flagpoles.

The competitions can be run so easily now that the profes-

sional has passed the organisation of them to some of his junior staff.

I do not believe in pampering a golf course and our type of course is there as a commercial venture and making money is the name of the game. That is what we try to do. The extra wear and tear is very minimal. As all of my staff receive an incentive bonus based on the green fee takings they are not, or would not be, bothered about any work they may be called upon to do for a nitelite competition. And we charge a green fee even if it is pitch black.

I have been trying to persuade our local committee to hold a nitelite match at our club for the past year, but to no avail. Believe me it is a great fun evening out.

If anybody is interested in trying it out at their club or for a bit of fun at a BIGGA evening do not hesitate to contact me on 0753 662122.

Roy Kates
The Junipers
Elizabeth Park
Wokingham
Surrey

CONGRATULATE you on your excellent magazine. As a proud member of BIGGA's growing international membership I know my colleagues will be happy to assist. In Sweden we have 260 Head Greenkeepers. In all there are 500 members of the Swedish Greenkeepers Association.

Stig Persson
Chairman
Swedish Greenkeepers
Association



GREENKEEPING MANAGEMENT welcomes letters, comments and views from readers. Letters should be addressed to The Editor, Greenkeeping Management, Spencer House, Market Lane, Swalwell, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 3DS.

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