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Tel: Plumpton (0273) 890454, ext. 33

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Greenkeeping Craft Level - seven weeks per year in 2 and 3 week blocks
Supervision by Distance Learning available.

Head Greenkeepers Supervisory Management Course from 28th January to 2nd February, 1990.
Accommodation may be arranged locally.
Details and application forms from College Registrar. Telephone (0334) 52781

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Contact Mr. G. McMaster, Langside College, 50 Prospecthill Road, Glasgow G42 9LB. Tel. 041 649 4991

August 1989 Greenkeeping Management 21
Nominated by Plumpton Agricultural College

David was from Fife, is a fine golfer, having been Angus Champion in 1987 and 1989. He comes from a greenkeeping tradition, his grandfather having been head greenkeeper at Downfield Golf Course in Dundee. Following that tradition, he holds a post at The Home of Golf – St. Andrews – where he has been for five years. Walter Woods, the links superintendent considers him a fine example to many of his young greenkeepers and heartily endorses his nomination. David is at present completing his third year at Elmwood and has achieved all of his modules through a three year block release course.

His ability to do work to a high standard is reflected in his Elmwood course and he intends to continue his studies into a Management Course in the near future.

His education course is a three year Greenkeeping Modular Programme.

Nominated by Oatridge Agricultural College

Stephen, a young dynamo of just 19, has just completed his three year apprenticeship. Despite missing part of the first year through illness, he has passed all modules with flying colours and has been voted top student every year. This year he received two additional awards, the BIGGA prize for best third year student and the IOG prize for best student completing the course. It is Stephen’s ambition to graduate into greenkeeping on a first class championship course. His practical experience should stand him in good stead, being as head greenkeeper, he reckons he knows just about every blade of grass on the full 18 hole course, together with the 6 hole par three overspill.

Coming into greenkeeping via a YTS scheme at aged 16, John has completed his three year course with flying colours. His club members are secretly delighted at his nomination, and the membership of some 650 are in full support of his continued educational quest.

His education course was City & Guilds Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management, Phases I, II & III.

Nominated by Askham Bryan College of Agriculture

John, the epitome of a dedicated greenkeeper, works hard to ensure that his course, Sleaford Golf Club, is maintained in tip-top condition.

After nine years, the last two years have seen the greenkeeper and his team win the 1990 Notts Golf Union cups at Mansfield and Newark. He is part of a core of five, who all have at least five years’ experience.

With nominations now complete, we move another step along the road to the Toro Young Greenkeeper of the Year in 1990 which will be named ‘Toro Young Greenkeeper of the Year’. One of the students profiled on these pages will be one of the students profiled on these pages.

In truth, all nominees are winners. They represent the cream of students who are determined to build a worthwhile career for themselves. As a reward for their efforts they will receive worthwhile awards when selection day arrives – set for September 1989, Aldwark Manor, York.

The outstanding student will be handed the chance of a lifetime – a trip to the U.S.A., where a whole new world of experience awaits.

The itinerary, late in January 1990, will take the ‘Toro Young Greenkeeper of the Year’ to the University of Massachusetts at Amhurst, close to Hartford, Connecticut. Here he will attend the ‘Winter School for Turf Grass Managers’.

Subjects for study concentrate on turf-grass management, including nutrient, fertilizers, shrub and tree maintenance, course design and construction, drainage systems plus the theory of the internal combustion engine, machinery and personnel supervision.

Weeks 8 and 9 will be divided between residential visits to the Toro Division in Minneapolis and to the Riverside, California home of the largest manufacturing facility.

In both cases, local trips will be arranged to view Toro equipment, an equivalent of our own greenkeeping practices.

If that’s not enough, we also understand that Toro will be providing the students with a fistful of dollars spending money.

In Spring 1987 Martin supervised a team clearing proposed sites for fairways at a new golf course and carrying out general landscaping tasks.

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PERIENCE

Nominated by Warwickshire College of Agriculture

Dominic has been training as a greenkeeper at Warwickshire College for the past three years, having decided to enter this career via a YTS Scheme initiated in 1986 by the Belfry Golf Course under the leadership of head greenkeeper, Derek Ganning. Dominic has shown great initiative and a positive attitude to his training programme, resulting in his being awarded the SISIS Tankard as outstanding student in his first year.

On-the-job experience has been gained at the Worcestershire Golf Club, one of the oldest in the country, having started as a fourteen year old helping his father at the Barons Hill Golf Club on the Isle of Anglesey. By the age of sixteen he was a full assistant to his father, spending two useful and fulfilling years under his father’s direction.

At aged eighteen he was appointed as head greenkeeper of a Llangefni course under construction and learned a great deal about sand construction, together with management experience of a new golf course. During his last two years at College he has found the instruction both interesting and informative, being able to marry theory with practice, the technical with the practical.

Recently Mark has taken the appointment of head greenkeeper/course manager at a multi-million development in mid-Cheshire, where he will oversee a new development designed by Donald Steel and constructed by Brian Pierson.

His education course was City & Guilds Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management, Phase II.

Nominated by Cheshire College of Agriculture

Mark is another of those fortunate enough to have been weaned on a greenkeeping diet, having started as a fourteen year old helping his father at the Barons Hill Golf Club on the Isle of Anglesey. By the age of sixteen he was a full assistant to his father, spending two useful and fulfilling years under his father’s direction.

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Nominated by Hampshire Sparsholt College

Simon is a working member of the Wentworth team of 22 greenkeepers, all of whom strive to maintain this championship course in top condition. His hobbies, naturally enough, include golf, but he is also interested in watching football and in playing cricket. In 1978 he played for the Surrey Second Eleven and in 1979 played as a professional for Worcestershire during the Summer season. He now coaches juniors in the game.

At present completing his final year at Sparsholt, his Tutor, Deputy Head of Agriculture Bob Young said, “This has been a good course and choosing just one individual was difficult. However, I could not fail to be impressed by Simon’s enthusiasm and dedication to greenkeeping, coupled with his willingness to take an active part in every aspect of the course.”

His education course is City & Guilds Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management, Phase II.

Nominated by Somerset College of Agriculture

Guy is a physical fitness exponent, being both a fell and road runner and a devotee of the outdoor life. It is not surprising, therefore, that he should have found greenkeeping more to his liking than his earlier career, in which he was apprenticed into printing. Indicative of his application to study is seen through, for he passed City & Guilds Printing at distinction level.

Course Tutor, Nick Rigden, had some glowing things to say, indicating to us that he holds Guy in high esteem and considered him to be a prime candidate for honours – both practical and educational – praise indeed!

Guy has been at the Bath Golf Club for three years now and is assistant greenkeeper at this busy 108 year old course, with 870 members. We understand they are as proud of him as they are of their beloved course – which again is praise indeed!

His education course is City & Guilds Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management, First year Phase II.

DAVID GOLDING

GUY WOODS

DONALD MACLEAN

Nominated by Langside College

Third year student Donald MacLean has been training at Langside for the past three years whilst maintaining solid greenkeeping work contact and experience at the Glasgow (Killermont) Golf Club and its sister club Glasgow Gailes.

His Head of Department, Mike Starbuck speaks with such enthusiasm of Donald’s standards of excellence, praising him for his ability to tackle problems, tasks and projects with skill and good humour – excellent combinations in summarising, Mike Starbuck says “he is indeed a worthy nominee for this award”, a statement which is backed up by all who know and work with him, student and staff alike.

Quite apart from his passion for golf Donald enjoys and excels in soccer, swimming and other water sports. His ambitious too, with a long term aim set toward a career as a golf course designer, something the staff at Langside are happy to nurture and endorse.

His education course is a Scotvec National Certificate in Greenkeeping.

Nominated by Cheshire College of Agriculture

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For all your tipping requirements, the 'TIPPIT' is labour saving equipment, as it converts a standard pick-up into a tipper truck.

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Landed Interests

There is a definite and dramatic re-awakening in the Western Hemisphere generally, and here in Western Europe in particular, of the importance to us all of our environment.

The 'Green' brigade, currently massing as a vocal political force, will continue to serve as the alter ego to government, local authorities and private estate owners. This conscience in turn is having a positive effect on both urban and country landscape and the affinity between modern man's leisure needs and his social desires.

This new emphasis on the land, its utility and its shape, is not yet anywhere near boom proportions generally, but in golf the demand is staggering. The huge army of nearly 3 million golfers is having the effect of wearing out — and fast — many existing courses, especially those in poor condition. The perceived general consensus is for 500 new courses in the UK within the next 10 to 15 years; the demand in other green based sports and activities will follow suit.

This first advertising feature in Greenkeeping Management has been superbly supported by 17 organisations, from the biggest to the smallest, all of whom have an interest in landscaping and construction machinery.

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Kenyon Tree Strapping is a specially developed product unique for this application which has been supplied to the Department of Transport, the Forestry Commission, Metropolitan Landscape Departments and Landscape Contractors, for many years.

It is manufactured from an extremely strong, hard wearing fabric which is then given a special protective PVC coating. The construction and finish of Kenyon tree strapping make it tough but attractive in appearance, unaffected by severe weather conditions and not easily vandalised.

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Wessex Peat

Wessex Peat Co Ltd, by being an environmentally aware company, have for many years been using barks as a substitute to the use of peat in various locations.

Bark falls into four main categories: Composted, Bark Chip, Play Bark and Coarse Bark.

Over recent years, bark has only been able to be supplied in bulk lorry loads at a competitive price. Alternatively, smaller quantities could be purchased in 80 litre bags. Wessex Peat have been aware of this problem and are proud to announce the launch of the "Wessex Bulk Bag of Bark" (2.5 m³ capacity). The price structure, although more expensive than bulk bark, is far below that of 80 litre bags and the smaller bulk deliveries.

The beautiful end result of landscape management and design — note the use of bark.

Continued on page 26
Melcourt

On most golf courses, the pathways which connect green with tee present a special problem to the greenkeeper. Concrete, tarmac, and even gravel will either damage the spikes worn on golfers' shoes or at least cause undue wear.

Neither are earth pathways the answer, as these erode far too quickly and are often quite impassable during the winter. Increasingly, the solution to this pathway problem lies in the use of a chipped wood or stone drainage base, topped with a layer of wood fibre and then consolidated to form a durable and consistent surface.

Wood-based products provide important advantages for this type of application. The material's excellent drainage characteristics prevent mud from splashing over trolley wheels or being trampled into the club house. They are also environment friendly and blend in beautifully with natural surroundings. They are easier to lay, and can always be lifted and re-sited should the need arise. Maintenance demands are minimal, usually entailing just the odd topping-up. Finally they will not damage stray balls with no dangerous bounce such as that associated with concrete.

Ornamental mulches for flower borders around club house and course entrances protect the soil from temperature extremes and weeds. Bulkier conifer bark mulches are used for larger planting beds and shrubberies, and composted bark soil conditioners will enrich planting areas and greatly improve all round fertility.

Melcourt's products include Ornamental Bark Mulch, a long lasting mulch of attractive appearance which is primarily intended for decorative planting sites. For pathways, Walk Chips is a durable loose fill surface which is laid on a drainage base with a geotextile separator for permanent installations.

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Why not send for details of our Free Drainage Survey. Phone now for FREE SURVEY details!

FIN DRAINS

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There's no bigger headache than poor drainage for a greenkeeper. The effects are disastrous for members. The cure can be chaos for the club.

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28 Greenkeeping Management August 1989
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Continued on page 31
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