AMONG THE SPEAKERS...



The welfare of wildlife is a growing public concern and therefore there is increasing pressure on greenkeepers to manage the problem species on their course in a humane manner. In most cases there is also legislation in place which prescribes the way in which animals can be managed, particularly, for example, badgers. Dr Gordon McKillop of the Central Science Laboratory will give details of management techniques - so greenkeepers can adopt a balanced, ecological approach to this sensitive subject - in a seminar at the BTME on Thursday January 26.

With one swipe, the queues are cut and you're in

THERE should be no long queues to get in this time. BIGGA has invested in a new pre-registration system and is employing the latest technology to ensure that visitors can walk more or less straight into the show.

For the first time, people who pre-register will get their badges mailed to them prior to the event. These badges contain a barcode. When the pre-registered visitor turns up at the Harrogate International Centre, this barcode will be 'swiped' by a light pen as you enter the hall.

A light pen will also be given free to most of the exhibitors so they can make a note of who they've been talking to (name, job title, course, address) by simply scanning your badge. Your details will then be recorded automatically for the exhibitor, so you won't have to hand out business cards left, right and centre or hang around while someone writes down all your details in a book.

Coventry Data Services, specialists in this field since the '60s, have been commissioned by BIGGA to operate this convenient system.

Of course the key to getting in faster is to pre-register by completing the black and white folded BTME card inserted in this magazine. Pre-registrations from recent issues are already flooding in to BIGGA HQ. WAY TO HARROGATE IS EASY BY RAIL: The comprehensive rail network means you can get to Harropate very easily: for example 25 trains run daily from London King's Cross to Harropate and there are some 15 trains from Edinburgh, 16 from Glasgow and 30 from

FINDING YOUR



D rain: Leadsonation Anjoorts 12 miles away and has direct flights from major European cities. BY ROAD: From North and South – A1, exit Wetherby, nine miles from Harrogate. M1 and M62 to Leeds, which is 15 miles away. BY SEA: North Sea Ferries, from Rotterdam/ Zeebrugge to Hull, 60 miles away.

◆ The three qualities every greenkeeper should possess are perseverance, pride and professionalism. At the National Education Conference Geoff Allinson, the 27-year-old course manager at Patshull Park, will explain how he used these qualities to overcome problems at this 18-hole parkland course. Problems such as breaking down age barriers between him and his staff, improving greens with insufficient machinery, and overcoming problems caused by moles and buggies.



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A happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all our members, readers and advertisers