



Paul Jenkins



Cedric Gough



Huw Morgan



Stewart McBain



David Leach

Who will be the lucky seventh?

PAUL JENKINS

Age: 37
Golf Club: Lilleybrook GC.
Region: South West and South Wales

Paul has been Course Manager at Lilleybrook, a course built on heavy clay, for four years and in that time he has overhauled all the bunkers and upgraded most of the machinery.

He began his career as an assistant at King's Norton GC where he was involved in the hosting of a televised PGA event. From there he became Head Greenkeeper at Osborne GC on the Isle of Wight, set in the grounds of Queen Victoria's summer residence. In 1985 he moved to Gloucester Hotel and Country Club as Assistant Grounds Manager where he was involved in the running of an 18 hole course, nine hole par three course, ski centre, driving range as well as the hotel grounds.

Married with two step children, Paul's hobbies are badminton, skiing, Formula One Grand Prix, photography and ten pin bowling – under the heading of achievements Paul put managing to get four pit passes for the '97 British Grand Prix!

He believes that the key to good greenkeeping is common sense and an eye for detail both of which he says he possesses.

CEDRIC GOUGH

Age: 50
Golf Course: Broadway GC
Region: Midland

Cedric has been at Broadway Golf Club for 23 years and had his job redefined as Course Manager in 1989 and works with a team of three greenkeepers and a greenkeeper/mechanic – he has never appointed a Deputy or First assistant as they work well as a team.

He began his career at a nine hole course at Bridgenorth which he worked on singlehandedly and it was the pro of the course Willie Evans who set him on the path of greenkeeping. After three years he became First Assistant at Ross-on-

Miracle Professional

Premier Greenkeeper of the Year

Five greenkeepers have the chance to be the seventh Miracle Professional Premier Greenkeeper of the Year and win a trip to Las Vegas for the GCSAA Conference.

After some extensive interviews and course visits the 31 original candidates for the Miracle Professional Premier Greenkeeper of the Year have been whittled down to five, one from each region, the winner will be decided at the final at Aldwark Manor on December 1 and 2.

Each region visited the courses in their own area to identify their finalist then Pat Murphy, Chairman of the Education Subcommittee and Richard Minton, of Miracle Professional, visited the courses of the finalists in late September so that they can be in a position to pass on information to the two other judges in the final, Neil Thomas Executive Director of BIGGA and Roger Mossop, of Miracle Professional.

As well as the honour of joining Anthony Davies, David Whitaker, Ian Harrison, Gordon Irvine, David Walden and Mike Goodhind as Miracle Professional Premier Greenkeeper of the Year the winner will receive a trip to the GCSAA Conference, which this year is in Las Vegas and his team will receive £500.

Second prize is a weekend break for two to London and tickets for a West End Show while the third prize is a weekend break for two.

Wye where he worked under Derek Blades before moving to Broadway as Head Greenkeeper at the age of 27.

Outside of work he likes to keep up to date with work at other golf course by playing and visiting while he likes to relax by fishing, cycling with his wife Judith or being at home with his birds and fish.

He is also a regular supporter of Wolverhampton Wanderers following their quest to get into the Premiership.

STEWART "HUW" MORGAN

Age: 30
Course: Wildernesse Club
Region: South East

Huw has been Course Manager at Wildernesse for three and a half years where he manages the woodland course and the 100 acre woodland with a mix of tree – the course earned an environment award recently.

Was the IOG Young Groundsman of the Year in 1987-88 and

visited the GCSAA show in Houston visiting 20 golf courses and studying maintenance techniques during the trip.

Before arriving at Wildernesse Huw was Course Manager at Fairwood Park GC in Swansea and Head Greenkeeper at Southern-down GC in Bridgend.

Outside work he enjoys football, golf off a handicap of 6, indeed any sport while he is an active BIGGA committee man currently Vice Chairman of the Kent Section and on the South East Regional Board.

His aim is to continue to enjoy going to work in the morning and spending time with wife two children and friends.

STEWART McBAIN

Age: 37
Golf Club: Hazlehead GC and Balnagask GC
Region: Scotland

Stewart is employed by Aberdeen City Council and his job title is

Grounds Services Supervisor and as such is responsible not only for the two golf courses but three sports centres, five bowling greens, eight tennis courts and two 18 hole putting greens. However he lists as a major achievement getting Hazelhead, a Alistair McKenzie designed course, up to a standard fit for tournament golf – in '94 it hosted a Scotland v England professional women's event.

He served a four year apprenticeship at Stonehaven GC and spent a further four years there as Assistant Head Greenkeeper before moving to Murcar GC as Assistant Head.

He moved to Aberdeen City Council as Head Greenkeeper at Balnagask (Nigg Bay GC) before restructuring within the City Council saw him apply for and get his current position.

He is married, a 7 handicap golfer and is also a carpet bowling champion and DIY enthusiast.

DAVID LEACH

Age: 31
Golf Club: North Manchester GC
Region: Northern

David has been Head Greenkeeper at North Manchester for six and a half years having previously worked under Arthur Warhurst. He has worked on green construction, tees, bunkers etc and has recently planned and laid a fully integrated drainage system in a fairway using 1200 metres of pipe.

The club borders the biggest overspill council housing estate in Europe and serious vandalism is a serious, daily problem.

He began his career at Manchester GC where he worked with Edwin Walsh for five years, becoming fully qualified in 1985. He was promoted to Deputy a year later and moved to North Manchester in '88.

Married with three children he is a keen recorder collector and DIY enthusiast.

He is also working towards Master Greenkeeper status.