

# Learning

Education & Training for Professional Greenkeepers

As a member of the Greenkeepers Training Committee, BIGGA is actively involved in raising the Standard of Greenkeeper Training. The range and quality of training now available means that there is a training course for every greenkeeper which should improve the quality of greenkeeping and help to produce better quality golf courses.

Golf Course Managers should ensure that their staff are trained to the highest standards, beginning by selecting a training provider that meets the criteria laid down by the GTC.

There is a clear link between education, training and economic success and if you think that training is expensive then try ignorance.

**Ken Richardson**  
Education and Training Manager,  
British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association  
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Email: [education@bigga.co.uk](mailto:education@bigga.co.uk)  
Website: [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)



The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) is continually striving to raise the standards of Golf Course Maintenance and Management and they are totally committed to ensuring that the range of qualifications are relevant to the Sportsturf sector and used by employers for recruitment and by trainees for their own personal development.



The Government endorsed awards range from National/Scottish Vocational Qualifications (N/SVQ's) to the more academic Higher National Certificate (HNC)/National Diploma (ND)/Higher National Diploma (HND) in Golf Course Management and the Degree in Sportsturf Science.

The qualifications are continually under review by the Lantra Sector Skills Council (SSC) in association with the GTC. The quality of the delivery of these awards by the network of GTC Approved Training Providers is also constantly monitored by the GTC.

For up to date independent advice on qualifications, education and training courses contact the GTC on: Tel: 01347 838640  
Email: [golf@the-gtc.co.uk](mailto:golf@the-gtc.co.uk)  
Website: [www.the-gtc.co.uk](http://www.the-gtc.co.uk)



## Education & Training - The Key to Professionalism

BIGGA has shown its commitment to Greenkeeper Education and Training by investing heavily in Conferences, Seminars and Training Courses. Companies and individuals can show their commitment by contributing to the BIGGA Education and Development Fund through the BIGGA Golden and Silver Key Membership scheme.

This ring fenced fund supports a range of training resources such as Regional Training Courses, Education Conferences, Workshops, Training Vouchers, a Lending Library, Videos, Careers Advice, Books, Booklets, Educational Posters and Field Guides.

The BIGGA Education and Development Fund gives companies, groups and individuals the opportunity to show their commitment to the greenkeeping industry by making donations, gifts and bequests which will improve the skills and knowledge of greenkeepers, enhance the status of greenkeeping and ensure the highest standards of golf course maintenance.

Education and Training - the key to a great future for greenkeepers, golf clubs and the game of golf. Unlock the doors to progress through the BIGGA Education and Development Fund.

For further details on BIGGA Golden and Silver Key Membership please contact the Executive Director on 01347 833800.





# GREENKEEPER TRAINING

abingdon:witney college

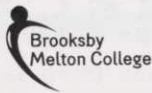
**ABINGDON AND WITNEY COLLEGE** Warren Farm Campus, Horton-cum-Studley, Oxford OX33 1BY **Contact:** Alan Brown or John Revis **Tel:** 01865 351794 **Fax:** 01865 358931 **Email:** john.revis@abingdon-witney.ac.uk **Web:** www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk **Information:** Warren Farm Campus is the base for Abingdon and Witney College's education and training in Greenkeeping, Sportsturf, Amenity horticulture and allied land based courses for the whole of Oxfordshire. Courses include:- NVQ Levels 2 & 3 in Sportsturf, Landscaping and Nursery. We also offer a range of short courses for the Industry including Health & Safety, pesticide training and chainsaw operation. For more information contact either Alan Brown or John Revis on Tel: 01865 351794 or Fax: 01865 358931.

ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE

**ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE** Askham Bryan, York, North Yorkshire, YO23 3FR **Contact:** Central Admissions **Tel:** 01904 772211 **Fax:** 01904 772288 **Email:** sf@askham-bryan.ac.uk **Web:** www.askham-bryan.ac.uk **Information:** National Certificate in Horticulture, National Diploma in Horticulture (Turf Option), Higher National Certificate in Horticulture (Golf Course Management); part-time study, Higher National Diploma in Horticulture (Golf Management Option) all available full or part time. Block release courses: NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping, NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Maintenance, NVQ Level 4 Amenity Horticulture. Short courses: FEPA spraying, chainsaw and brushcutter courses.



**BERKSHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE** Hall Place, Burchetts Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 6QR **Contact:** Andy Williams **Tel:** 01628 824444 **Fax:** 01628 824695 **Email:** enquiries@bca.ac.uk **Web:** www.bca.ac.uk **Information:** Located in the Thames Valley, BCA has excellent resources for horticultural based training including a six-hole golf training facility opened by HRH The Duke of York. Programmes include the First Diploma, National Certificate and National Diploma in Horticulture, with Landscape Design and Greenkeeping options plus Higher National Diploma/Certificate programmes. Part-time programmes include NVQ Level 2 and 3 Amenity Horticulture, Sports Turf. Residential accommodation is available.



**BROOKSBY MELTON COLLEGE** Brooksby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE14 2LJ **Contact:** Jo Lees **Tel:** 01664 850850 **Fax:** 01664 855355 **Email:** course.enquiries@brooksbymelton.ac.uk **Web:** www.brooksbymelton.ac.uk **Information:** Situated on the A607 between Leicester and Melton Mowbray. Programmes available include NVQ Levels 2, 3 & 4 in Greenkeeping. Work based emphasis for all of these programmes. Short courses available in Arboriculture/Chainsaw work, TDLB training and Pesticide application training. Amenity Horticulture NVQ Levels 2, 3 & 4.

Cannington College  
COLLEGE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE

**CANNINGTON COLLEGE** Cannington, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2LS **Contact:** Enquiries and Enrolment **Tel:** 01278 655123 **Fax:** 01278 655055 **Email:** enquiries@cannington.ac.uk **Web:** www.cannington.ac.uk **Information:** Cannington College is recognised as a Centre of Vocational Excellence for greenkeeping and sports turf science. Its resources include a nine hole, 18 tee golf course, fully automated driving range Golf Club within the college grounds. Courses: City & Guilds National Certificate in Horticulture (sports turf management), BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture (sports turf), BTEC National Diploma in Sport & Exercise Sciences (golf), Certificate of Higher Education in Golf Course Management, Foundation Degree in Golf Course Management, Foundation Degree in Turfgrass Science and Technology, NVQ Level 2 in Amenity Horticulture (sports turf option), NVQ Level 3 in Amenity Horticulture (sports turf option), British Turf and Landscape Irrigation Association (1 week course), FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Off-Road Vehicle Certification. Note: Certificate of Higher Education & Foundation Degrees available as part time options.



**EAST DURHAM AND HOUGHALL COMMUNITY COLLEGE** Houghall, Durham, DH1 3SG **Contact:** Ian Lacy **Tel:** 0191 386 1351 **Fax:** 0191 386 0419 **Email:** enquiry@edhcc.ac.uk **Web:** www.edhcc.ac.uk **Information:** Full-time courses: National Certificate in Horticulture/Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship - 1 year. Part time courses: Greenkeeping and Sportsturf maintenance NVQ Level 2 - Day Release. NVQ Level 3/4 Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Maintenance Day Release. Short courses: FEPA Modules, Chainsaw certification, Tree inspection, Horticultural Machinery, Safe Lifting and First Aid.



**HADLOW COLLEGE** Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 0AL **Contact:** Norman Croasdale **Tel:** 01732 853241 **Fax:** 01732 853207 **Email:** sally-flanagan@hadlowcollege.ac.uk **Web:** www.hadlow.ac.uk **Information:** National award and National Diploma in Horticulture. NVQ Level 1 Horticulture, NVQ Level 2 & 3 in Amenity Horticulture in Hard Landscaping, Sports Turf and Production Horticulture.



**HARTPURY COLLEGE** Hartpury House, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL19 3BE **Contact:** Rosalind Camp **Tel:** 01452 702132 **Fax:** 01452 700629 **Email:** enquire@hartpury.ac.uk **Web:** www.hartpury.ac.uk **Information:** Courses available: College Certificate Greenkeeping, First Diploma Amenity & Landscape Horticulture, National Award Amenity & Landscape Horticulture, National Award Greenkeeping & Groundsmanship, National Certificate Amenity & Landscape Horticulture, National Certificate Greenkeeping & Groundsmanship, National Diploma Amenity & Landscape Horticulture, National Diploma Sport (Performance and Excellence)(Golf Studies). Work Based Training NVQ's, RHS examinations City & Guilds, TDLB Assessor Awards as well as a full range of amateur, leisure and day release courses.



**MERRIST WOOD CAMPUS OF GUILDFORD COLLEGE** Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey, GU3 3PE **Contact:** Joe Paulin **Tel:** 01483 884088 **Fax:** 01483 884001 **Email:** jpaulin@merristwood.ac.uk **Web:** www.guildford.ac.uk **Information:** Part-time courses: NVQ Level 2 Sportsturf college day release and workplace visits/assessments at Merrist Wood and at Crawley. Level 2 Edexcel first Diploma college day release, also full-time for those without qualified workplace assessors, NVQ Level 3 Sportsturf college day release and workplace visits/assessments, Level 3 Edexcel National Award college day release for those without qualified workplace assessors, Edexcel HNC Turfgrass Science and Management college day release over 2 years plus various short courses throughout the year. Edexcel HND Turfgrass Science and Management college day release. Please contact us for up-to-date listings, qualifications and advice. Career Evenings held monthly at the college.



**MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE** Bilbottle, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 0RY **Contact:** Colin Stanfield **Tel:** 01995 642222/642305 **Fax:** 01995 642333 **Email:** mailbox@myerscough.ac.uk **Web:** www.myerscough.ac.uk **Information:** Full time courses; BSc (Hon's) Turfgrass Science, Foundation Degree Sportsturf Science - online option by distance learning, ND Turf Science & Sportsground Maintenance; National Certificate in Groundsmanship and Greenkeeping, also Sports Turf Mechanisation option: First Diploma in Greenkeeping; Turf Science: NVQ 2, 3 & 4 Greenkeeping Management delivered both in the work place and over the internet using the colleges 'Mollnet System'. Part-time courses NVQ Level 2 & 3 Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Maintenance (Day/block release or Fast track work-based training qualification). All higher education courses can be accessed on a part time basis. HNC Turf Science: FEPA Short courses. NPCT Certificates of competence in the safe use of mowers and turfcare equipment. Careers mornings monthly on Saturdays.



**NESCOT - NORTH EAST SURREY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY** Reigate Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 3DS **Contact:** Mr Colin S Smith **Tel:** 020 8394 3220 **Email:** info@nescot.ac.uk **Web:** www.nescot.ac.uk **Information:** NVQ Levels I, II and III in Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping options). Part time Day Release. Duration: Two years to Level II. FEPA Spraying Courses. Also available - RHS General and Advanced Certificates in Horticulture. RHS Diploma in Horticulture.



**OAKLANDS COLLEGE** St Albans Smallford Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL4 0JA **Contact:** Helpline **Tel:** 01727 737080 **Fax:** 01727 737752 **Email:** help.line@oaklands.ac.uk **Web:** www.oaklands.ac.uk **Information:** Full time courses: National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. Part-time courses: leading to NVQ Level 2 & 3 Greenkeeping, Modern Apprenticeships. Evening Courses: leading to NVQ Level 4. Short Courses: Pesticide, Chainsaw.



**PLUMPTON COLLEGE** Ditchling Road, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 3AE **Contact:** David Blackmur **Tel:** 01273 890454 **Fax:** 01273 890071 **Email:** enquiries@plumpton.ac.uk **Web:** www.plumpton.ac.uk **Information:** HNC (Sportsturf, subject to validation) National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture, National Award (Garden Design), First Diploma in Horticulture. Part time courses: NVQ Level 1; NVQ Level 2 in Amenity and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 3 Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 4. Also available are RHS General and RHS Advanced; IOG National Technical and Intermediate National Diploma. Short courses are also available for FEPA spraying and chainsaw.



**REASEHEATH COLLEGE** Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 6DF **Contact:** Chard Spicer **Tel:** 01270 613236 **Fax:** 01270 625665 **Email:** chards@reaseheath.ac.uk **Web:** www.reaseheath.ac.uk **Information:** (Full time) National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture, Greenkeeping & Sports Turf (part time) NVQ Levels 2/3 in Amenity Horticulture; Sportsturf; HNC in Golf Course Management. Flexible learning options. Short courses: FEPA, Chemical Safety, Safe Lifting, Chainsaws, Off-road Vehicle Driving, First Aid, NPCT Certificate of Competence.



# Training providers guide

## Available courses guide

This guide is not exhaustive and a full list of GTC approved training providers can be obtained from the GTC. The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of training providers offering greenkeeper training courses. Anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeeper Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF, Tel: 01347 838640 or visit their website at <http://www.the-gtc.co.uk>

### ENGLAND



**SPARSHOLT COLLEGE HAMPSHIRE** Sparsholt, Winchester, Hampshire, SO21 2NF **Contact:** Ray Broughton **Tel:** 01962 776441 **Fax:** 01962 776587  
**Email:** [rbroughton@sparsholt.ac.uk](mailto:rbroughton@sparsholt.ac.uk) **Web:** [www.sparsholt.ac.uk](http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk) **Information:** NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping Practice, NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping Supervision, City & Guilds Phase IV Management Studies, National Diplomas in Golf Course Management and Golf Studies, National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management. GTC: Greenkeeping Certificate, GTC: Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, FEPA: Short courses, Chainsaws. Phase IV and NVQ Level 2 are offered on block release and day release. Full residential facilities available. Sparsholt College provides education and training in the land-based industries.



**THE COLLEGE OF WEST ANGLIA** Milton Campus **Contact:** Bob Young **Tel:** 01223 860701 **Email:** [enquires@col-westanglia.ac.uk](mailto:enquires@col-westanglia.ac.uk)  
**Information:** The College of West Anglia offers a full range of courses for Greenkeepers including; NVQ Level 2 Sportsturf (Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship), NVQ Level 3 Sports Turf Maintenance. GTC Craft Certificate, GTC Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, TDLB Assessors awards. FEPA, Chain Saws, MO1. Other Courses: National and First Diploma in Horticulture and Garden Design.



**WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE** Royal Leamington Spa & Moreton Morrell, Moreton Morrell, Warwick, Warwickshire, CV35 9BL **Contact:** Andrew Turnbull **Tel:** 01926 318258  
**Fax:** 01926 318300 **Email:** [enquiries@warkscol.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@warkscol.ac.uk) **Web:** [www.warkscol.ac.uk](http://www.warkscol.ac.uk) **Information:** Greenkeeping Courses: HNC Sports Turf & Golf Course Management (Day Release 2 year Programme also distance learning option); NVQ Level 2 & 3 Day Release and Workbased Option (we come to you); two year ND in Horticulture with Turf Option; BTLIA Certificate in Turf Irrigation. Short Courses: Computing for the Greenkeeper - various times throughout the year - ring for details. FEPA; Spraying Certification, Chainsaw Certification; TDLB; First Aid. Also RHS General and Diploma, PA1, PA2A and PA6. Professional Certificate/Diploma in Greenkeeping. Advanced National Certificate in Sports Turf Management - 2 year day release.



**WRITTE COLLEGE** Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3RR **Contact:** Registry **Tel:** 01245 424200 **Fax:** 01245 420456 **Email:** [info@writtle.ac.uk](mailto:info@writtle.ac.uk) **Web:** [www.writtle.ac.uk](http://www.writtle.ac.uk)  
**Information:** SPORTS TURF PROGRAMMES NVQ Level 2 - Sports Turf, NVQ Level 3 - Sports Turf Maintenance. NVQ Levels 2 & 3 - Amenity Horticulture. HNC - SportsTurf Science. HND Sports Turf and Golf Course Management. Other Programmes National Certificate, National Diploma (with Sports Turf Option), BSc (Hons) Sports Turf Science and Management. BSc (Hons) Horticulture, BSc (Hons) Landscape and Amenity Management. MSc Landscape and Amenity Management. NVQ 2 and 3 Service Engineering, First Diploma Agriculture (Mechanisation), C & G Agricultural Mechanics Certificate. FEPA. Chainsaw. Tractor Driving.

### NORTHERN IRELAND



**GREENMOUNT COLLEGE** Antrim, County Antrim, Northern Ireland BT41 4PU **Contact:** Paul Campbell **Tel:** 028 9442 6870 **Email:** [paul.campbell@dardni.gov.uk](mailto:paul.campbell@dardni.gov.uk)  
**Web:** [www.greenmount.ac.uk](http://www.greenmount.ac.uk) **Information:** Day release courses to (a) NVQ Level II Greenkeeping & Sportsturf, (b) NVQ Level III Golf Course Supervision, (c) Advanced National Certificate in Horticulture (sportsturf), (d) Higher National Diploma turf options, (e) FEPE, Health & Safety and a range of short courses.

### REPUBLIC OF IRELAND



**TEAGASC COLLEGE** College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin, DUBLIN 9, Republic of Ireland  
**Contact:** Pat Suttle **Tel:** 00353 18460644 **Fax:** 00353 18460524 **Email:** [psuttle@kinsealy.teagasc.ie](mailto:psuttle@kinsealy.teagasc.ie) **Web:** [www.teagasc.ie](http://www.teagasc.ie)  
**Information:** Courses offered: Level 3 Certificate in Greenkeeping. Level 3 Certificate in Golf Course Management. National Diploma in Horticulture (Greenkeeping Major offered)

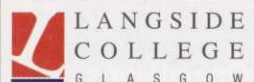
### IRELAND



**ELMWOOD COLLEGE** Cupar, Fife, KY15 4JB **Contact:** Ann Bain **Tel:** 01334 658842 **Fax:** 01334 658888 **Email:** [abain@elmwood.ac.uk](mailto:abain@elmwood.ac.uk) **Web:** [www.elmwood.ac.uk](http://www.elmwood.ac.uk)  
**Information:** Full time National Certificate Greenkeeping: Block Release SVQ Level II, SVQ Level III Sportsturf block release and Outreach available, and SVQ Level IV, HNC/D Golf Course Management available as full-time, block release and distance learning. HNC Golf Facility Management, HND Golf Facility Management, PDA for football and cricket available both block release and Outreach. FEPA and COSHH, chainsaws, tree climbing and rescue techniques and Health and Safety short courses also available.



**GOSTA TRAINING LTD** 50 Brook Street, Glasgow, G40 2AB **Contact:** Chris Bothwell **Tel:** 0141 556 3999 **Fax:** 0141 556 4999  
**Email:** [learn@gostatraining.co.uk](mailto:learn@gostatraining.co.uk) **Information:** SVQ II, III and IV also Modern Apprenticeship in Sportsturf including other options and GTC Training Manual. Attendance Day/Block release from November - March. Distance Learning also available. Short courses with certification include Pesticides, Chainsaw, First Aid, Risk Assessment, Abrasive Wheels, Full Range of Machinery Courses, Manual Handling and Fire Extinguisher training. Consultancy service for Health and Safety Policy development, Site Risk Audits, Machinery Permit to Use system, COSHH and Noise Assessment.

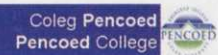


**LANGSIDE COLLEGE** Rutherglen Campus, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen, Glasgow, G73 3PF **Contact:** Colin S Urquhart **Tel:** 0141 647 6300 **Email:** [curquhart@langside.ac.uk](mailto:curquhart@langside.ac.uk)  
**Information:** SVQ, SGA, HNC, HND. Full time and part-time courses in Greenkeeping, Groundsmanship, Golf Course Management, Horticulture, Land and Environment and Applied Ecology. Short courses for land-based industries including Risk Assessment and Pesticides.



**OATRIDGE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE** Ecclesmachan, By Broxburn, West Lothian, Edinburgh, EH52 6NH **Contact:** Steve Miller **Tel:** 01506 854387 **Fax:** 01506 853373  
**Email:** [info@oatridge.ac.uk](mailto:info@oatridge.ac.uk) **Web:** [www.oatridge.ac.uk](http://www.oatridge.ac.uk) **Information:** HNC In Golf Course Management (Part-time): Full-time National Certificate in Greenkeeping: SVQ Level II and GTC Manual (Day and Block Release): SVQ Level 3 Sportsturf & SVQ Level 3 Fast Track (Day and Block Release) SVQ Level III in Service Engineering, full range of Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping and other land based subjects at HND and HNC, National Certificate and SVQ Levels; Short Course - FEPA, Chainsaw, Forklift, First Aid.

### SCOTLAND



**PENCOED COLLEGE** Pencoed, Bridgend, Cardiff, CF35 5LG **Contact:** Paul Discombe or John Sullivan **Tel:** 01656 302672 **Fax:** 01656 302601  
**Email:** [pfdiscombe@bridgend.ac.uk](mailto:pfdiscombe@bridgend.ac.uk) **Web:** [www.bridgend.ac.uk](http://www.bridgend.ac.uk) **Information:** NVQ Sportsturf Level 2-3, HNC/HND Turf Management. National Certificate/Advanced National Certificate - Sportsturf Management. Short courses: PA1, PA2 PA6a and Chainsaws. NCH National Certificate in Horticulture. Advanced National Certificate in Horticulture.



**Welsh College Of Horticulture** Northop Mold, Flintshire CH7 6AA **Contact:** Graham Wright **Tel:** 01352 841034 **Fax:** 01352 841031 **Email:** [graham.wright@wCoh.ac.uk](mailto:graham.wright@wCoh.ac.uk)  
**Web:** [www.wCoh.ac.uk](http://www.wCoh.ac.uk) **Information:** Full-time - Higher National Diploma in Turf Management. Part-time - Day release Higher National Certificate in Turf Management. Block Week - NVQ Amenity Sportsturf Levels 2-3. Briefing Days - NVQ Level 4, TDLB Assessor Courses A1 Assessors Award and V1 Verifiers Award. Pesticides Training, Abrasive Wheels, Basic Operation Courses. Day Courses - FEPA, Chainsaw Certification, First Aid, C.I.E.H.

### WALES