



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

Golden and Silver Key Membership is available to both companies and individuals.

For details, please contact Ken Richardson on 01347 833800 or via ken@bigga.co.uk

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Clive A Archer; Douglas G Duguid; Robert Malbusch MG; Steven Tierney; Roger Barker; Ian Semple; Paul Jenkins; Robert Hogarth; Nichollas Gray; Trevor Smith; Iain Barr; Richard McGlynn; Alex McCombie; Paul Murphy; Reaseheath College; Steve Dixon.

Ken Richardson discusses the department's latest projects.

It's been an even busier month here at BIGGA House for Sami and I as the preparations for Harrogate Week continue, we have had the Final of the TORO Student of the Year Competition and we have had to arrange the Autumn Master Greenkeeper Examination. We have received a host of bookings at BIGGA House since the Continue to Learn programme dropped onto doormats. Workshops are filling up fast.

Harrogate Week 2007



Last month's article concentrated on one-day Harrogate Week Workshops and I intend to look at half-day workshops this month.

Thanks to support from the GTC, we have been able to extend our Workshop Programme and 2007 sees a total of nine half-day Workshops.

Delegate feedback in 2006 requested more Microsoft Office Workshops and we have added to the 2006 list.

Tuesday, January 23 includes two workshops on Microsoft Word when trainers from Keystrokes Ltd present a Basic Microsoft Word Workshop in the morning and an Intermediate MS Word Workshop in the afternoon.

The 'basic' workshop will introduce delegates to simple word processing tasks, applying formats and incorporating images. This workshop is a must for anyone who has to produce documents for management and committees.

The Intermediate Workshop will introduce delegates to some more in-depth features of MS Word, including tables, bulleted lists and automated features. This workshop is ideal for those who have a basic knowledge of MS Word or who have attended the 'basic' Workshop.

Wednesday, January 24 is the day for all those who wish to grasp the concept of spreadsheets, with a 'basic' workshop in the morning and an intermediate workshop in the afternoon. See how you can use Excel to manage budgets by using formulas and produce graphs.

Thursday, January 25 completes the MS Office workshops with a look at MS PowerPoint. Learn how to produce 'professional' presentations that can include graphs, diagrams, company logos and organisation charts.

Tuesday, January 23 sees a new half-day workshop at Harrogate Week. Aimed mainly at Golf Club Officials, but of interest to greenkeepers, the half-day workshop will show you what to do if you want to get sued.

More importantly, it will show what to do to prevent being sued under Health and Safety legislation by giving advice on the 'safe' way to design golf course features.

Wednesday, January 24 sees another new half-day workshop for Harrogate Week. This time, the subject is Basic Agronomy and it is aimed at those who have a limited knowledge of soil science. Presented by Henry Bechelet from STRI, this workshop is an ideal way to gain some essential scientific knowledge.

Henry will be running another half-day agronomy workshop on Thursday, January 25, this time for golf club officials. Designed to help secretaries and chairmen of green understand 'greenkeeper speak', how to produce and use a golf course policy document and how to manage winter play this workshop is sure to be a popular choice.

Make sure you get a place by sending in your application form as soon as possible. Remember that if you book all seminars, you get a 30% discount and if you book all seminars through your Regional Administrator, you get a 40% discount.

TORO Student of the Year



Full details of this year's competition are given on page 23 of GI, however I would like to add my personal congratulations to all eight finalists and commend them on

their professional approach to the final interviews. This competition continues to renew my faith in the industry and this year is no exception. Special congratulations go to Mike Emptage who will be off to the US in January and to the runners-up Abi Crosswood and James Billington who both win a week at Harrogate in January 07.