



Learning & Development

Sami Collins, Head of Learning & Development,
with an update on education issues

At last Spring has sprung. The lighter nights are here, the lambs are bouncing about the fields and the promise of some sunny days (and easter eggs!) lifts the spirits no end. I know that many of you are wishing for rain – I hope your wishes are fulfilled, but that the rain falls at night when I'm sleeping!!



Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award 2012

Nominations for the 24th Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year are now being accepted. All sportsturf training providers who offer Level Two, Level Three, National Certificates and Diplomas are eligible to nominate their outstanding students. Applications have been sent to all training providers and are also available to download from the BIGGA website (Education area/Awards).

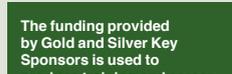
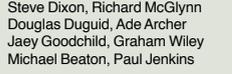
Nominated students will attend a local interview, with up to six candidates being selected to attend the National Final at BIGGA HOUSE in September.

The prizes up for grabs include a six-week scholarship to attend the University of Massachusetts Winter Turf School as well as a trip to the Golf Industry Show in San Diego, California and two packages to attend the Continue to Learn Education programme at Harrogate Week in January 2013.

BIGGA Library

The BIGGA Library is having a facelift over the next six months. We are working with our website providers to incorporate an online ordering facility, a simple search facility, a way to identify if books are available to borrow, and a downloadable library list.

With all the books being reviewed to check that they are in the right categories, whether they are still



The funding provided by Gold and Silver Key Sponsors is used to produce training and career aids, DVDs, CD Roms, field guides and provide refunds for training fees and subsidised learning and development courses. The funding also helps support seminars, workshops, courses, the lending library, careers advice, posters and manuals.

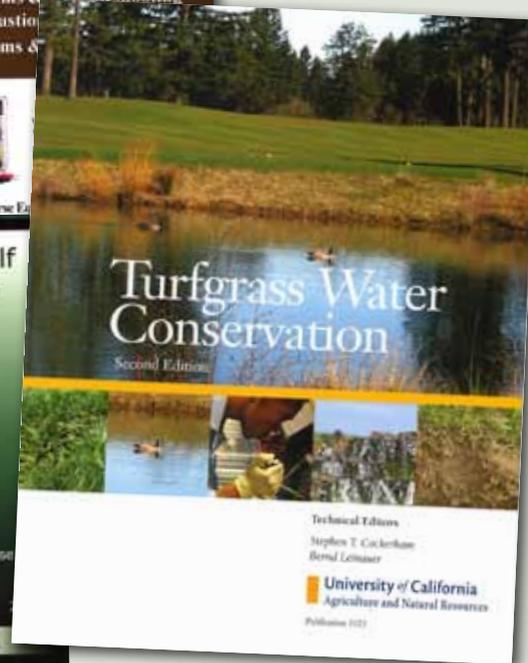
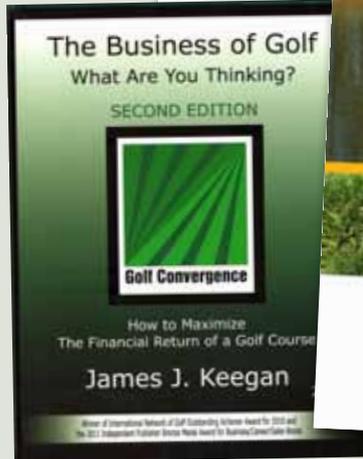
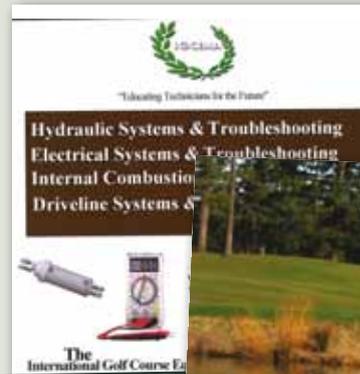


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up to date and if they need to be replaced.

We hope that the library, which is a benefit of membership, will be significantly improved.

Part of the project will include the purchase of new books.

We would like to include books that are recommended reading for sportsturf and management qualifications.

If there are any books that you think should be in the BIGGA library, please email rachael@bigga.co.uk with your suggestions.

We would also like to feature reviews of library books, both on the website and in future issues of Greenkeeper International. CPD points will be available to those members who complete a review on our behalf.

If you are interested in reviewing a book, please contact Rachael.

Our goal is to make the Library a great source of information and an invaluable membership benefit, so please give it some thought and get

in touch to help us improve it on your behalf.

Three new books have been added to the library and are now available to borrow:

- Turfgrass Water Conservation
- The Business of Golf – What are you thinking?
- The IGCEMA study guide – Hydraulics, Electrical, Engines and Drivelines

As a member of BIGGA, you can borrow two books for up to six weeks. The only cost is the recorded delivery to return the books to BIGGA House.

Field Guides

The new field guide additions, Trees & Shrubs on the Golf Course and Golf Course Grasses can now be downloaded from the members area of the BIGGA website, listed under Member Resources. They are also still available from the L&D Department, free of charge to Members.