



Learning & Development

Sami Strutt, BIGGA Learning & Development Manager, with an update on education issues

I was recently bought a cushion with the words "Good Day Sunshine" written on it. This prompted me to look at the lyrics of The Beatles song of the same name where I found the words "I need to laugh, and when the sun is out, I've got something I can laugh about".

Let's hope the sun comes out soon and we can all start having a good laugh instead of looking outside and seeing persistent rain!



Future Turf Managers' Initiative

By the time you read this article, the inaugural Future Turf Managers' event will have taken place at the Ransomes Jacobsen headquarters in Ipswich.

Jacobsen recognise the importance of preparing the younger generation of greenkeepers to take on the role of Head Greenkeeper or Course Manager. The FTMI has been designed to provide practical tools and guidance to help the candidates to pursue their career aspirations through this professional development conference.

The group of 20 assistants and deputies were selected following an online application process. The successful applicants are:

Lewis Birch – Greenkeeper, Sunningdale Golf Club

James Bledge – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club

Sean Borrett – Greenkeeper, Ellesborough Golf Club

Lee Brady – First Assistant Greenkeeper, Muswell Hill Golf Club

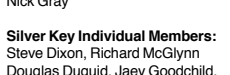
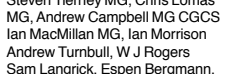
Tom Brearley – Greenkeeper, Sunningdale Golf Club

Paul Carella – Greenkeeper, The Richmond Golf Club

Robin Cheney – Deputy Course Manager, Farleigh Golf Club

Scott Davidson – Greenkeeper, Newmachar Golf Club

Tom Evans – First Assistant




Gold Key Individual Members: Steven Tierney MG, Chris Lomas MG, Andrew Campbell MG CGCS Ian MacMillan MG, Ian Morrison Andrew Turnbull, W J Rogers Sam Langrick, Espen Bergmann, Nick Gray


Silver Key Individual Members: Steve Dixon, Richard McGlynn Douglas Duguid, Jaey Goodchild, Graham Wiley, Michael Beaton, Paul Jenkins, Justin Cheung

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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Greenkeeper, Harleyford Golf Club
Wes Lenihan – Greenkeeper,
East Brighton Golf Club

John McLoughlin – Deputy
Head Greenkeeper, Grange Park
Golf Club

Adam Mitchell – First Assistant
Greenkeeper, Tehidy Park Golf
Club

Adam Moss – Deputy Head
Greenkeeper, Blackwell Golf Club

Rhys Norville – Greenkeeper,
Celtic Manor Resort

Ross Ovens – Deputy Course
Manager, Roxburghe Hotel & Golf
Course

James Parker – Deputy Head
Greenkeeper, Close House Golf
Club

Leigh Powell – Deputy Course
Manager, Hockley Golf Club

Daniel Scott – Greenkeeper,
Woburn Golf & Country Club

Ben Scrivener – First Assistant
Greenkeeper, Abridge Golf &
Country Club

Tom Wood – Greenkeeper, Out-
lane Golf Club

During the two-day event the candidates will concentrate on topics including communication, budgeting, organisational politics, CV writing and interview techniques as well as taking part in discussion group on subjects such as team management and alternative career paths.

Supporting the candidates are five mentors who will work with the groups during the event and will continue to support them throughout the year.

The mentors are:
Steve Chappell, Head Greenkeeper, Gleneagles

Matt Plested, Course Manager, Muswell Hill Golf Club

Michael Sawicki, Club Manager, Dulwich and Sydenham Hill Golf Club

Lee Strutt MG, Golf Course Manager, gWest

Stuart Yarwood MG, Course Manager, Lymm Golf Club

Lorna Sheldon and David Bancroft-Turner – who gave hugely successful presentations at

the Turf Managers' Conference at BTME will pass on their extensive knowledge of professional communication techniques and dealing with golf club politics.

A round up of the event will be in the May issue of Greenkeeper International.



BIGGA Higher Education Scholarships

The latest member to receive a scholarship is Ben Burrill for his Golf Course Turfgrass Management qualification.

Funding is available for those members who are undertaking a higher education qualification. Visit the website for further details: www.bigga.org.uk/education/funding-opportunities/



Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year

Application forms for the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award have been distributed to all colleges and training providers and are also available to download from Education are of the website. The closing date for applications is Friday 10 May 2013.

In the coming months we're changing the content and layout of both the Membership and L&D sections of the magazine, based on feedback you gave in the recent Greenkeeper International survey.

Tell us how our education programme and membership benefits have helped you, and we can publicise all that BIGGA membership has to offer. Contact Communications Executive Steve Castle on steve.castle@bigga.co.uk