

**AUGUST 2013**

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## Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year 2013

### The final eight

The finalists for the annual Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year competition, held at BIGGA House, have now been chosen. Here's the shortlist...

Here are this year's finalists for the overall Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year prize, who will all be taking part in the final at BIGGA HQ next month.

Who will succeed Thomas Filwell? Thomas has already enjoyed a trophy for the States and secured another job since he was the award last year - although when a boost it can be for your career.

Even being nominated is an achievement, so congratulations to the candidates. The final consists of two intense days during which there will be asked to complete a written task focusing on the golf course here at Ashurst Manor and interviewed by a panel of judges from Toro and BIGGA.

The winner and two runners-up will then be selected. The winner will travel to the USA on an all expenses paid trip courtesy of Toro. This will be the right to see and include an exciting study course at the University of Massachusetts.

They will also get the opportunity to visit the GCMA's Golf Industry Show in Orlando (shown right) and report back to the conference. The runners-up will receive a paid trip to the Conference for Learning Education programme at BTME 2014.

To be eligible for the next award, candidates should be a greenkeeping student studying for a qualification up to Level Three. Students are nominated by their course tutor.

Thanks to everyone who entered, including those who did not make the shortlist - there's nothing to stop you reapplying again next year. Good luck to all the finalists - the winner will be announced next month.



<p><b>JOSHUA THORLEY</b> Born: 17 February 1985 Role: Assistant Greenkeeper Club: The Richmond Golf Club Handicap: 24 College: Myerscough</p> <p>Joshua began his working life as a student but found his true calling as a greenkeeper after joining The Richmond in 2010. He is studying for his level 3 qualification, and is looking to work overseas and gain experience at working as a tournament. He would eventually like to progress to Deputy then Course Manager. He enjoys football, golf and runs his own sports clothing website.</p>	<p><b>SCOTT ROBERTS</b> Born: 23 September 1990 Role: Assistant Greenkeeper Club: Handley Common Golf Club Handicap: 6 College: Merrist Wood</p> <p>Scott grew up on Handley Common and spent a lot of work experience at Queenswood Golf Club, where he became involved in a project of extending it 21 acres. In 2011 he joined Handley Common where he works alongside his Course Manager. He's joined the support teams at a series of tournaments including the BMW PGA at Wentworth and has joined BIGGA's Survey committee. Ultimately he would like to work abroad. He enjoys golf, football and cars.</p>
<p><b>SAE EVANS</b> Born: 13 August 1988 Role: Deputy Head Greenkeeper Club: Oakland Park Golf Club Handicap: 24 College: Myerscough</p> <p>She worked for some time at Hoythya Park where he passed a series of qualifications, before recently moving to Oakland Park. He wants to improve his maintenance knowledge and ultimately become a Course Manager. He's had a highly successful few years as the holder of prizes in Sports Management &amp; Coaching and got married last year. He enjoys all manner of sports especially cricket, and is also a fan of football, golf and rugby.</p>	<p><b>DANIEL HARDY</b> Born: 13 December 1984 Role: Deputy Course Manager / Mechanic Club: Crown Hill Estate Golf Club Handicap: 14 College: Myerscough</p> <p>Know golfer Daniel started his career as an assistant motor mechanic before undertaking a Motor Engineering course. He then took on his current dual role at Crown Hill Estate and plans to start his Level 3 studies soon, and holds ambitions of not only managing a course but eventually undertaking the Master Greenkeeper qualification. As well as golf enjoy circuit racing, football and cricket.</p>
<p><b>REN WATERS</b> Born: 23 May 1984 Role: Assistant Greenkeeper Club: Shrewsbury Golf Club Handicap: 12 College: Hasehead</p> <p>Ren began greenkeeping in 2010 after initially working in manufacturing, and after a period of work experience at Shrewsbury Golf Club realised it was the job for him. He has aspirations of becoming a Head Greenkeeper and also would like to work in the USA. He is currently studying a Sports Turf INVO.</p>	<p><b>JAMES WILKINSON</b> Born: 29 April 1981 Role: Assistant Greenkeeper Club: Highlands Golf Club Handicap: No College: Plumpton</p> <p>James was working for a landscaping firm when the opportunity of a job offering him to be on a local golf course, and being involved in the course he started to get into greenkeeping. He moved on the job before joining the rolling parcel at Highlands. He's enjoyed this role highly and has been supported by the club in his college studies. Outside of work he enjoys fishing, running and watching football.</p>
<p><b>LUKE TURNER</b> Born: 24 May 1990 Role: Greenkeeper Club: Winterset Golf Club Handicap: 28 College: Harrogate</p> <p>Luke is currently studying for his level 3. He has regularly volunteered to join the team at Devonshire Park which holds tennis tournaments, while continuing to put all his efforts into Winterset. He would like to gain international experience at some point in his career. He's always been fascinated by links golf courses and is a keen surfer and rugby player.</p>	<p><b>PAUL WALSH</b> Born: 5 May 1981 Role: First Assistant Greenkeeper Club: The Royal Dublin Golf Club Handicap: No College: Tralee - College of Anatomy Horticulture in Dublin</p> <p>Paul began his career studying Mechanical Engineering but became highly interested in turf care management, and in 2008 began working at Palmerston House Golf Club in County Kildare. He joined The Royal Dublin Golf Club in 2010 and after achieving his FETAC Advanced Certificate in Greenkeeping was promoted to First Assistant. He hopes to progress to Deputy Head Greenkeeper in time.</p>



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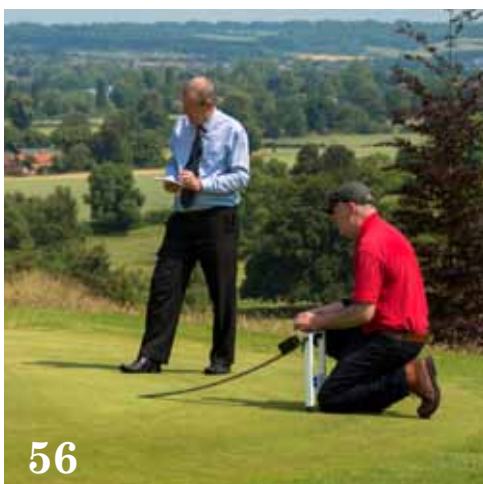
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*Cover photography by Richard Jenkinson, Deputy Golf Course Manager at G West, and a member of the BIGGA Support Team at The Open 2013*



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