

From Gloucestershire to Tunisia and back again

Dealing with contrasting sites and contrasting problems, how does a golf architect make the most of the golfing opportunities without ruining the varied environments in which he works?

Noel Forester reports

One can only imagine about the life of a golf architect and the requirement to perform when under the influence of lag, not so much induced by jet or time but by local environments.

A respected golf architect plies his trade far and wide and deals with any number of conflicting and contrasting problems as he wrestles with several different projects at any one time.

How easy it must be to jump to an all too hasty decision when standing on the windswept heights of the Cotswolds, following hard upon a flight back from Tunisia. What might there possibly be in common between the island of Djerba off the coast of southern Tunisia and the corn-fields at Minchinhampton in Gloucestershire apart from them

both tending to test the limits of the thermometer?

It cannot be easy to cast aside those extremes of climate when the summer temperatures on Djerba – Homer's island of the Lotus Eaters incidentally – can soar into the not altogether soporific 40s while the opening day in May at the new Cherrington course at Minchinhampton struggled to reach five degrees. How can an architect cope with the huge demands these extremes place not only on himself but on the grass. After all the golfer has a choice about whether to brave the elements but the grass had no such luxury.

If you continue to peel away the onion-skins of the Djerba and Cherrington projects you will discover more and more the differ-

The 8th hole at Golf de Djerba, Tunisia

ences and difficulties that an architect faces.

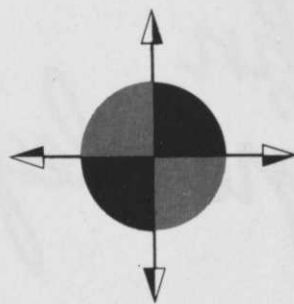
In the case of Djerba, very high temperatures; strong winds; a semi-arid site of sand and palm trees overlying limestone; a high water-table; a water source containing six grams of salt per litre – the usual tolerance for Bermuda grass being one gram per litre – and a water need of half a million gallons per day. Combined or individually these hardly suggest that the site was suitable for a golf course. For an architect, however, there is always something to be thankful for and in the case of Djerba it was the lack of conditions laid down by a planning agency.

That cannot be said to be the case at Minchinhampton where the site, included within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, was the subject of a full-scale Planning Inquiry. Permission was eventually granted subject to conditions attaching to earthworks and landscaping – no change of level greater than 1.5 metres,

fewer than ten bunkers with the sand not be visible from any public highway; reconstitution of hedgerows and stone walls; a tightly controlled tree planting scheme in consonance with the Cotswold landscape and greens and tees to be sited at a respectful distance from neighbouring properties.

The two sites had quite different soils, the one sand and broken shell, the other Cotswold brash with an alarming quantity of stones – the first job was to instigate a complete mechanical stone-picking and stone burying operation. Djerba was a ready-made golfing landscape with dunes and rolling terrain right down to the beach with a scattering of palm trees throughout. Cherrington, on the other hand, was stone-walled, treeless and at first sight not an inspiring canvas despite its Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty status. A very shallow valley floor and fairly uniform gradients were the only native material.

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If, however, you turn away from the manifold differences between the two sites and search for something which might unite them in the work of the golf architect it is clearly to do with the artificiality of the intention and how the architect integrates that artificiality with the site and defends the charge or landscape ruination. An environmental cynic would recognise the colours and textures of the one site transposed to the other and the shapes and features of the other imported back to inland Britain.

But it should not stop there. The principle aim, and it is one that would surely be shared by all golf architects is not to allow the artifice to conceal the original site. When you cannot see the origins and history or a piece of land you are playing golf over, then a large part of the spirit and purpose of the game is lost and sensitivity in design has been

surrendered to artifice, self-promotion, gimmickry and introversion.

It is not simply about leaving shadows of the former site, encouraging the golfer to play over Cotswold stone walls or thread his or her way among the

strategically retained palm trees. It is about using the character or the site as a form of discipline and restraint in the design and construction processes. It is about getting under the skin of the site and using all of the architect's experience and judgment in

defining the limits, scale, style and intensity of the artificial design which are appropriate to the particular site.

In the last analysis it is about losing part of the architect's personality in the site itself. The site is far, far more important.

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10 further pitfalls of golf course maintenance

by Robert A Brame,
Agronomist, Mid-Atlantic
Region, USGA Green Section

The techniques and strategies for maintaining golf course turf continue to be better understood and improved as time passes. Some of this learning is the result of formal research done at universities, yet much of our practical knowledge comes from field experience and observation. After all, we often learn more from our mistakes than from the activities that turn out well. Let's face it, an important aspect of improving ourselves is recognising our mistakes and then learning from them.

Each facet of a golf course maintenance program overlaps and ties in with all the other components. Nevertheless, each problem area needs to be identified, evaluated, and considered individually before it can be combined with others and seen as a package.

An article in last month's *Greenkeeper International* discussed the top 10 maintenance pitfalls of greenkeepers as identified by the USGA Green Section in a survey of its staff. The article received lots of response, with the most common question being, "What are the second 10?" The staff was surveyed again, and the results follow:

11 Time on the Golf Course

The greenkeeper is hired to supervise the maintenance of the golf course. Sounds like an obvious statement, doesn't it? Well, it's amazing how often the agronomics of golf course maintenance takes a back seat to the many other hats worn by today's greenkeeper. That is, of course, until problems develop. Then, everyone wants to know what's happening to the turf, and the

primary focus, once again, is the agronomics.

Very few greenkeepers have the time or take the time to walk their golf courses daily to closely observe turf conditions. It isn't because they don't want to; most are simply pulled in too many directions. Many greenkeepers will acknowledge they are spending more and more time on the job with each passing year, but less and less time is spent actually on the course. "When I got into this business I didn't have to put in this many hours with non-turf-grass related activities," is a common response.

Is this a young man's profession? Or is it time to simplify and get back to the basics, and if so, how can we do that?

How about playing the game? How can a greenkeeper prepare the golf course for play if he or she does not play regularly? How can solid decisions and diagnoses be made without spending some time carefully scouting the course? To accomplish this, it takes more than the greenkeeper just being aware of the need. It requires an owner, president, or green committee chairperson becoming involved and encouraging, or even mandating, that the greenkeeper play weekly or at least walk the course on a regular schedule. The greenkeeper also needs support to hire specialty staff, like a secretary, a good assistant greenkeeper, an experienced foreman, irrigation and/or spray technicians, which allows for a more realistic workload so that quality time can be spent on the course. We cannot afford to lose sight of the fact that golf course maintenance still is a "hands-on" profession.

12 Documentation

Documentation involves a systematic programme of recording

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activities of importance. Record-keeping practices we see range from very good to non-existent in golf course maintenance operations. In a world that is scrutinising pesticide usage more and more, it is vitally important to record every detail leading to and including the decision to actually apply a chemical. The days of making notes on a desk blotter concerning pesticide usage are long gone, or they should be.

With the computers available today, pesticide applications, inventory status, and payroll and budget tracking all can be done quickly and professionally. Every operation is different, and the use of a computer can be as simple or complex as a particular operation may need. That's the beauty of today's personal computers. Nevertheless, there are relatively few operations that are using computers to full value. Some control their irrigation systems with computers, but most golf course maintenance operations have not tapped into this valuable resource. Computers are somewhat like golf carts – they are here to stay. If you cannot use a computer to its full potential, either hire someone who can, or take time to learn.

It is not uncommon to visit a golf course and see a nice improvement project that has been completed by the greenkeeper and staff. Projects like bunker renovation, tee additions, and even the construction of a new putting green are clearly over and above routine golf course maintenance. The documentation of improvement projects with pictures or video can be very worthwhile when, a few months later, the golfers forget what it used to look like and who actually made the improvements. A camera can be an excellent tool to help document the work being done on a golf course. It is amazing how valuable pictures can be when budgets are being considered or salaries reviewed.

Documentation is a lot like communication – you are doing it all the time. It is either planned or done by default. It will either work for you or against you. Review what you are doing in this area and take the time to lay a positive foundation for the

future. Document what you and your staff actually do!

13 The Bandwagon Syndrome

The "Bandwagon Syndrome" refers to those times we do something or try some thing just because the golf course down the road is doing it or someone told you he was. Does it really work? Is it agronomically sound for your course? It must be – isn't the highest budgeted/best golf course in town doing it? It must be the right thing to do!

An example of this would be the use of the new "lightweight rollers." It is amazing how many course officials ask about rollers. In most cases, they have heard the course down the street is using them.

"Will they make the putting surfaces faster?"

"Absolutely," is the quick response from the course down the street.

"Is there danger of surface compaction?"

A frequent answer is, "Possibly, but we haven't seen any problems yet."

Let's hope your course won't be the exception to the rule. As with most every thing in our industry, rollers are tools which can be used or abused.

What about chemicals, soil amendments, plant growth regulators, or bio-stimulants? Too often, the same reasoning is applied: If the well-known course or greenkeeper is using it, then it should work for us. However, you should ask yourself if university testing has been done. Also, has the testing been repeated enough in the field to suggest that it will work equally well at most sites? What do the Green Section agronomists think? The "Bandwagon Syndrome" can and has led to wasted time and money. In a few situations, both turf and jobs have been lost. There are no miracle cures in golf course main-

tenance. Look carefully before you leap, and be very sure of your information source. If you are not sure, be conservative and wait and see. Never hesitate to ask questions about new products or procedures. Avoid jumping onto bandwagons too quickly!

14 The Rules of Golf and Marking the Course

What value would our roads and motorways be if drivers did not follow the laws? Can you imagine what would happen if people were allowed to make up their own rules while driving their cars? It is not a pleasant thought. Golf is similar in that golf without rules is something other than the game we all love. If you do not play by the rules, you are not playing golf. It follows, then, that to properly maintain and mark the course on which the game is played, a greenkeeper must have a working knowledge of the rules.

What is the difference between a "hazard" and a "lateral hazard"? What are the options for putting a ball back into play when it has been lost in a "hazard" or "lateral hazard"? What is the procedure when a ball is hit into a pile of grass clippings waiting to be removed? Is it possible to have an illegal hole location? What is the difference between illegal and unfair? How about the so called "winter rules"? These are only a few examples of questions every greenkeeper should be able to answer. This is not an area that should be left just to the golf professional. Knowing the rules and staying up with changes is some thing we all need to actively pursue.

15 Lack of Outside Interests

There are no perfect golf courses, either in design or maintenance. As such, the job of maintaining and conditioning the golf course is never completely finished.

There is always something that needs attention, and this is why the greenkeeper is such a key component in the game of golf. Yet, no one can work 10-plus hours every day of the week for months on end without paying a price. The price may be "burnout," lack of effectiveness on the job, or eventually the pursuit of a different career. Marriages have failed and families have been shattered by the pursuit of a perfectly conditioned golf course. Every greenkeeper knows he/she must leave home to go to work, but how about leaving work to go home? Are you living to work or working to live?

Take a day off every week. Have and pursue some type of hobby or non-golf-related interest. Spend quality time with your spouse and family. Take time for refreshment and revitalisation so you can meet the needs of your family and yourself.

To accomplish these things, every greenkeeper needs the support and encouragement of management. Green chairperson, owner, course official – do not allow your greenkeeper to burn the candle at both ends. Do not allow the short-term conditioning of your golf course to cloud the long-term picture or the personal life of your greenkeeper. Continuity over the long run is more important than course conditioning on any one day.

Take or make time to rest, relax, and recharge your batteries and relieve stress. It will make you more effective, and remember – golf is, after all, a game.

16 Test Plots

The value of on-course testing cannot be overemphasised. How can you know that a new product or technique will work in your maintenance programme without doing some controlled evaluations? Controlled means working with enough area to obtain a fair evaluation without affecting the budget or the playability of the golf course. A turf nursery is a very good place to do controlled testing. Every golf course maintenance operation should have at least one turf nursery.

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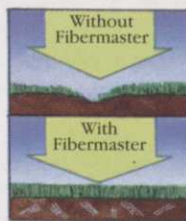


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strips when making applications on the golf course is another good way to determine the effectiveness of the product. This makes it possible to determine if the pesticide application was really needed. Nobody particularly likes leaving control strips, but it is the only way to really know what degree of success you are achieving from a product or procedure.

Take the time to do on-course testing. Keep the boss and others who need to know informed of the results. They, too, will be interested in what is happening on their golf course. The information you gather should help save time, money, and aggravation the next time the application or procedure is carried out.

17 Keeping up with Technology

Attend local, regional, national, and even international educa-

tional conferences, field days, and seminars. Subscribe to industry magazines and read them while they are reasonably current. Take advantage of publications from BIGGA and the STRI, as well as the USGA, GCSAA, and others.

A tremendous amount of information is available, but you have to take the initiative to take advantage of it. Too often, the demands faced by today's greenkeeper will affect his/her ability to stay involved with the information gathering process. Course officials need to make sure that both time and money are available for the greenkeeper to stay

current with the fast-changing technology of our industry. Do not allow the hectic pace of day-to-day golf course maintenance to prevent you from staying informed about tomorrow.

18 Long-Range Planning

As the old adage says, "When you fail to plan, you plan to fail." This is true for course improvements as well as for maintenance. Long-range or master plans allow the greenkeeper and course officials to establish obtainable goals and objectives. This makes it possible to establish realistic budgets for

both maintenance and course improvements. A well-thought-out master plan that has been approved by those in authority can help bridge the gap in continuity when greenkeepers or course officials change. As a matter of fact, a good master plan can help increase the longevity of the greenkeeper simply because he/she has a much better idea of what is expected and where the operation is headed. Everyone benefits from this combination.

Long-range plans can include time being set aside for the greens to be aerified each year, allowing golf events to be scheduled around maintenance activities without deferring maintenance work or eliminating it altogether. There are no surprises; everyone knows when the work will be done and what to expect. The continuity and direction that are established through long-range planning pay dividends

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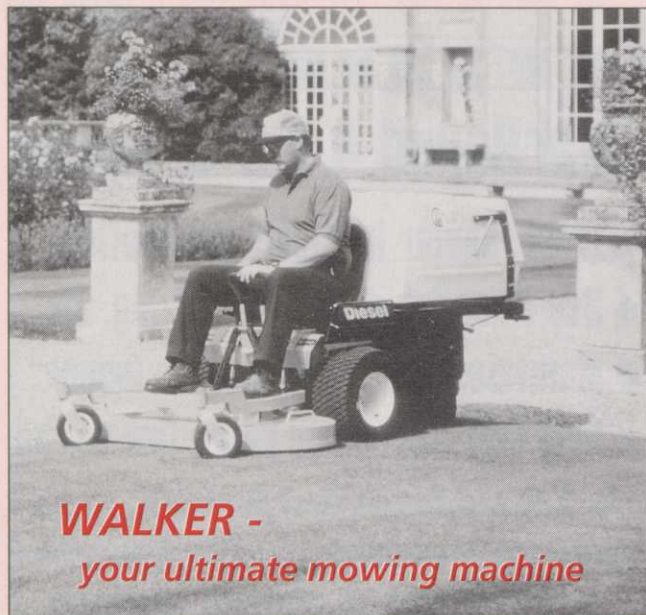
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19 Training and Delegation

A good indication that a potential problem exists in this area is the need to have a pager, mobile phone, or two-way radio in constant use. If it is that critical that you are reachable every second of every day, maybe it's time to spread some responsibility to other key employees. This also ties in with the need to have outside interests and low-stress personal time. If the greenkeeper is carrying the entire load alone, sooner or later something will snap.

A good rule-of-thumb to follow in training key employees is to help that person learn to do all that you do. Don't be insecure about this. It takes a person with confidence in his/her ability and the capability of seeing the big picture to delegate authority. Investing in people is what life is all about. A supervisor who is good at training and delegating is respected by his/her staff and usually enjoys life a lot more. Improving the skills of training and delegating is a never-ending task. We all can improve in this area.

20 Managing Carts and Cart Paths

This ties in very closely with the eighth pitfall. That is, Amount of Play. More and more maintenance operations are installing tee-to-green golf cart path networks. While no one likes the idea of having paved surfaces on a golf course, a well-built golf cart path offers the best wear control and maintenance options where heavy cart traffic exists. Ropes, signs, and fencing can be used to help control golf cart traffic and wear, but these usually offer less than ideal results and increased maintenance costs. It is amazing how people ignore signs and ropes!

In designing a golf cart path

network, begin at the 18th green and work backwards around the course. If there is a problem area where golf cart traffic is hard to manage, begin the network design at this point. It is important to locate the cart path where it will be used. However, try to stay at least 30 feet, or 10 yards, from a green or fairway. Where possible, avoid ball landing areas, though no path location is immune to shots hitting the surface. Under the Rules of Golf, relief is given from an artificially paved surface. On the other hand, no relief is allowed from the bare ground or thinned turf that often results from concentrated golf cart traffic.

Be sure to construct a golf cart path with a good base, and preferably it should be eight feet wide. This allows maintenance equipment to use the paths and makes it possible for one cart to pass another without leaving the paved surface. Properly built and located cart paths also can be used as channels for surface water runoff when pitched or sloped or with curbing installed.

Give serious thought to the current and future usage of golf carts at your course. While cart paths do involve some cost initially, over the long run they can pay for themselves in increased cart usage, especially during inclement weather. When the course is wet but playable, the sign would read, "Golf Carts Restricted to Paths." Isn't that better than, "Course Closed to Golf Carts"?

Conclusion

This listing of the second 10 pitfalls, follows in the footsteps of the first 10 in last month's magazine. The intent has been to discuss maintenance pitfalls, as seen by Green Section agronomists. Once identified as a concern on your course, a strategy can be developed to make the necessary changes. It is never too late for change!

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The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of colleges offering greenkeeper training courses.

The directory shows colleges offering courses to craft, supervisory and management levels, but it must be stated that until the GTC review is completed only the green coded colleges are approved to train greenkeepers beyond craft level.

The introduction of vocational qualifications into industries, has caused the colleges

to re-think their training policies and the GTC will be issuing guidelines for the golf greenkeeping industry as to which colleges employers and their staff should be supporting.

Until the report is complete, anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeepers Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Ane, York YO6 2NF, telephone 01347 838640.

NORTH



ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE Askham Bryan, York YO2 3PR. Contact Christine Biglin, registrar. Tel: 01904 702121. *Full time courses:* National Certificate – Horticulture; National Diploma – Amenity Horticulture; Higher National Diploma – Horticulture (golf management options). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level 2, City & Guilds Phase III and IV Greenkeeping.



CITY COLLEGE MANCHESTER Wythenshawe Park Centre, Moor Road, Manchester M23 9BQ. Contact Peter Riley/Martin Webb. Tel: 0161 957 1526. Day Release and Full Time courses leading to NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with the Greenkeeping option.



HOUGHALL COLLEGE Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Houghall, Durham DH1 3SG. Contact Tony Milan. Tel: 0191 386 1351. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture/Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship – 1 Year; National Diploma in Horticulture Turf Option – 2/3 years. *Part time courses:* Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management Level II – Day Release; C&G Phase III Enterprise Management – Afternoon Evening. *Short Courses:* Health & Safety Legislation; Turfcare; Machinery and Mechanisation. All courses contribute towards NVQ Levels I and II.



MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE Myerscough Hall, Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY. Contact Martyn Jones. Tel: 01995 640611. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Groundsmanship and Greenkeeping – 1 Year; BTEC National Diploma in Turf Science and Sportsturf Management – 3 Years; BTEC Higher National Diploma in Turf Science and Golf Course Management – 3 Years (Both these courses include one year's paid industrial experience). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Greenkeeping; NVQ Level III Sportsturf Maintenance; Certificate and Diploma in Turf Irrigation (in conjunction with BTLIA). A range of short courses including FEPA etc.



REASEHEATH COLLEGE Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DE Contact Dennis Mortram. Tel: 01270 625131 Fax: 01270 625665. *Full time:* BTEC First Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) – 1 year; BTEC National Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) – 2 years. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management – 3 years. *Part time:* HNC Golf Course Management – Distance Learning. NVQ Level 1 Greenkeeping – Day Release. NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping – Day/Block Release. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping – Day/Block Release. C&G Phase IV Greenkeeping – Block Release. IoG National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture – Day Release. IoG National Diploma – Day Release. *Short Courses:* FEPA Chemical Safety; Safe Lifting; Chainsaws; Off-Road Vehicle Driving; First Aid.



BROOKSBY COLLEGE Brooksby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 2LJ. Contact Ann Hurt. Tel: 01664 434291. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management. National Diploma in Horticulture. *Part time courses:* Day Release training to NVQ Level II in Amenity Horticulture – Greenkeeping option. The course is based around the GTC Training Manual. Short courses also available in Horticultural Machinery and Arboriculture.



BROOMFIELD COLLEGE Morley, Ilkeston, Derby DE7 6DN. Contact Admissions Officer. Tel: 01332 831345. NVQ Level I and Level II Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping) Block Release course. Two years duration presented in 12 one-week blocks following guidelines of GTC Training Manual. NVQ Level III gained by 9x 3-day blocks, or APL service.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE COLLEGE Milton Centre, Landbeach Road, Milton, Cambridgeshire CB4 6DB. Contact Martin Crimmins. Tel: 01223 860701. Part time – Day Release over two years leading to NVQ Level II (Greenkeeping Options), including the GTC Training Manual requirements. Autumn term commences September/October 1995.



RODBASTON COLLEGE Rodbaston, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5HG. Contact Nigel Foskett. Tel: 01785 712209. Courses offered: Craft Level NVQ Level I, II and III. Day Release. Duration: Over two years, each of weeks duration (September – June). Registration Date: Please contact the College.



WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9BL. Contact J.J. Rees. Tel: 01926 651367. Greenkeeping courses – day release – NVQ Level I; NVQ Level II; NVQ Level III; NVQ Level IV; IoG courses – National Practical Certificate; NVQ Level II, National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture; Full time two year BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture (with option in Turf Culture); *Professional updating courses include:* Groundsmanship, Machinery Maintenance and Repair, Managing Conservation Areas, Plant Identification, Hedgelaying, First Aid, FEPA Spraying Courses, Chainsaw Courses.



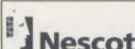
BRINSBURY COLLEGE North Heath, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1DL. Contact Keith Harrison. Tel: 01798 873832. *Full time courses:* New Entrant to Greenkeeping Course – 36 weeks. NVQ II Greenkeeping option plus core. Approximately a third of the course is delivered on college's and local golf course. *Part time:* Day Release to NVQ II level. Both full time and part time students with work both to the NVQ II work book and the Greenkeeper manual. NVQ Level II (National Technical Certificate) with Inst. of Groundsmanship manual may be delivered as an evening course. NVQ Level III Greenkeeping. ND Landscape Studies (Option – Sportsturf Management and Greenkeeping). *New courses and qualifications:* National Technical Certificate (IoG), National Practical Certificate (IoG), Intermediate Diploma (IoG), National Diploma (IoG)



HADLOW COLLEGE Hadlow College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0AL. Contact Keith Backhouse. Tel: 01732 850551. NVQ Level II and Level III Part-time Day Release over two years with two periods of Block Release. Level II in Amenity and Groundsmanship Courses with Day Release. NVQ Level III Golf Greenkeeping new as from Sept. '95. Centres at Hadlow, Canterbury and Maidstone.



MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE. Contact the Academic Registrar. Tel: 01483 232424. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. *Part-time:* NVQ Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Level 1, NVQ Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Level 2, NVQ Amenity Horticulture Sports Turf Maintenance Level 3.



NESCOT North East Surrey College of Technology, Reigate Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3DS. Contact Dr S Shaw. Tel: 0181 394 3099/3111. NVQ Levels I, II and III in Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping options) Training and assessment for the Greenkeepers Training Manual. Part time, Day Release. Duration: Two years to Level II. FEPA Spraying Courses.

MIDLANDS

SOUTH EAST

ER TRAINING

E COURSES AVAILABLE

GREENKEEPER

International

KEY TO COLOURS

Currently GTC approved as Regional Training Centres, offering courses at Craft, Supervisory and Management levels

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Supervisory level

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Craft level only

Pending GTC approval for all courses

Please note that all college details on these pages were provided by the colleges themselves. Greenkeeper International takes no responsibility for accuracy of information provided. Contact the colleges direct for prospectuses and comprehensive information.

SOUTH EAST



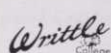
OAKLANDS COLLEGE Oaklands Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL4 0JA. Contact Ian Merrick. Tel: 01727 850651. Part time courses leading to NVQ Level II Greenkeeping, evening courses leading to City & Guilds Phase IV Business Management. One year full time NC Greenkeeping & Sports Turf Management. Courses start September 1995.



OTLEY COLLEGE Otley College, Otley, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 9EY. Contact Student Applications. Tel: 01473 785543. Full time courses: BTEC National Diploma - Sports Turf Management. National Certificate in Horticulture, option in Sports Turf Technology. Part time NVQ 2 Golf Greenkeeping and NVQ 2 Groundsmanship, NVQ 3 Sports Turf Management. IoG Intermediate and Final Diplomas (Evenings). NVQ Horticultural Mechanics. FEPA Courses PA1, PA2, PA6. Otley College ★ Developing individuals ★ Achieving more.



PLUMPTON COLLEGE Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE. Contact David Blackmur. Tel: 01273 890454. Full time courses: National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture (options in Landscape and Sportsturf); National Certificate in Amenity Horticulture; First Diploma; A11 BTEC. Part time courses: NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture in Arboriculture, Interior Landscaping, Hard Landscaping and Greenkeeping, Sportsturf and Sportsground Management; NVQ Level III Amenity Horticulture; Phase IV Business Management.



WRITTLE COLLEGE Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3RR. Contact Dai Edwards. Tel: 01245 420705, Fax: 01245 420456. Part time courses include: NVQ Levels I, II, III and IV Sportsturf & Greenkeeping, Day Release. Includes training and assessment of Greenkeepers Training Manual. Full time courses include: BTEC First Diploma (1 year), BTEC National Diploma with Option in Sportsturf and Golf Course Management, 3 year sandwich course; BTEC Higher National Diploma with Option in Golf Course Management 3 year sandwich course, BSc (Hons) Degree course in Landscape and Amenity Management. Short courses for FEPA, Irrigation, Fork Lift Trucks, Chainsaws and First Aid also available. Associate students welcome, progression routes identified, accreditation of prior learning possible.



CANNINGTON COLLEGE Cannington Bridgwater, Somerset TA5 2LS. Contact Nick Rigden. Tel: 01278 652226. HNC Golf Course Management. BTEC First Diploma. BTEC National Diploma in Golf Course Management. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management (inc. European Studies). NVQ Level 1 and 2 Golf Greenkeeping. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Supervisory Management. NVQ Level 4 Greenkeeping Management. FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Off Road Vehicle Certification, Greenkeeper Mechanics.



HARTPURY COLLEGE Hartpury House, Nr Gloucester GL19 3BE. Contact D. Kirkham. Tel: 01452 700283. Fax: 01452 700629. Amenity and Decorative Horticulture - NVQ Level II and III, First Diploma, National Certificate, National Diploma and HND Land Use. Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management, NVQ Level III, First Diploma, Certificate, National Diploma and HND Land Use. Diploma in Supervisory Management.



SPARSHOLT COLLEGE Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants SO21 2NE Contact Bob Young. Tel: 01962 776441. NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping Practice, NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping Supervision, City & Guilds Phase IV Management Studies, GTC: Greenkeeping Certificate, GTC: Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, FIPA: Short Courses, Chainsaw: Short Courses. All courses, other than Phase IV, are offered on Block release. Full residential facilities available.



ELMWOOD COLLEGE Cupar, Fife KY15 4JB. Contact Carol Borthwick. Tel: 01334 652781. Fax: 01334 656795. Craft Level courses. Block-release and full-time, following SVQ Level II and the GTC Training Manual. Six week specialist modular programme (January-February), including Golf Course Construction, Pesticide Application and Plant Protection Procedures. Distance Learning supervisory course, with one week in College. SVQ Level III available from September 1995. HNC/HND Golf Course Management available as full-time, day-release and distance learning. FEPA, COSHH and Health & Safety short courses also.



KYLE AND CARRICK DISTRICT COUNCIL Burns House, Burns Statue Square, Ayr KA7 1UT. Contact Lesley Keenan. Tel: 01292 281511. SCOTVEC National Certificate in Greenkeeping - Day Release up to three years. SVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture. Students can enrol at any time.



LANGSIDE COLLEGE GLASGOW Langside College Glasgow School of Horticulture, Woodburn House, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen G73 3PE. Contact Colin S Urquhart. Tel: 0141 647 6300. SCOTVEC National Certificate - 3 years day release or 1 year full time. Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management - 2 years day release. SVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with Greenkeeping options plus a range of NC and HNC Horticulture programmes including G SVQ Level III. Short courses on a range of subjects including Tractor Operations and the Safe Use of Pesticides can be negotiated.



OATRIDGE COLLEGE Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, West Lothian EH52 6NH. Contact Steve Miller. Tel: 01506 854387. Full and part time courses: Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management; National Certificate in Greenkeeping; National Certificate Modular and Scottish Vocational Qualification Level I and II. National Certificate in Hort. Machinery. Short specialist courses - including safe use of chemicals, operation of greenkeeping machinery.

SOUTH WEST

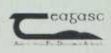
SCOTLAND

Northern Ireland



GREENMOUNT COLLEGE Greenmount College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Antrim, BT41 4PU. Contact Geoff Jenkins. Tel: 01849 462114. Day release courses leading to (i) Level II Certificate in Greenkeeping and (ii) Level III Certificate in Golf Course Supervision.

EIRE



TEAGASC COLLEGE Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. Contact Pat Suttle. Tel: 003531 371 636. Phase II Greenkeeping - Block Release two weeks, three times per year. Phase III Greenkeeping - Block Release, one week, three times per year.

WALES



PENCOED COLLEGE Pencoed, Mid Glamorgan CF35 5LG. Contact Peter Gillard or Richard Browning. Tel: 01656 860202. Day Release courses in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf at Craft, Advanced Craft, Supervisory and Management levels to GTC requirements, incorporating the Training Manual of the Greenkeepers Training Committee.



WELSH COLLEGE Welsh College of Horticulture, Northrop, Mold, Clywyd CH7 6AA. Contact GM Wright. Tel: 01352 840861. Fax: 01352 840731. Full time courses: ND - Golf Course Construction Option - equivalent to NVQ Level III. NEBSM - equivalent to NVQ Level III. BTEC First in Landbase Golf Greenkeeping NVQ Level II. Part time courses: NVQ 4, 3, 2, 1 all available on block weeks. Short courses: Pesticide PA1, PA2, PA6, 1-3 day courses (training and testing); COSHH Assessments; Safe lifting and carrying; PICKUP courses. Home study learning at NVQ Level II Option Greenkeeping.



Education Update

BY KEN RICHARDSON

THE BIGGA LIBRARY

The BIGGA library is continuing to expand, with new titles being added regularly. A full list, as at May 19 1995, is shown below. Up to date lists may be obtained from BIGGA HQ or from regional administrators.

At the last BIGGA board meeting, it was decided that BIGGA members should be given full access to the library by introducing a book lending scheme.

Therefore, as from June 1 1995, books and videos, except those marked 'Reference' may be borrowed by BIGGA members for a period of up to six weeks.

Each member may borrow up to two books/videos on each occasion. Members are responsible for returning books to BIGGA HQ. If books are not returned by the due date then borrowers will be invoiced for the cost of a replacement.

A book loan application form is printed opposite or contact Regional Administrators or BIGGA HQ for more details.

ZENECA PREMIER GREENKEEPER

The response to this year's competition has been encouraging. However, there is still time for head greenkeepers/course managers to enter or be entered by their greenkeeping

Be well read with

team or golf club. Remember, that the competition aims to award the "unsung heroes", ie those greenkeepers getting the best from their courses, on low budgets etc. There is an extra prize this year, which will reward the winning greenkeepers team with £500. So don't be shy, enter now.

TORO/LELY/PGA EUROPEAN TOUR STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Entries for this competition should have been sent to Aldwark Manor by May 31. Any college intending to enter a student(s) who have not submitted application, should do so as soon as possible.

NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE 1996

I would be interested to hear from greenkeepers who have had and overcome problems with dry patch, fusarium, moles, earthworms, or other pests, diseases or other turf grass problems who would be willing to take part in a Practical versus Theory session, jointly with consultants from the STRI, during the National Education Conference 1996. Sessions would last for 40 minutes and public speaking training could be given to greenkeepers inexperienced as public speakers.

Title/Author	Subject
Golf Architecture/Dr A Mackenzie	Architecture
Hazards/Alek Bauer	Architecture
Some Essays on Golf course Architecture/H S Colt and C H Alison	Architecture
The Whitelaw Memoirs/William Whitelaw	Biography
Tony Jacklin The Price of Success/Liz Kahn	Biography
The Complete Idiot's Guide to PCs/Joe Kraynak	Computers
DOS 6/Sue Plumley	Computing
Introduction to Databases/James J Townsend	Computing
Microprocessors A short Introduction/Eric Morgan	Computing
The ABCs of Windows 3.1/Alan Neibauer	Computing
Word For Windows 6/Sue Negus	Computing
The Golf Course Planning Construction And Maintenance/FW Hawtree	Construction
Golf Course Preparation/John Hacker and George Shiels	Construction
An Environmental Strategy for Golf in Europe/European Golf Association	Course Management
Ecology Unit	Ecology
Landscape Restoration Handbook/D Harker, K Harker, S Evans and M Evans	Ecology
Golf Course Management and Construction Environmental Issues/James C Balough and William Walker	Environment
A Year at St Andrews	Golf
Golf - The Scientific Way/Editor:Alastair Cochran	Golf
Golf Monthly's Lessons With Mr X/Mr X	Golf
Golf in Britain/Geoffrey Cousins	Golf
Golfer's Handbook 1988/Laurence Viney	Golf
Golfing Art/ Phil Pilley	Golf
Great Golf Courses of the World/Andre-Jean Lafaurie	Golf
Peter Alliss An Autobiography/Peter Alliss	Golf
The Glorious World of Golf/Peter Dobreiner	Golf
The Open Championship 1986	Golf
The Punch Book of Golf/William Davis	Golf
The Royal & Ancient Golfer's Handbook 1993/Mark Wilson	Golf
The Walker Cup at Sunningdale/Various	Golf
The World Atlas of Golf /Pat Ward Thomas, H W Wind, C Price and P Thomson	Golf
World of Sport and Leisure Golf	Golf
Code of Practice For the Use of Approved Pesticides in Amenity & I	HSW
Manual of Trees and Shrubs/Hillier	Horticulture
Trees of Great Britain and Europe/A Mitchell	Horticulture
From the Woods to the Tees/Tom O'Connor	Humour
One Flew Over the Clubhouse/Tom O'Connor	Humour
Golf Course and Grounds Irrigation and Drainage/Albert R Jarrett	Irrigation
TORO Irrigation Catalogue	Irrigation
Wastewater Reuse for Golf Course Irrigation/USGA	Irrigation
Budgeting A Practical Guide for Better Business Planning/Terry Dickey	Management
Creative Decision Making/H B Gelatt	Management
Foundations of Cost and Management Accounting/Roy Kirdge	Management
Foundlines to Giving Effective Presentations/John Kirkman	Management
How to Communicate Effectively/Bert Decker	Management
How to Manage Budgets and Cash Flows/Peter Taylor	Management
Managing Information/Peter Grainger	Management



The finest of turfs - that's what this greenkeeper achieves with Toro's unique water injection Hydroject aerator. Able to tackle very wet or rock hard ground conditions, it allows play to resume immediately. On the golf green,

bowling green, cricket wicket or tennis court, Hydroject complements conventional aeration methods. And for large turf areas, Toro's Fairway and HC4000 heavy duty aerators cover up to 1.5 acres per hour with ease.