

Careers Fair

Supported by the Toro Company



Follow in the footsteps of the many greenkeepers who have used the services provided to find that next job, improve your prospects in your current job or to negotiate your salary package. Short seminars and individual consultations will be available to give you the skills and confidence to produce a meaningful CV and much more. Best of all - it's all free!



Students' Forum

Thursday 26 January 2006
12.30 pm - 1.30 pm

Supported by the Toro Company

New to Harrogate, this event brings together students, trainers and employers, and includes the Student Quiz, with the winner receiving an iPod.



Short presentations will be given by Euan Grant, Head Greenkeeper, The Old Course, St Andrews Links; Peter Mansfield, Lely UK; and David Golding, The GTC.

Women's Forum

Wednesday 25 January 2006 - 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm

Its aim is to keep the few women there are in the fine turf industries in contact, to join in lively debate on relevant topics and to enable them to network. The Forum is open to anyone who wishes to attend, not just women.

BIGGA AGM

Wednesday 25 January 2006 - 5.15 pm

The BIGGA Annual General Meeting is open to all Greenkeeper Members of BIGGA. A current BIGGA membership card must be produced to gain admission.

The Banquet

Thursday 26 January 2006, The Majestic Hotel

A highlight of Harrogate Week is the very popular Banquet, held in The Majestic Hotel. This year's event will feature The Rat Pack's Back who will sing and dance up a storm. Following a sumptuous dinner you will be entertained by one of the UK's up and coming stars, Terry Alderton.

WORTH GROWING GRASS FOR

World renowned brands, unparalleled groundscape expertise and nationwide dealer support. It doesn't matter where you decide to grow grass. Together we help you care for beautiful places – today, tomorrow and for generations to come.



SEE US AT BTME STAND A23

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Ransomes Jacobsen Ltd is the first groundscape equipment manufacturer accredited to ISO14001



EAGLE PROMOTIONS

Stand: C43



Eagle is the best choice for your club's marketing collateral – Signage, Course Guides, Scorecards. Eagle is the leading provider of quality marketing collateral for over 1,500 golf clubs. Superior course and clubhouse signage – timber or rock, with zinc, bronze, and now our new range of polished granite tee plates. The most innovative yardage guides – from the new Eagle Eye photographic style to traditional designs. The widest range of scorecards – from tailor-made to off-the-shelf in 4, 6 or more page formats. Bag Tags and green fee tickets – designed to project your club's branding. EGU approved course measurement and certification.

JOHN DEERE

Stand: M9/M10



JOHN DEERE

A new version of the Aercore 800 pedestrian aerator is being unveiled at BTME 2006. This features a more powerful 25hp engine, smoother and more efficient operation and easier maintenance. Drive wheel core deflectors are now available as standard, and new electro-hydraulic controls halve the time needed to lift and lower the coring head, which also helps to improve the quality of the entry and exit holes. In addition to the Aercore 800, John Deere's new T-Series utility vehicles will be on display. Designed for general transporting, loading, hauling, dumping and materials handling duties, these models are faster, more powerful and more comfortable, with increased payloads.

LASTEC UK

Stand: C40



Lastec UK returns to Harrogate with a comprehensive display of the Articulator range of rotary mowers. The line-up includes the best-selling 721XR, 621ER and 325EF rear and front mount models with cutting widths of 11' (3.35m), 10'6" (3.2m) and 6' (1.83m) respectively.

The 3696 ride-on Articulator has a cutting width of 8' (2.44m) and cuts an area of 6.79 acres (2.75 hectares) per hour. Latest addition to the range is the lightweight, zero-turn ride-on 3372, making its first appearance at BTME, fitted with grass collection system and striper roller. The 3372 is priced substantially below any comparable machine in the UK and European markets.

RANSOMES JACOBSEN

Stand: A23

Ransomes Jacobsen is delighted to be sponsoring some of the educational seminars during Harrogate Week including those dedicated to basic IT skills and the Media skills training.

Also, we are sponsoring the BIGGA Manx TT challenge, located in Hall Q, where you can test your biking skills against your friends and colleagues. Visit our stand to collect your entry form.

As you would expect from one of the market leaders in turf maintenance, you'll find virtually everything for the grounds care professional on our stand; from walk-behinds to ride-ons, aerators to top dressers and much more.

**RANSOMES
JACOBSEN**
A Textron Company

GAMBETTI

Stand: A1



Gambetti are the UK's leading Sprayer manufacturer, selling innovation, technology and quality. Our sprayers are still being perceived as the most prestigious on the market.

Our Range of Rotomec finishing Mowers has been very successful this year. Rotomec is a very high quality and reliable product. The cut is second to none and this is not compromised by high forward speeds and undulations. The new Woodbay Greensiron 3000 is now available. Although similar in looks and the end result, it is now Hydrostatic, making the operation effortless and smooth. The 'Greensiron' is the only machine to achieve speed and consistency without creating compaction.

KUBOTA (UK) LTD

Stand: A13



A number of important new products are being shown for the very first time by Kubota at BTME. These include high performance diesel ride-on mowers and a new mid-range compact tractor that will appeal to golf course users, public authorities and growers alike.

Also on show will be representative examples from Kubota's current tractor and mower ranges and the new RTV900 all-terrain utility vehicle launched last summer. Powered by a 22hp diesel, the RTV900 has a top speed of 25mph, rugged suspension and a three-range hydrostatic transmission giving dynamic braking and an automatic torque boost when climbing slopes.

MOX UK LIMITED

Stand: M13



Mox UK is a golf related vehicle management company, part of Leaseplan, the largest vehicle management company in Europe. Mox leases buggies and turf equipment to various industries, mainly golf, but any other that either manages turf or requires transportation of people over a widespread site, such as airports and large industrial areas.

With distribution nationwide for long-term leasing we also have probably the largest short-term hire fleet in the country, catering for those special occasions. We also have a wide selection of used vehicles for lease or purchase. Please visit the Mox stand (M13) to see how we can help you.

RIGBY TAYLOR LIMITED

Stand: C22



Rigby Taylor will be featuring their Mascot Grass Seed range, containing many exclusive and highly STRI-rated cultivars. Also on display will be Mascot Speciality Range products including Magnet, a chelated iron product, Profile for improving water percolation, Activate R+ERD for improving root development and their Breaker Triple wetting agent.

The Mascot Fertiliser range of conventional and controlled release products will be featured, and also the Mascot Chemicals range including the selective turf herbicides Bastion T and Greenor, Qualgex biocide and the fungicides Rimidin and Fusonil Turf. Staff will be on hand to answer individual queries on the company's full product portfolio.



World Renowned

Colonel John Blashford-Snell is one of the world's most renowned and highly respected explorers. He has been involved in and led some of the most impressive and toughest expeditions in history.

In 1968 he trained and headed a team of 60 from the British Army on the first ever descent of the infamous Blue Nile. More difficult assignments included the first vehicle crossing of the complete Darien Gap in 1971/2 and, in 1974/5, navigating almost all of the 2,700 miles of the great Zaire River.

In 1984 the Colonel launched Operation Raleigh and by 1992 over 10,000 young men and women from 50 nations had taken part in challenges and worthwhile expeditions all over the world. Raleigh International, as it is now known, inspires people from all backgrounds and nationalities to discover their full potential by working together on challenging environmental and community projects around the world.

With his indefatigable energy, John has found time to write 13 books, including his autobiography 'Something Lost Behind the Ranges' and 'Mammoth Hunt' on the quest for the giant elephants of Nepal. He also broadcasts and appears on a variety of wildlife and entertainment programmes.

No doubt the Colonel will have an enthralled and intrigued audience hanging on his every insightful word at Harrogate.



Back with the Pack



The Rat Pack's Back has taken the concert world by storm in a tight, polished cabaret act evoking the style of the infamous American Rat Pack. Starring some of the UK's brightest talents the performers sing some of the world's most loved songs made famous by the likes of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jnr.

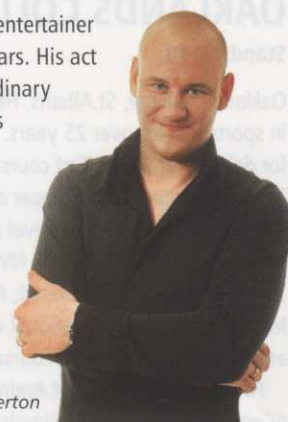
Dressed to the nines, the Rat Pack's Back recreates the sound of the Big Band era in a dazzling show. Each of the singers in the Rat Pack's Back has worked extensively all over the world in major musical productions, concerts and corporate events, television and film, including The Phantom of the Opera, Les Miserables and Grease.



Terry Alderton

A former Southend United goalkeeper and holiday camp entertainer Terry Alderton has burst on to the comedy scene in recent years. His act is a riot of exuberant, loose-limbed physical comedy, extraordinary caricatures and stunningly acute impressions. Terry leaves his audience exhilarated and exhausted with laughter.

The stand up will be familiar to many, as he starred in ITV1's London Burning in 2002 and has also hosted his own radio show, Terry's Turnstiles, on London's Capital Radio FM. Terry has hosted the National Lottery programme on BBC 1 and has made appearances on various TV shows, including Holby City, Ian Wright's Friday Night's All Wright, Stupid Punts and The Stand Up Show.



Terry Alderton



SCOTTS

Stand: B34



Scotts and Syngenta are launching Primo Maxx, an innovative new turf management tool for golf and sport. The product uses unique chemistry which makes turf stronger, healthier, more resistant to drought, more vigorous at lower cutting heights and better able to survive in stressful conditions. Visitors to the show are invited to attend a presentation on Primo Maxx in the Queen's Suite at 3.30pm on Tuesday 24 January.

Also new is a range of Greenmaster liquid fertilizers for fine turf, and Scotts' improved website (www.scottspromaxx.co.uk). The company is running a special giveaway at the show for those registering with the new site on the stand.

SYNERGY PRODUCTS/ULTRA SPREADER

Stand: A10

Synergy Products brings together a range of proven products from Ultra Spreader International, Locke and Groundsman Industries. Ultra Spreader will display its multi-purpose spreader range which gives greenkeepers and contractors a machine that is able to carry out spin spreading, bunker loading and drainage back filling. Information will be available on the stand on other products in their range.

Locke will display both the GT-126, with its 26" 14 blade cylinder, and the Commercial Series mowers, both with full floating heads to give that perfect cut. The revolutionary V Reel will be displayed.



TORO

Stand: M12



Toro is introducing a new generation of Sand Pro bunker rakes that make it easier than ever to maintain world-class bunkers and tackle landscape maintenance jobs all across the golf course.

The new Sand Pro 5040 and 3040 - which join the existing 2020 model - have an 18hp Briggs & Stratton engine, three-wheel series/parallel drive for optimum traction and, unlike the 2020, the added benefit of power steering.

Attachments are new, or redesigned, to make them easier to attach and remove. These include spring rake, tooth rake, spikers of various widths, a manual or hydraulic blade, a variety of mats, a finish grader and leveling bar.

TOWER CHEMICALS

Stand: C42



From the USA, the latest technology in localised dry spot management is available through Tower. Whether it is in pellet, liquid or granular form, the solution to your problem is just one conversation away! As always all products carry a 100% money back guarantee.

The products that have brought us such huge success over the years, such as Line Marking Aerosols, spray pattern indicator, PH reducers, fertilisers to name but a few will also be on show. Hear about OARS, an organic acid removal system which after two applications removes up to 27% of humic acid in sand soil surfaces.

TURFCARE SOLUTIONS

Stand: B4



TurfCare group will be represented by TurfCare Solutions & TurfCare systems. TurfCare Solutions provide technically advanced turf grass nutrition and maintenance products. The company is a distribution partner for Floratine, Andersons, Gro-Power & Plant Marvel.

TurfCare Systems is European main distributor for Finn Hydroseeders, The Finn range of consumable products as well as wood fibre mulches from Canadian Forest Products, supplying the amenity and public sectors. As part of its group activities, TurfCare is European main distributor of Gro-Power and Plant Marvel and will be inviting distribution enquiries from around Europe.

GREENKEEPERS TRAINING COMMITTEE

Stand: Q131

The GTC represents golf clubs and greenkeepers in relation to qualifications, training providers and all associated matters including assessor and management training.

Visit our stand and view the latest learning materials which are used by the GTC Approved Training Providers. You can now purchase these together with the internationally acclaimed Training Manual.

The GTC Staff and representatives from the organisations within the GTC will be pleased to offer independent advice.

The GTC is supported by: BIGGA, English Golf Union, European Tour, R&A, Scottish Golf Union and the Welsh Golfing Union.



OAKLANDS COLLEGE

Stand: Q110



OAKLANDS COLLEGE

Oaklands College, St.Albans, Hertfordshire, has been delivering courses in sports turf for over 25 years. The college has an excellent reputation for delivery of Sports Turf courses. The Greenkeeping section has won The Toro student Greenkeeper of the Year three times and is a GTC recognised Management Level provider.

Part time courses offered: NVQ Level 2 Sports Turf, NVQ Level 3 Sports Turf. Full time courses offered: National Certificate Sports Turf Management, Higher National Certificate (subject to accreditation). In addition a range of NPTC courses are also run.

For information contact Andrew Wight on 01727 737000 or email andy.wight@oaklands.ac.uk.

WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE

Stand: Q129

Warwickshire College provides a range of turf qualifications. Our NVQ Level 2 is oversubscribed, proof of the confidence local employers have in the college to deliver training and education. Our NVQ Level 3 enables candidates to learn the skills and technical knowledge vital for carrying out a Level 3 position, not just pick up a certificate. The HNC/FdSc equips successful candidates to fulfill a professional role in turf management, with a grounding in soil and turfgrass science and business management. Combined with a full range of NPTC qualifications,

Warwickshire College can meet all your training and education needs.





Life-long Learning in the Workplace

BIGGA and the Greenkeepers Training Committee are fully committed to vocational qualifications for greenkeepers. Key parts of these qualification is the learning of Knowledge and Skills plus the assessment of those skills in the work-place.

Plan-It Training and Consultancy has worked for more than ten years, in collaboration with the GTC, to introduce successful life long learning for golf greenkeepers.

The provision of work place assessors and work place trainers has been Plan-It's core activity but they are now developing a range of management and professional development courses within the golf industry These courses will give greenkeepers the opportunity to gain professional management qualifications such as the Diploma in Management Studies and the Certificate in Management Studies.

Other industries, throughout the UK, have benefited from working with Plan-It with many of the projects being supported by the European Social Fund.

Although currently working with over 450 greenkeepers in England, to develop their at work assessor and trainer skills, Plan It are actively spreading the good news on work-based learning and assessment to the United States.

Moreover, Plan-It, the GTC and BIGGA are working together to create even more opportunities for life long learning by holding Workshops during Harrogate Week 2006.

Further information about all the courses and programmes operated by Plan-It Training can be obtained by calling the Plan-It HQ on 01606 558666 or 01270 528 338. Alternatively contact Plan-It by emailing them at training@plan-it.net.



"what we think, we become" ...Buddha

At Plan-It Training, we recognise that every organisation is a collection of individuals who have come together to pursue a common objective. The success of our organisation will depend upon the success of the individuals within it, and as such, we are dedicated to the effective identification and delivery of your training needs, and hope to contribute to the success of your organisation.

We also recognise that your skills and talents are important to the business or people that you support. How you see yourself is reflected in your performance and how you perform is reflected in both your recognition and your personal satisfaction. That is why we want to deliver bespoke training, tailored exactly to your requirements; in a setting which is both comfortable and acceptable to all.

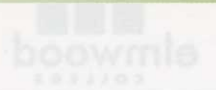
Plan-It Training offers Nationally Recognised qualifications in Training, Assessing, HRD, Internal Verification and Management along with the Certificate and Diploma in management studies 'CMS' and 'DMS'

"desire is the starting point of all achievement" ...Napoleon Hill

For more information contact Iain on:

Email: training@plan-it.net

Tel: 01606 558 666 or 01270 528 338 (after 10th Jan 06)



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GREENKEEPER TRAINING



BIGGA is actively involved in raising the Standard of Greenkeeper Training. The Association is a member of the Greenkeepers' Training Committee and strives to enhance the level of education through various means, including Section, Regional and National workshops, seminars and conferences.

The range and quality of training now available throughout the UK means that there is a training course for every greenkeeper. This should improve the quality of greenkeeping and help to produce better quality golf courses to the benefit of all within the industry.

Golf Course Managers should ensure that their staff are trained to the highest standards. This begins by selecting a training provider that meets the criteria laid down by the GTC. There is a clear link between education, training and economic success and all clubs should invest in the education of their staff.

Ken Richardson
Education and Training Manager
British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association
Tel: 01347 833800
Email: education@bigga.co.uk
Website: www.bigga.org.uk

SCOTLAND



ELMWOOD COLLEGE Cupar, Fife, KY15 4JB **Contact:** Sam Letham **Tel:** 01334 658842 **Fax:** 01334 658888 **Email:** sletham@elmwood.ac.uk **Web:** www.elmwood.ac.uk
Information: Full time National Certificate Greenkeeping: Block Release SVQ Level II, SVQ Level III Sportsturf block release and Outreach available, and SVQ Level IV, HNC/D Golf Course Management available as full-time and distance learning. HNC Golf Facility Management, HND Golf Facility Management, PDA for football and cricket available Outreach. FEPA and COSHH, chainsaws, tree climbing and rescue techniques and Health and Safety short courses also available.



GOSTA TRAINING LTD 50 Brook Street, Glasgow, G40 2AB **Contact:** Chris Bothwell **Tel:** 0141 556 3999 **Fax:** 0141 556 4999
Email: learn@gostatraining.co.uk **Information:** SVQ II, III and IV also Modern Apprenticeship in Sportsturf including other options and GTC Training Manual. Attendance Day release from November - March. Distance Learning also available. Short courses with certification include Pesticides, Chainsaw, First Aid, Risk Assessment, Abrasive Wheels, Full Range of Machinery Courses, Manual Handling and Fire Extinguisher training. Consultancy service for Health and Safety Policy development, Site Risk Audits, Machinery Permit to Use system, COSHH and Noise Assessment.



LANGSIDE COLLEGE Rutherglen Campus, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen, Glasgow, G73 3PF **Contact:** William O'Neil **Tel:** 0141 272 3823 **Email:** woneil@langside.ac.uk
Information: SVQ, SGA, HNC, HND. Full time and part-time courses in Greenkeeping, Groundsmanship, Golf Course Management, Horticulture, Land and Environment and Applied Ecology. Short courses for land-based industries including Pesticides.

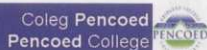


OATRIDGE COLLEGE Ecclesmachan, By Broxburn, West Lothian, EH52 6NH **Contact:** Steve Miller **Tel:** 01506 864800 **Fax:** 01506 853373
Email: info@oatridge.ac.uk **Web:** www.oatridge.ac.uk **Information:** Full-time National Certificate in Greenkeeping: SVQ Level II and GTC Manual (Day and Block Release); SVQ Level 3 Sportsturf & SVQ Level 3 Fast Track (Day and Block Release) SVQ Level III in Service Engineering, full range of Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping and other land based subjects at HND and HNC, National Certificate and SVQ Levels; Short Course - FEPA, Chainsaw, Forklift, First Aid.



SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL GREENKEEPING COURSE Chief Executive's Department, Training & Development Centre, 15 Links Road, South Ayrshire
Contact: Gordon McGinn **Tel:** 01292 678861 **Fax:** 01292 671790 **Email:** gordon.mcginns@southayrshire.gov.uk **Information:** SVQ Level 2 Amenity Horticulture: Sportsturf, SVQ Level 3 Amenity Horticulture: Sportsturf and the Modern Apprenticeship in Amenity Horticulture

WALES



PENCOED COLLEGE Pencoed, Bridgend, Cardiff, CF35 5LG **Contact:** Paul Discombe or John Sullivan **Tel:** 01656 302672 **Fax:** 01656 302601
Email: pfdiscombe@bridgend.ac.uk **Web:** www.bridgend.ac.uk **Information:** NVQ Sportsturf Level 2-3, HNC/HND Turf Management. National Certificate/Advanced National Certificate - Sportsturf Management. Short courses: PA1, PA2, PA6a and Chainsaws. NCH National Certificate in Horticulture. Advanced National Certificate in Horticulture.

Training providers guide

Available courses guide

This guide is not exhaustive and a full list of GTC approved training providers can be obtained from the GTC. The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of training providers offering greenkeeper training courses. Anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeeper Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF, Tel: 01347 838640 or visit their website at <http://www.the-gtc.co.uk>



ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE Askham Bryan, York, North Yorkshire, YO23 3FR **Contact:** Central Admissions **Tel:** 01904 772211 **Email:** enquires@askham-bryan.ac.uk
Web: www.askham-bryan.ac.uk **Information:** First Diploma in Horticulture, Higher National Certificate in Horticulture (Golf Course Management): Part-Time Study, Foundation Degree Horticulture or Landscape and Garden Management, Foundation Degree Horticulture, all available full or part-time. Block release courses: NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Maintenance, NVQ Level 4 Amenity Horticulture. Short courses: FEPA spraying, chainsaw and brushcutter courses.



BERKSHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE Hall Place, Burchetts Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 6QR **Contact:** Deborah Smirfitt **Tel:** Freephone 0800 0711 666
Fax: 01628 824695 **Email:** enquiries@bca.ac.uk **Web:** www.bca.ac.uk **Information:** Located in the Thames Valley, BCA has excellent resources for horticultural based training including a six-hole golf training facility opened by HRH The Duke of York. Programmes include the First Diploma, National Certificate and National Diploma in Horticulture, with Landscape Design and Greenkeeping options plus Apprenticeships, Higher National Diploma/Certificate programmes. Part-time programmes include NVQ Level 2 and 3 Amenity Horticulture, Sports Turf. Residential accommodation is available and free parking on site.



BRIDGWATER COLLEGE CANNINGTON CENTRE FOR LAND-BASED STUDIES, Cannington, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2LS **Contact:** Course Enquires **Tel:** 01278 441234 **Fax:** 01278 444363 **Email:** enquiries@bridgwater.ac.uk **Web:** www.bridgwater.ac.uk **Information:** National Certificate in Horticulture (Sportsturf), Advanced National Certificate in Horticulture (Sports Turf), Certificate of Higher Education in Golf Course Management, Foundation Degree in Golf Course Management, NVQ Level 2 Sports Turf, NVQ Level 3 Sports Turf, FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Greenkeeper Mechanics. Note: The Certificate of Higher Education and the Foundation Degree are available as part-time options.



EAST DURHAM AND HOUGHALL COMMUNITY COLLEGE Houghall, Durham, DH1 3SG **Contact:** Ian Lacy **Tel:** 0191 375 4754 / 0191 375 4740
Email: enquiry@edhcc.ac.uk **Web:** www.edhcc.ac.uk **Information:** 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 maintenance NVQ Level 2 - Day Release. NVQ Level 3/4 Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Maintenance Day Release. Short courses: NPTC Modules, Chainsaw certification, Tree inspection, Horticultural Machinery, Safe Lifting and First Aid.



MERRIST WOOD CAMPUS OF GUILDFORD COLLEGE Worlesdon, Guildford, Surrey, GU3 3PE **Contact:** Joe Paulin **Tel:** 01483 884088 **Fax:** 01483 884001
Email: jpaulin@guildford.ac.uk **Web:** www.guildford.ac.uk **Information:** Part-time courses: NVQ Level 2 Sportsturf college day release and work place visits/assessments at Merrist Wood, Crawley and the London Golf Club in Kent, Level 2 First Diploma college day release for those without qualified workplace assessors, NVQ Level 3 Sportsturf on-line, Level 3 National Award college day release for those without qualified workplace assessors, HNC Turfgrass Science and Management college day release over 2 years, HND day release 1 extra year plus a Top-up BSc Degree for HND graduates part-time over 2 years, plus various short courses including BTLIA Irrigation Certificate Course, throughout the year. Please contact us for up to date listings, qualifications and advice. Open evenings are held regularly at the campus.



MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 0RY **Contact:** Wayne Roberts **Tel:** 01995 642222/642305 **Fax:** 01995 642333 **Email:** mailbox@myerscough.ac.uk
Web: www.myerscough.ac.uk **Information:** Full-time courses: BSc (Hons) Turfgrass Science, Foundation Degree Sportsturf Science - online option by distance learning, ND Turf Science & Sportsground Maintenance: National Certificate in Groundsmanship and Greenkeeping, also Sports Turf Mechanisation option: First Diploma in Greenkeeping; Turf Science: NVQ 2, 3 & 4 Greenkeeping Management delivered both in the work place and over the internet using the colleges 'Mollnet System'. Part-time courses NVQ Level 2 & 3 Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Maintenance (Day/block release or fast track work-based training qualification). All higher education courses can be accessed on a part-time basis: FdSc / BSc Turf Science: FEPA Short courses. NPTC Certificates of competence in the safe use of mowers and turfcare equipment. Careers mornings monthly on Saturdays.



OAKLANDS COLLEGE St Albans Smallford Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL4 0JA **Contact:** Andrew Wight **Tel:** 01727 737080
Email: andy.wight@oaklands.ac.uk **Web:** www.oaklands.ac.uk **Information:** Full-time courses: National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. HNC in Sportsturf. Part-time courses: leading to NVQ Level 2 & 3 Greenkeeping, Apprenticeship Training. Foundation degree starting in September '06. Short Courses: Pesticide, Chainsaw.



PLUMPTON COLLEGE Ditchling Road, Plumpton, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE **Contact:** David Blackmur **Tel:** 01273 890454 **Fax:** 01273 890071 **Email:** enquiries@plumpton.ac.uk
Web: www.plumpton.ac.uk **Information:** Foundation Degree in Horticulture (Sportsturf specialism) with effect from Sept 2006 start (subject to approval). National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture, National Award (Garden Design), First Diploma in Horticulture. Part-time courses: NVQ Level 1; NVQ Level 2 in Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 3 Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 4. Also available are RHS Certificate and RHS Advanced; IOG National Technical and Intermediate National Diploma. Short courses are also available for FEPA spraying and chainsaw.



RODBASTON COLLEGE Rodbaston College, Rodbaston, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5PH **Contact:** John Renshaw **Tel:** 01785 712209 **Fax:** 01785 715701
Email: john.renshaw@rodbaston.ac.uk **Information:** NVQ Amenity Horticulture (Sportsturf) at Levels 1-4. Part-time and flexible study options. Short Courses: Pesticides, Chainsaws and safe use of equipment.



WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE Moreton Morrell Centre, Moreton Morrell, Warwick, Warwickshire, CV35 9BL **Contact:** Andrew Turnbull **Tel:** 01926 318285
Fax: 01926 318300 **Email:** aturnbull@warkscol.ac.uk **Web:** www.warkscol.ac.uk **Information:** Greenkeeping Courses: Foundation Degree Sports Turf Management (3 year part-time with the option of an HNC after two years, some distance learning units) NVQ Level 2 & 3 Day Release and Workbased Option. City and Guilds Advanced National certificate Sports Turf - A level 3 qualification, 2 year day release. BTEch First Diploma Sports Turf. Short Courses: Spraying Certificates (PA1, PA2, PA6), Chainsaw Certificate; NPTC certificates; Tractor Driving, Mowing Equipment, Turf Maintenance Equipment. All training and assessment carried out in the workplace.



WRITTLE COLLEGE Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3RR **Contact:** Registry **Tel:** 01245 424200 **Fax:** 01245 420456 **Email:** info@writtle.ac.uk **Web:** www.writtle.ac.uk
Information: SPORTS TURF PROGRAMMES: Foundation Degree - Sports Turf and Golf Course Management, Honours Degree - Sports Turf Science & Management, NVQ Level 2 & 3 - Sports Turf. OTHER PROGRAMMES: BSc (Hons) & FdSc Horticulture, BSc (Hons) & FdSc Landscape & Amenity Management, BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Business Management, BSc (Hons) International Horticulture, BSc (Hons) & FdSc Horticultural Crop Production, FdSc Landscape Construction, MSc/MA International Horticulture, MSc Horticulture (Crop Production), MSc Postharvest Technology, MSc Landscape Management, First Diploma, National Certificate, National Diploma - Horticulture, NVQ Level 2 & 3 Landscaping, NVQ Level 2 & 3 Service Engineering (Agricultural & Groundcare Machinery), C&G Service Engineering Progression Award. SHORT COURSES: NPTC Chainsaw, Health & Safety plus many more.

Get the credit you deserve!

Foundation degree sports turf management

Starting from September 2005, you can gain an HNC in two years or add on an extra year to gain a foundation degree.

Suitable for those aged 21+ in a supervisory or management role, the course runs for one day each week from 2pm until 8.30pm.

The course provides technical knowledge of sports turf management, and management of sports facilities. Modules include plant and soil sciences, turfgrass science, and physical resource management.

There are no formal entry requirements, but you should be able to demonstrate knowledge of turfgrass/horticulture management and a commitment to part-time study programmes.

For more information please contact us on 01926 318318, email us on enquiries@warkscol.ac.uk, or write to us at the address below.



ATTENTION ALL COURSE MANAGERS, HEAD GREENKEEPERS & DEPUTIES

Are you involved in training your greenkeeping team?

Do you have trainees registered on a National/Scottish Vocational Qualification?

Do you hold the trainer and assessor qualification?

3 TRAINING DAYS ARE TO BE HELD DURING HARROGATE WEEK FOR BOTH AWARDS

Course 1

TO BECOME A QUALIFIED ASSESSOR – A1 TRAINING COURSE will be held on Sunday 22nd & Monday 23rd January.

Course 2

If you currently hold the D32/D33 assessor award and if it is some time since you have been involved in assessing staff a 1-day updating session will be held on Monday 23rd January.

This session is only available to assessors currently holding the D32/D33 award.

Course 3

Coach Award (L12)

This 1-day training session will be held on Monday 23rd January and qualified assessors would benefit from this course.

For further information on the above courses contact Fiona at the GTC on Tel 01347 838640 or email fiona@the-gtc.co.uk

Bookings for the above courses are by completing the booking form from the Harrogate Week programme. Available from BIGGA HQ.

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- National Diploma in Sportsturf
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TOWER
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FREE Seminar Monday 23rd January 2006

The Majestic Hotel, Ripon Road, Harrogate.

You are invited to attend a seminar starting at 10.30am to be hosted by Jim Turner. Jim is a regular speaker on the GCSAA circuit, with a wealth of both technical as well as hands on experience. Jim will be discussing the following:

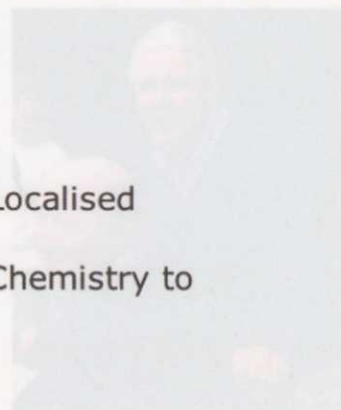
- Management of Water Repellent Soils in Turf
- Water Movement in Repellent Soils for Turf.
- Management of Localised Dry Patch
- Use of Surfactant Technology for Management of Localised Dry Patch and Water Repellent Soils
- Combining Cultural Practices with Soil Surfactant Chemistry to Manage Water Repellent Soils

Coffees and Teas upon arrival

Lunch will be served at approx 12.30pm

Seminar to close at approx 2.15pm

Could you please reply by **Thursday 22nd December 2005.**



Name	Representing	Lunch Required

I look forward to seeing you shortly.

Regards

David Goldstone

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Following the Danish Model

The R&A's Golf Course Committee is keen that more golf clubs follow the lead of Denmark in achieving more fescue dominated sustainable golf courses and when Nick Park spoke with Scott MacCallum he explained what they are doing to help the process along.

There is such a thing in life as the "Eureka Moment". The first person to experience it, and utter that immortal cry, was Greek mathematician, Archimedes, for whom a puzzle was solved when he spotted water being displaced from his bath as he climbed in after a long day doing equations.



Nick Park, seated, with Tim Taylor

I'm not saying that Nick Park emulated Archimedes in running naked around the room in excitement, but when he read Chris Haspell's article in the March 2003 issue of Greenkeeper International he may well have cried "Eureka!"

Nick is the Deputy Chairman of the R&A's Golf Course Committee and the man who is chairing the "Maintaining the Sustainable Golf Course" seminar on Thursday and Friday of Harrogate Week. He is also the man who, along with his father

Eddie, wrote the first, and possibly only, series of articles on golf course management to feature in a mainstream golf magazine. Those articles appeared in *Golf Monthly* in the early '80s and attempted to educate the general golfing public in the ways of sustainable golf and the benefits of a fescue-dominated sward.

At their own club, Lindrick, near Sheffield, under the guidance of the club's agronomist, Jim Arthur, and along with their Course Manager, Kevin Hazlehurst, Eddie and Nick reintroduced fescue to the previously Poa-dominated greens, but while the greens improved markedly, patches where the Poa had died off stubbornly refused to fill in with fescue.

Almost 20 years later Nick read Chris Haspell's article, "Fescue, Forgiven and not Forgotten", outlining the work he and his colleagues, who call themselves 'The Sons of Golf', had undertaken on golf courses in Denmark and the success they had enjoyed in introducing fescue to their greens. Eureka!

"After I read the piece I said to Steve Isaac (Assistant Director to the R&A's Golf Course Committee) that we really should get over to Denmark and have a look because even if it was only half true it would be fairly extraordinary," recalled Nick.

"I then bumped into Jack McMillan at the launch of the R&A's Best Practice Website and he told me he'd been to Denmark the previous month and that he'd not seen anything like it in 40 years of greenkeeping."

Having a man of Jack's experience say such a thing fuelled Nick's desire to jump on a plane to see it for himself.

"Steve and I at last visited in May 2004 and as soon as we walked on to the first green Chris showed us - at Smorum GC - I asked for a putter. The green was so good I just had to putt on it immediately," recalled Nick.

They visited half a dozen courses, all closely grouped in the

Copenhagen area and built on a range of soil conditions. They all had fescue-dominated greens thanks to a combination of a low fertility programme, keeping the surfaces as dry as possible and overseeding.

Nick had found the missing link. The one element which he and his father had not fully considered at Lindrick.

"We knew that we should not be shaving greens and we knew how to produce fescue, just not consistently enough, but we were certainly lacking the overseeding technique," admitted Nick, who added that Jim Arthur had not really then been an advocate of overseeding, feeling instead that bare patches would fill in naturally.

Having found that fescue could flourish in a range of conditions Nick reported back to the Golf Course Committee on his findings and plans to assist golf clubs to go down a more sustainable golf route were put in place, backed enthusiastically by the Chairman, Tim Taylor, who has led the R&A interest in golf courses since 1988.

But why had Denmark succeeded where the rest of the world had failed?

"Chris Haspell and Ian Tomlinson, at Rungsted, and their colleagues are committed, knowledgeable Course Managers who had the bottle to go ahead and do it. Though under the current climate I don't think, unless they were at a proprietary club, they could have necessarily created a similar network in the UK," admitted Nick.

"Then again, Rungsted is actually a traditional member-owned club and Ian is proving that where there's a will there's a way. In the UK, members' clubs like Ganton, Royal St Davids and Temple have stuck at it and produced good results. The Old Course has been very good since Walter Woods' tenure - they're now over 60% fescue - and Kingsbarns is even better botanically. And let's not kid ourselves about lack of play: the Old Course takes over 40,000 rounds a year plus lots of extra foot traffic from caddies," he said.

"Leaving aside the technical issues of growing fescue, the Danish-based greenkeepers have been driven by pesticide legislation. If you take away fungicides, as they have done on public land, you can't run Poa. That's one of two major differences to the situation in the UK.

"Another difference is that many Danish courses are pay-and-play, owned by a proprietor, so the greenkeeper doesn't have members to answer to. If the proprietor is convinced that going down the fescue route is the right approach the greenkeeper has a solid mandate - and a realistic timeframe," said Nick, who added that some herbicides might still be used on Danish fairways as many are built on older, fertile agricultural land and they want to be able to kill off the weeds.

One of the main roles of the R&A's Golf Course Committee is a