



in then we will flip them over and let the new holes grow in.

“Within the temporary lay-out we are losing two of the existing greens so we will build temporary greens out of the the rootzone and turf from the old greens,” explained Julian, for whom all the experience he has accumulated over 35 years of greenkeeping is coming together on this one project.

“I’ve got the greenkeeping experience, and the construction and the grow-in skills all coming together and it is down to me to ensure that the Rose Bowl gets what is specified within the contract. It’s certainly

the most exciting project I’ve ever been involved with,” said Julian.

When the major cricket matches take place Julian and his team swap their dark blue uniforms, for the light blue of the cricket ground staff and join Nigel Gray’s team.

“If you love cricket, as I do, the chance to get involved in Test matches or one days is fantastic. The golf course is closed and we’re under Nigel’s wing.

“If it’s a lovely sunny day you’ve got little to do, but on the Saturday of the Sri Lanka Test we had the covers on and off 10 times and, believe me, they are heavy when

they are covered in water.”

Julian and Nigel often talk about the issues that affect their two strands of the sports’ turf maintenance business.

“It is really interesting to learn about preparing a cricket wicket. If you look at what we do for golf, we don’t like compaction, but with cricket they compact as hard as they can in the summer and then relieve it in the winter by spiking etc.”

Nigel has been Head Groundsman for 21 years – including 10 at the previous County Ground, and having been in at the start at The



Rose Bowl he was able to construct the square exactly as he wanted.

"The top layer is four inches of screened clay/loam, the next eight inches is unscreened clay/loam and the eight inches below that is road stone," revealed Nigel, who added that following successful experiments on a pitch including more sand, three more of the square's 20 pitches are being rebuilt over the winter in this style.

"We spent a lot of time having One Day Internationals so we approached the Test Match like having five ODI's in a row. I was confident that the pitch was pretty good, and that we were doing the right things in the right way, so that took a lot of the pressure off," he explained.

"Basically all pitch preparation follows a similar path and you are trying to create one which is hard, fast, bouncy, although you have to adjust procedures for a one day game - you wouldn't want it to be quite as bouncy as a Test match pitch because over five days you want players to have a chance to display all their abilities. For a one dayer, you want the bat to be able to hit the ball and runs to be scored, which makes for an entertaining game."

The procedure employed on a one day pitch to reduce the bounce flies against any thoughts a lay person would have on the matter.

"We probably roll a one day pitch a little more which has the

effect of calming it down. You can go beyond the point of rolling it to make it bouncier and it deadens it - there is an optimum point at which you get maximum bounce," explained Nigel, who added that the aim of a Test Match groundsman is, weather permitting, to have the game going into the last afternoon.

Preparing a pitch to suit the home bowling attack is also regarded as fair practice.

"England have three six foot seven bowlers, so if we produce a bouncy pitch we were going to get more out of it than the Sri Lankans, who are six foot, tops.

"It was in England's interest to produce fast bouncy pitches and at home you have the chance to produce something like that," said Nigel, who prior to Julian's arrival oversaw the maintenance of the golf course as well.

With the hotel - which will overlook the ground and double up as a Media Centre and corporate hospitality venue for matches - due to commence construction in the near future, and the golf course underway, the opportunity to ensure year round usage is getting closer. but in the meantime the Rose Bowl is also being used as a popular concert venue, with acts including the likes of Oasis and Neil Diamond strutting their stuff while the fireworks displays are also extremely popular.

"We build a stage on the outfield

facing east and cover the square with trackway," explained Nigel.

"When we had a Billy Joel concert a couple of years ago we had a T20 match on the Saturday, started building the stage on the Sunday, had the concert on the Thursday and then had another T20 the following Tuesday."

As part of the planning regulations for the golf course environmental consultant, Matt Johns, has been a regular visitor ensuring environmental issues were at the top of everyone's thoughts.

"I put together some very detailed management plans which were a condition of the planning approval.

"There is a landscape management plan; a woodland management plan and a nature conservation plan which all come together," explained Matt, who is on site at least once a fortnight as the course is constructed.

It certainly is an exciting project and with a method of construction which may prove to be a model for many future course construction processes and once fully completed it should satisfy the desires of both golfers and cricketers.

Below: The greenkeeping team





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Harrogate week

The ultimate exhibition



BIGGA's Quarter Century is a reason to celebrate, writes Scott MacCallum



Celebrating 25 years of BIGGA

Harrogate Week is always a special occasion for all those who attend, but Harrogate Week 2012 will be particularly so, as it not only celebrates the 25th anniversary of BIGGA itself, but also 100 years since the first surviving recorded minutes of BIGGA's oldest ancestor – the very first greenkeeping Association.

Both events will be recognised during the week with a Celebration Evening to mark BIGGA's Silver Jubilee and an exhibition in the Halls to commemorate the cente-

nary of greenkeeping Associations.

The rate of change since 1987, never mind 1912, within the industry has been truly remarkable and Harrogate Week symbolises that.

The technology on show during Harrogate 2012 would have had NASA astronauts opened jawed with amazement in 1987, and there is no sign of progress slowing.

Whatever the task which is required on the golf course, there will be a boffin in an R&D Department somewhere, looking at ways of making your professional life better or easier.

The fruits of their labours to date will be there for all to see in one of the four Halls at Harrogate International Centre, while the world renowned Continue to Learn programme ensures that those who take part are in a position to keep on top of all those industry developments.

It is a combination which has proved a very productive cocktail for all concerned over the years and, coupled with the unique Harrogate atmosphere for the Apres Show, it creates a never to be forgotten occasion for all who attend.

mate

24 to 26 January 2012

Management in Europe

Continue to Learn
22 to 26 January 2012

at the Harrogate International Centre
North Yorkshire, UK





Celebrating 25 years of BIGGA

BIGGA's 25th Anniversary Celebratory Evening, sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen, will be a wonderful opportunity to share memories with some of those who have played a part in the success of the Association, as well as celebrating two and a half decades of progress, whilst looking forward to a bright future.

The occasion will comprise a drinks reception and convivial dinner all designed to give ample opportunity to catch up with friends from across the Industry.

Achievements since 1987, individually and collectively, will also be recognised and it will give a

chance for every one to raise a glass to BIGGA.

A host of dignitaries will be in attendance, including Ken Schofield OBE, who led the PGA European Tour for 30 years.

Ken, right, will be making a Toast to the Association.

"BIGGA has come a very long way in 25 years and the Celebratory Dinner will give us a chance to pay tribute to everyone and everything that has made that possible.

"I am sure it will be a memorable occasion for all who attend," said BIGGA Chairman, Andrew Mellon.

The Association is delighted that one of its longest standing and best supporters, Ransomes Jacobsen,



Ken Schofield OBE

will be sponsoring the event.

"We have always seen BIGGA as a valued partner and have enjoyed a close working relationship with the Association over the last 25 years.

We are delighted to be able to sponsor the 25th Anniversary Celebration and wish everyone at BIGGA every success for the next 25 years," said Dave Withers, President of Jacobsen.

The Celebratory Evening takes place at The Old Swan Hotel, in Harrogate, on January 24, 2012.

Tickets are available to BIGGA members and guests, and can be purchased from Rachael or Angela at BIGGA. Tel. 01347 833800.



BIGGA

25th Anniversary Celebratory Evening

Sponsored by



at The Old Swan Hotel,
Harrogate, 7pm-11pm,
Tuesday January 24, 2012

Celebrating 25 years of BIGGA

Smart dress

Tickets cost
£30.00 inc. VAT

Contact Rachael or
Angela at BIGGA for
further information on
01347 833800

Workshops

After the successful introduction of the **How to be an Outstanding Manager** workshops, the 2012 programme will once again feature Shona Garner, Director of Shona Garner Coaching Services Ltd, offering **Part 3: Performance Management; How to Get it Right**

Following feedback a couple of workshops that were originally offered as one day workshops, have been extended to two days:

So You Want to be a Golf Course Manager by Peter Jones and Kevin Munt, Golf Course Consultants

Irrigation System Management and Design by Adrian Mortram, Irrigation Consultant, Robin Hume Associates and Dennis Mortram

New workshops will include:

Essential IT Business Administration for Greenkeepers by Jacky Lowe, Training Gem

A Practical Guide to Setting Up a Social Media Presence by



Lesley Wood, Principal Consultant, Targeting Innovation Ltd

Progressive Cultural Management Programs **SOLD OUT**

by Frank Rossi Ph.D, Professor, Cornell University

Successful Project Management by Bruce Williams CGCS, Bruce Williams Consulting

A mainstay of the GCSAA's Education Programme, we are delighted that Bruce will be presenting this workshop on the Continue to Learn programme.

Seminars



Seminar Sessions will include the following presentations:

Managing Winter Kill in West of Scotland?

David Cole, Golf Course/Estate Manager, Loch Lomond Golf Club

From Grazing to Scottish Open Status in Five Years

Chris Haspell, Course Manager, Castle Stewart Golf Club

Let's Re-build 20 Greens in 10 Days – Mission Impossible?

Cameron McMillan, Course Manager, Queenwood Golf Club

Being a Professional and Living It

Bruce Williams CGCS, Owner and Principal, Bruce Williams Golf Consulting

The Control of Earthworms on Golf Courses

Dr David Jones, Research Scientist, The Natural History Museum, London

The Biology and Effects of Parasitic Nematodes in Sports Turf

Dr Colin Fleming, Plant Pathologist, Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute

LinkedIn – A Masterclass

Lesley Wood, Principal Consultant, Targeting Innovation Ltd

Redefining IPM; Reduced Chemical Management of Golf Course Turf

Frank Rossi Ph.D, Professor, Cornell University

Many other workshops and seminars will be taking place. Further information on the Continue to Learn Education Programme is available at www.harrogateweek.org.uk

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Montpellier

Image courtesy of HIC



Cattleman's Association



Blues Bar

Where to eat, sleep and socialise in Harrogate...

Harrogate Week is unlike any other event. It is your chance to meet and interact with decision makers 24 hours a day. After the show closes there are endless opportunities to network in the Harrogate bars and restaurants with fellow turf professionals.

As you can imagine, Harrogate Week proves a busy time for the pleasant spa town.

With much to see and do, Harrogate offers fine cuisine and a lively nightlife along with a glamorous heritage, famous for its Turkish baths.

WHERE TO EAT...

When you're feeling peckish or want to mix business with pleasure...

Alberts	Tel: 01423 568446	Bar & dining
Ali Raj	Tel: 01432 621627	Indian
B.E.D.	Tel: 01423 568600	Modern English
Bengal Spice	Tel: 01423 502610	Indian
Betty's	Tel: 01423 502746	Traditional English
Caramba Tapas & Bar....	Tel: 01423 505300	Tapas
Cattleman's Association .	Tel: 01423 561456	Tex Mex
Chez La Vie	Tel: 01423 560666	Traditional English
Damn Yankee	Tel: 01423 561424	Tex Mex
Drum and Monkey	Tel: 01423 502650	Seafood
Harrogate Brasserie	Tel: 01423 505041	English
Horoscope	Tel: 01423 508144	Chinese
Joe Rigatoni	Tel: 01423 500071	Italian
La Tasca	Tel: 01423 566333	Tapas
Le Bistrot Pierre	Tel: 01423 533070	French
Thai Elephant	Tel: 01423 530099	Thai
Salsa Posada	Tel: 01423 565151	Mexican
William and Victoria	Tel: 01423 506883	English

WHERE TO STAY...

Holiday Inn Harrogate, Kings Road	Tel: 0871 423 4876
Old Swan Hotel, Swan Road	Tel: 01423 500055
Studley Hotel, Swan Road	Tel: 01423 560425
Grants Hotel, Swan Road	Tel: 01423 560666
Majestic Hotel, Ripon Road.....	Tel: 0870 1688833
Crown Hotel, Crown Place	Tel: 01423 567755
Cairn Hotel, Ripon Road.....	Tel: 01423 504005
Cedar Court Hotel, Knaresborough Rd.....	Tel: 01423 858585
St George Hotel, Ripon Road.....	Tel: 01423 561431
Kimberely Hotel, Kings Road	Tel: 01423 505613
White Hart Hotel, Cold Bath Road	Tel: 01423 505681
Alexa House, Ripon Road	Tel: 01423 501988
Yorkshire Hotel, West Park	Tel: 01423 565071
Travelodge, The Ginnell	Tel: 0871 9846238
Shannon Court, Dragon Avenue	Tel: 01423 509858
Grafton, Franklin Mount	Tel: 01423 508491
Camberley, Kings Road	Tel: 01423 561618

For more information on accommodation and bookings visit:
www.reservation-highway.co.uk access code "bigga"
 or Tel: 01423 525577.

THINGS TO DO AND WHERE TO PARTY...

The Moko Lounge, Kings Road	Tel: 01423 525862
The Viper Rooms, Parliament Street.....	Tel: 01423 520567
Odeon Cinema, East Parade.....	Tel: 0871 2244007
Harrogate Theatre, Oxford Street	Tel: 01423 502116

How to get to Harrogate

Rail

Harrogate is served by the main line stations in Leeds and York. Trains run approximately every 30 minutes at peak time. Harrogate International Centre is a 10 minute walk from the station.

East Coast trains has announced the start of new services to provide a long awaited direct link, from London to Harrogate.

The direct trains are shown on the East Coast timetable: www.eastcoast.co.uk
For all other rail services to Harrogate contact National Rail Enquiries on 08457 48 49 50 or visit www.nationalrail.co.uk.

Air

Leeds Bradford International Airport www.lbia.co.uk

Leeds/Bradford airport is approximately 12 miles from Harrogate. Taxis are available at the airport at a cost of approximately £18. You may wish to visit the following websites for flight information.

www.flybe.com
www.jet2.com
www.airsouthwest.com

The "Bus 2 Jet" 767 service links Leeds Bradford International Airport with Harrogate town centre. The service runs every 90 minutes between 0615 and 2245, with an average journey time of around half an hour. For further information on this service please contact Harrogate & District Travel Ltd on + 44 1423 566061
Or visit www.bus2jet.com

Manchester International Airport www.manchesterairport.co.uk

Manchester International Airport is situated halfway between London and Edinburgh, 75 miles from Harrogate. Public Transport links are available 24 hours a day offering services to Harrogate via Leeds or York.

Coach

National Express www.nationalexpress.com

National Express is the UK's largest scheduled coach network, offering several services a day to Harrogate from all over the UK.

Car

www.theaa.com



Directions

From M1: Leave at Leeds and take the A61 to Harrogate, approximately 15 miles. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From M62: Leave at Leeds and take the A61 to Harrogate, approximately 15 miles. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From the South A1(M): Leave the A1(M) at Wetherby and take the A661 to Harrogate, approximately 10 miles. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From the North A1(M): Leave A1(M) at junction 47 and take the A59 to Harrogate, approximately 8 miles. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From the East: Take the A59 to Harrogate. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From the West

Take the A59 to Harrogate. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

Harrogate Town Centre Car Parks

MULTI-STOREY
Victoria, Jubilee, West Park

SURFACE LEVEL
Odeon, Park View, Montpellier Shoppers, West Park

All town centre car parks are open 24 hours.

Charges apply all days at all times (including Public Holidays)
Free parking for Blue Badge holders and motorcycles

Pay and Display parking is in operation in most town centre streets in Harrogate. Charges and restrictions apply on Sundays and Bank Holidays in all parking areas unless otherwise stated.

Sea

Direct Ferries www.directferries.co.uk

Direct Ferries are part of Direct Ferries Ltd, an online travel provider based in the UK offering ferry crossings to the UK from the continent. Registered agents of the ferry operators are listed on the website, they sail to 14 Countries and 54 ferry ports on over 60 routes.

North Sea Ferries, from Rotterdam/Zeebrugge to Hull, 59 miles from Harrogate.

Park & Ride

BTME & ClubHouse provides a FREE 'Park and Ride' service from the Yorkshire Event Centre (Great Yorkshire Showground). From the A1M: exit A59 towards Harrogate, follow the ring road to the Yorkshire Event Centre (Great Yorkshire Showground) A661 to Harrogate International Centre. If you are planning to drive to Harrogate, this service will help you avoid any traffic problems in town and save you looking for a parking space.

The shuttle service will run at the times:
• Tuesday 20 January 08.30 to 17.30
• Wednesday 21 January 08.30 to 17.30
• Thursday 22 January 08.30 to 16.30

Tap into the R&A

There is great support out there for you if you only know where to look. The R&A Scholarship Programme is well worth considering



Elmwood Scholars outside The R&A Clubhouse

Did you know that The R&A supports greenkeepers that want to further their education?
Did you know that R&A Scholarships are available to greenkeepers studying higher education courses (HNC and above) in golf course management at Elmwood and Myerscough Colleges?

Since 2004, The R&A has invested over £330,000 in its Greenkeeper Scholarship Programme, helping 109 students progress along their education path.

On Tuesday, January 24, from 11.50am, at the Show floor Theatre (by the BIGGA stand), you will be able to hear how you can become an R&A Scholar and benefit from a financial contribution, and the experience of being associated with the world golf development and Rules body and organiser of The Open Championship.

Not only do R&A Scholars get financial support towards the cost of their education, they also have the opportunity to engage with The R&A through a website dedicated to Scholars past and present.

A total of 12 Scholars, each year, get to attend a field study week on the island of South Uist to spend time at Askernish Golf Club with guest speakers who discuss the architectural development, natural history and greenkeeping practices at this unique course. This is a life-changing experience.

Candidates for an R&A Scholarship are selected by the colleges, with input from The R&A. The level of support available varies dependent on the nature of the course being studied and where in the world the student is travelling from

Proven performance across the UK



Jim Brown
Course Manager
Oulton Hall Golf Club

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Marcus Oakey
Head Greenkeeper
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Golf Club

“Even with snow cover we achieved five weeks disease prevention.”



Stan Power
Head Greenkeeper
Hanbury Manor Golf Club

“The greens treated with Medallion TL came through the harsh winter period with no signs of disease.”