

EDUCATION

NOVEMBER 1989 will go down in history as the month and year that the Berlin Wall was dismantled, but a greater barrier was broken down during this month within the Greenkeeping Profession.

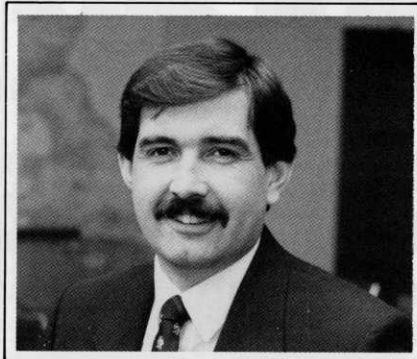
For many years people have travelled the length and breadth of Britain banging the same drum for better resources for Greenkeeping Training.

BIGGA finally launched their first in-house Management Courses through the support of the Greenkeepers Training Committee and Kubota.

One hundred Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers attended the courses at our Headquarters, Aldwark Manor, near York.

The generous support of both our sponsors allowed us to keep the cost of the residential courses down to £100

plus VAT. Sadly, with three weeks to go before the first course, twelve places were vacant. This was disappointing especially as I know that many of our members are keen to learn but will not ask their employers for time off. Therefore a letter was sent to golf clubs within the Northern Region, addressed to the Secretaries/Chairmen of Greens explaining the course content and the use of the golfers' 2p levy to the Home Unions which provides funding for the Greenkeepers Training Committee. The response was quite amazing. It was as if the release of the R & A Greenkeeping Panel's document



'The Way Forward' had pricked consciences of a few people so much so that the places were booked up overnight, a reserve list started and sufficient calls received to put on another course.

So perhaps employers are at last keen to support our efforts to provide competent, professional Greenkeepers. Members of the Association who attended the courses were asked to complete a questionnaire, which will be helpful to me when programming future courses at Headquarters. I have not had one questionnaire returned with anything less than the highest praise for the speakers, the accommodation, their fellow delegates and thankfully, the organisation of the courses. Below, I list some quotes from delegates whom I know will be pleased to hear that I have already booked four

weeks later in 1990 for follow-up courses in their training programme.

The real plus from the four weeks was the interest shown by the delegates in each others' problems back at work, and I believe many delegates learned just as much outside the lecture room as inside it.

Our International members were in evidence and their hunger for knowledge was a pleasure for all to see.

One thing is for certain, that whilst several delegates will now go on to an Approved College based course, many will be looking forward to the next in-house courses.

SEMINARS

THE role of organics in turf management will be one of three one-day seminars for Greenkeepers, Groundsmen and playing fields staff during January and February, 1990.

Organised by Rigby Taylor, they will take place on: Wednesday, 17th January, Leatherhead Golf Club Surrey; Wednesday, 31st January, Villa Park Football Club, Birmingham; Tuesday, 13th February, Headingley, Leeds.

A panel of speakers will deal comprehensively with various facets of the theme such as organic nutrients, soil management, liquid feeds and their application, and seed selection. Admission will be free and interested persons can obtain further information and invitations by contacting Rigby Taylor on Freephone 0800 424 919.

Speaker

Roy Brighton, Time Management

Fred Robinson and Elaine Carroll,
Computer Tutors

John Middleton, Askham Bryan College,
Personnel Management

Dr. Andy Newell, Sports Turf Research
Institute, Grasses for the Golf Course

Bruce Cox, Askham Bryan College,
Budgeting/Accounting

David Stubbs and Anne Marie Brennan,
Golf Course Wildlife Trust Conservation

Nick Bisset, Askham Bryan College,
Communication Workshop

Sports Turf Research Institute,
Problems Associated With The
Management of Tees, Greens, Fairways
and Bunkers

Health and Safety Inspectorate,
Health and Safety At Work Act

Neil Baldwin, Sports Turf Research Institute,
Management of Pesticides, Turf Diseases

DAVID GOLDING

Quotation

"The Subject has certainly made me realise that good organisation will complete tasks with better efficiency."

ANTHONY DUNSTAN - MILL HILL GOLF CLUB.

"Before the course started I was very apprehensive about computers. After attending this course I feel I can now use a computer with confidence. In fact, I now have permission to use the club's computer, which will help me with my management duties."

PATRICK MURPHY - SHIPLEY GOLF CLUB

"Informative and made us think of how we work with our staff and committees."

BOB LUPTON - CLECKHEATON GOLF CLUB

"Very enlightening. Dislodged a few old cobwebs from my college days. The Ident was very good revision."

PHILIP STIRK - FULFORD GOLF CLUB

"Everybody learned how to set out their budget sheet accurately. This was a valuable exercise for which everyone should have been grateful."

ROBERT GOODWIN - ASHRIDGE GOLF CLUB

"This subject was very interesting and one that I believe all delegates will follow up. The presentation was very good, illustrated by first class slides."

HENRY GILLESPIE - HILLSBOROUGH GOLF CLUB

"This subject I feel is very important to a Manager, and as usual, Nick put it across in a light hearted but forceful way."

PETER BLACKER - HEADLINGLEY GOLF CLUB

"These lectures were excellent, especially when all developed into general debates. Both the speakers and the delegates learned during that period."

DAVID GOLDING - BIGGA

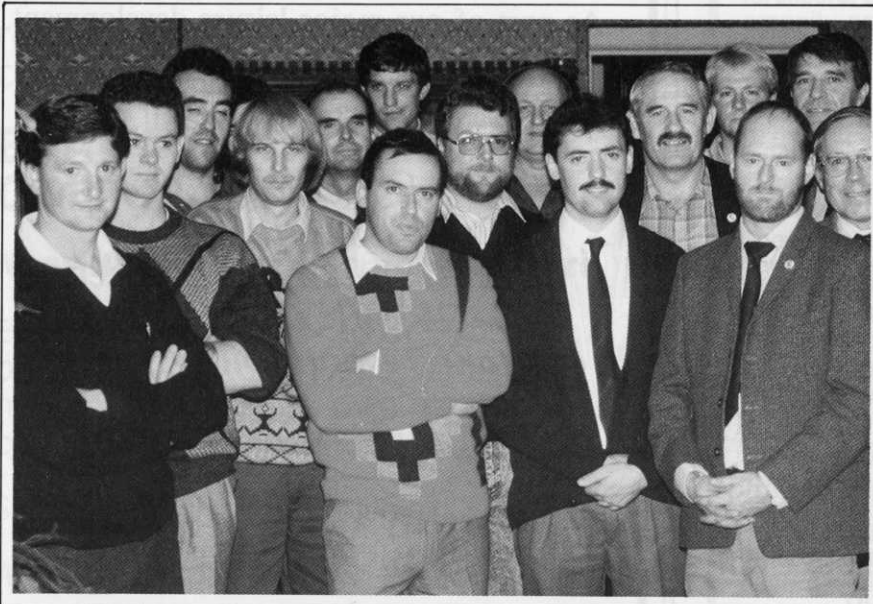
"They have been to my course three times in eighteen months, but this presentation of Health and Safety was absolutely brilliant. In think every person involved in our profession should be made to attend a course of this nature just to make them aware as to the many dangers that surrounds them."

PATRICK MURPHY - SHIPLEY GOLF CLUB

"Comprehensive coverage of both subjects by the best in the field."

ROBERT BARNES - SANDMOOR GOLF CLUB

EDUCATION



Some of the pioneer attendees at the first course managers lectures.



Left to right: David Illingworth, Time Manager International; John Millen, Head Greenkeeper, Canterbury G.C. and Fred Robinson, Computer Consultant, Hoskins Group, whose lectures were highly acclaimed.

STOP PRESS COMPUTER COURSES FEBRUARY 5-9, 1990

B.I.G.G.A. HEADQUARTERS
ALDWARCK MANOR, NEAR YORK

Course 1:
Monday Noon — Wednesday Noon
Course 2:
Wednesday Noon — Friday Noon

Lee Bornstein - Product Manager
TRIMS GROUNDS MANAGEMENT
SOFTWARE COMES TO THE UK

Further details from David Golding at
H.Q.

Ring for Course details, costs, etc.

03473-581/2

Dear Sir,

HAVING recently attended the first of, I hope many, course managers courses arranged by BIGGA, I would like to express my appreciation for what turned out to be a very rewarding and enlightening week back at school.

The intensive course covered all aspects of modern management including computers, personnel and budgeting, as well as health and safety, and environmental problems, associated with golf course management. Also 'state of the art' information on such things as pesticides and turf diseases from the STRI.

All this in the luxurious and comfortable surroundings of the Aldwarck Manor Hotel for just £100, helped in no small way by a generous donation from Kubota.

A splendid week even if it did show up a few of my many limitations.

Yours sincerely,

CLIVE OSGOOD

Head Greenkeeper, Walton Health GC

**SPARSHOLT
COLLEGE
HAMPSHIRE**

THE DIPLOMA IN GOLF COURSE & SPORTSGROUND MANAGEMENT

providing:

- Experience and evaluation of all types of Golf and Sports provision and turf equipment
- Opportunities to work in Europe and America
- Training at a Greenkeeper (G.T.C.) approved College
- The opportunity to acquire the skills to become a Manager in this expanding industry
- Caring, qualified and experienced tutors
- Extensive new residential and recreational facilities recently completed

**For further details please contact: The Course Tutor Bob Young or the Courses Adviser Tim Jackson
Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants. SO21 2NF. Tel: 0962 72441**

GREENKEEPING
MANAGEMENT