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Golf Environment Competition 1999

in association with

GRASS ROOTS TRADING COMPANY

AMAZONE GROUND CARE

PLEASE NOTE: THIS COMPETITION IS RESTRICTED TO MAINLAND GREAT BRITAIN ONLY

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To place an advertisement in the Recruitment Section, call Cheryl or Jenny now on 01347 833800.
ROYAL LYTHAM & ST. ANNES GOLF CLUB

Invites applications for the position of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

to succeed Jimmy MacDonald M.B.E. who will retire in August 1999 having held the appointment for twenty six years.

The successful candidate will have had experience in Management of a Links and preferably, but not necessarily, should have been involved in course preparation for major tournaments.

Salary and pension commensurate with position, no accommodation available.

Please apply in writing with a full CV to:-

The Secretary, Royal Lytham & St. Annes Golf Club, Links Gate, Lytham St. Annes, Lancs, FY8 3LQ.

ROYAL MALTA GOLF CLUB

COURSE MANAGER

The Royal Malta Golf Club established in 1888 is a compact 18 hole course set in a unique sports complex, it is presently Malta's only golf course with a very active playing membership. The club is committed to further course developments which demand a suitably qualified person to implement those plans and manage existing staff.

Applications are invited from those with substantial experience in all aspects of turf, irrigation and preferably a working knowledge of warm season grasses. Applicants should be able to demonstrate good management skills having managed course staff previously.

Application with a full C.V. should be submitted within fourteen days to,

"The Captain", Royal Malta Golf Club, Aldo Moro Street, Marsa HMR 15 Malta

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Please send cover letter and CV including present position and salary to;

The Personnel Officer, Leech Golf Centre, Wike Ridge Lane, Shaedwell, Leeds LS17 9JW

MID KENT GOLF CLUB

require an

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Busy established 18 hole Course. We are looking for a Greenkeeper with NVQ level 2 qualifications and spraying certificate, to join our existing team.

Salary and conditions negotiable, but no accommodation.

Please apply in writing with full C.V. and references to;

The Secretary/Manager, Mid Kent Golf Club, Singlewell Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 7RB

Oakmere Park Golf Club

Invites applications for the position of

DEPUTY COURSE MANAGER

Candidates must be qualified to a minimum of NVQ/GTC level 2 and be in possession of PA1, PA2, and PA6. You will also need a minimum of five years experience in golf course maintenance.

This is an excellent opportunity for an existing deputy head or first assistant to promote their self-development and professional skills.

Oakmere Park is set within a 300-acre site and consists of 27 holes, practice area and driving range. This complex has an ongoing development program and experience in Construction would be advantageous.

Responsibilities include monitoring, setting tasks and motivating a small team of Greens staff. To assist the course manager in further development and maintaining the complex to the highest standard.

Further training may be available to the successful candidate.

Salary negotiable.

No accommodation provided.

Apply in writing with full C.V. to;

Andrew Bowey, Course Manager, Oakmere Park Golf Club, Oaks Lane, Otton, Southwell, Notts NG25 0RH

Closing date 30th April 1999

HEYDON GRANGE GOLF CLUB

HEAD GREENKEEPER required

Applicant will be suitably qualified to NVQ Level 3, PA1A, PA2, and PA6 are preferred, and have practical knowledge of modern machinery and irrigation systems.

The position requires a hands on Head Greenkeeper, hard working, self-motivated with a positive attitude towards their work.

Salary negotiable, accommodation available.

Course established in 1993, facilities include a 3 nine hole course.

Apply in writing with a full C.V. to:

Mr Akhtar, Heydon Grange Golf Club, Heydon, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 7NS

Telephone: (01763) 208988 Facsimile: (01763) 208926

E-mail: heydon.grange@compuserve.com

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THE NEXT STEP
Please apply in writing enclosing a hand written letter together with an up to date CV to The Sales Director at the address on the left. All applications will be dealt with in the strictest confidence. Closing date 4 May 1999

GRASS ROOTS TRADING COMPANY LTD
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Fax: 0118 9736677
E-mail: sales@grassrootsl.demon.co.uk

PURLEY DOWNS GOLF CLUB
Require a GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be qualified to a minimum NVQ2 with Spraying Certificates PA1A, PA2 & PA6.
Salary negotiable according to experience.
(No accommodation)
Applications in writing with CV to:
The Course Manager, Purley Downs Golf Club, 106 Purley Downs Road, South Croydon, Surrey, CR2 0RB.
Telephone: 0181 657 8347

RICHINGS PARK GOLF CLUB
Invites applications for the position of GREENKEEPER

Applicants will be suitably qualified and experienced in all areas of modern Greenkeeping.
Please apply in writing with CV to;
Course Manager, Richings Park Golf Club, North Park, Iver, Bucks SL0 9DL

THE MANOR HOUSE GOLF CLUB AT CASTLE COMBE
SUMMER STAFF REQUIRED

Applications are invited for summer staff to assist full time staff in daily greenkeeping duties. Individuals must be keen, hard working and reliable.
This is an excellent opportunity to work on one of the finest golf courses in the South and to learn about green's construction to full U.S.G.A. spec.
Uniforms will be provided.
Please apply in writing enclosing a current C.V. to:-
Paul Bishop, Course Manager, The Manor House Golf Club, Castle Combe, Wiltshire SN14 7PL

Sutton Hall Golf Club
We currently have a vacancy for an ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

The applicant must have a minimum of three years experience and hold a full driving licence. Phase 1 and 2 qualifications preferred but not essential.
All applications and CVs for the attention of;
Mr P Sproston, Sutton Hall Golf Club, Sutton Weaver, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 3FD

78 Greenkeeper International April 1999
When turf disease strikes you have to get your foot down. And there's no faster way to react than with double action Vitesse.

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Sandy McDivot responds to the flood of letters which appeared after his January article on Sand Based Greens

Oh dear! I seem to have caused a bit of disturbance with my January article. Now I know how Glenn Hoddle must feel.

Firstly, can I say I quite obviously miscalculated somewhat on this particular article and I apologise to anyone who took exception to my words.

Please believe me when I say that no offence was ever intended. But in my defence can I point out that it has never been my intention for the articles to be taken as a statement of fact.

I have in the past written the odd one or two articles under my own name but on answering the general call from the magazine for more articles by greenkeepers, I decided to submit a few under the pseudonym of Sandy McDivot from Sludgecombe Pay and Play. I did this as the articles were of a light-hearted nature and chose this particular name so as no one would take them too seriously. Obviously in this respect, I did miss the mark by a mile. They are, at the end of the day, meant as a bit of light relief and are quite correctly placed at the end of the magazine after the more informative articles.

As in my previous articles, this one was so over the top that I wrongly, as it happened, believed no one would accept it as completely factual. Rightly or wrongly I believe that it is sometimes good to have a bit of a laugh at oneself. My style may be condescending but it is also self-deprecating. Look at the great TV comedies we have in this country for instance. Fawlty Towers, Father Ted, Rising Damp or Home Front for example. Do they not painfully parody the worst aspects of us as a society? Are they not self-mocking but at the same time made all the more hilarious because there is a recognisable element of truth in what they portray?

Of course I can in no way compare my simple offerings to these comic classics but I believe they do give balance to the magazine and are enjoyed by at least one person (thank you Richard Heaslip).

I must admit that in this last article and all the others that preceded it I have been guilty of writing the odd terminological inexactitude, as a politician may say. But as I am now a fully paid up member of the tabloid press may I borrow their motto and say you should never let the facts get in the way of a good story. Sure there are huge generalisations in the article but I believed the readership would be able to decipher fact from fiction.

What I perhaps should have called the article was “Sand based and mainly non USGA specification greens at hugely underfunded, understaffed and colossal overplayed golf courses in Britain with typical British weather”. Somehow though it did not quite have the same ring.

However I do still believe there are inherent weaknesses in sand based greens that can lead to problems particularly given our climatic conditions.

- They do, initially at least, all suffer from a low CEC that will require additional feeding.
- Spike and pitch marks are far more of a problem compared with good soil based greens regardless of the water that is applied to them. As a matter of interest I applied a maximum of one minute per sprinkler to my greens per night last year during a couple of weeks in August.
- Given average playing levels and a realistic operating budget Poa annua invasion is almost inevitable and can end up dominating the sward in the long term. Initial poa annua invasion is by the annual form (poa annua annua) which always looks unsightly and greatly affects the quality of the surface.
- Tolerance to wear is lower than that of a good soil based green. This is a point highlighted by Mark Jones in his response when he said that pin positions should be changed more often to limit wear and that the use of triplex mowers should be...