Berkhamsted Golf Club

Require an

Assistant Greenkeeper

Should be qualified to NVQ Level 2. Please apply in writing with CV to:-

Gerald Bruce, Berkhamsted Golf Club, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire HP4 2QB

Porters Park Golf Club

Deputy Course Manager

Enthusiastic, hard working, competent Greenkeeper required to complement our existing team to care for our mature parkland course.

To work closely with the Course Manager in managing and motivating staff as well as training junior greenkeepers.

Five years experience. Qualified to NVQ Level 3. Spraying Certificates.

Salary Negotiable

Applications in writing, enclosing CV to:

M J Smith, Course Manager, Porters Park Golf Club, Shenley Hill, Radlett, Herts WD7 7AZ

Stratford-on-Avon Golf Club

Require an

Assistant Greenkeeper

An enthusiastic and hardworking individual is required to join our existing team. NVQ Level 2 along with PA1, PA2 and PA6 qualifications preferred.

Apply in writing with full CV to:

The Course Manager, Stratford-on-Avon Golf Club, Tiddington Road, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 7BA

Woodcote Park Golf Club

Requires an

Assistant Greenkeeper

Minimum qualifications of NVQ Level 2. Salary and conditions negotiable. Accommodation available.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:

Mr K R Brabbins, General Manager, Woodcote Park Golf Club, Meadow Hill, Bridle Way, Couldsdon, Surrey CR5 2QQ

Birchwood Park Golf Centre

As part of the progressive Burhill Golf Group, Birchwood Park is a quality pay and play golf centre near Swanley, Kent. We are seeking a suitably qualified and experienced

Head Greenkeeper

to lead the development of 27 holes and driving range. In return for providing you with an attractive package, excellent resources, and pleasant working environment, we require leadership, motivational and organisational skills, the ability to manage resources and a commitment to continual improvement.

Applications in writing with full CV, including current salary to:

Mr B Taylor, Regional Operations Manager
Burhill Golf Centres Ltd
Burhill, WALTON-ON-THAMES, Surrey KT12 4BA

Closing Date for applications is 21 September 2000

Royal Automobile Club

Assistant Greenkeeper Required

Applications are invited from enthusiastic and hard working greenkeepers to join our existing team. Qualified to NVQ Level 2 with PA1, PA2 and PA6 qualifications preferred.

We have 2 x 18 hole golf courses, a new greenkeepers complex and offer good wages, a contributory pension scheme and meals on duty.

Application forms from: The Human Resource Department, Royal Automobile Club, Woodcote Park Clubhouse, Wimereux Lane, Epsom, Surrey KT18 7EW. Tel: 01372 230 146.
A memorable month

From there to The Open for what was another great week in all ways. Scott covered most of the news in his report last month. Suffice for me to say a big thank you to all the Support Team for another job well done with their usual good humour and hard work. Did I say hard work, had it easy this year lads? Lowest total of bunkers ever, no wonder you had so much energy at night! It was almost a moist eyed (yes even among these hardened greenkeepers) farewell supper on the Sunday night. It was delighted to make a small presentation to Cecil George and Jimmy Nelson as this was their last Open as official BIGGA starters. They have officiated at every Open since we started about 1984 and it won't be quite the same without them but I hope they will grace us with their presence in the future.

Among the highlights for me during the week was attending the Golf Writers' Dinner with Scott on Tuesday night and seeing at first hand some of the people who, for me, brighten up any golf tournament. No, I'm not talking about Olazabal, Garcia, Torrance, Horton, Faldo, Jacklin and other pros who were there. For me it’s reading the reports of Norman Mair, Michael McDonnell, Jock MacVicar and many others who start my day off.

On the Friday night I was invited along with Neil, to the Captain of the R&As suite which overlooks the 18th fairway and green and a pleasant evening was capped as we watched Tiger Woods playing the last hole from one of the best viewing points in St Andrews. On August 1, I had the honour of accepting a Gold Award at the Annual Green Apples Awards ceremony held in the luxurious surroundings of the Cafe Royale, in Regent Street, London. This award is in recognition of the contribution the BIGGA Environment Award is in recognition of the contributions the BIGGA Environment Award is in recognition of the contribution the BIGGA Environment Competition makes towards improving the environment in the UK.

During my travels this year I have had the opportunity to talk with many greenkeepers from all over the country and from all types of golf club, big and small. It is apparent that, in a large number of cases, the working conditions have improved tremendously with better wages and working environment, with many new facilities being built and provision of good clothing and footwear, not just wellies and rubber waterproofs.

Many of these improvements can be put down to the better standard of educated greenkeeper who is able to argue his case for all these improvements than in years gone by. However, there are still many poorly paid, poorly equipped greenkeeping staff working in badly lit, cold, damp maintenance facilities. Certain areas of the country fare worse than others, especially on the wages front. Cornwall, Devon, parts of Northern England, parts of Scotland and Wales are examples but it is probably fair to say that every area of Britain has its good and bad clubs.

In some of these cases it's annoying to hear that the club could find £30 to £35,000 for a dedicated fairway mower but could not give their staff a decent pay rise. Don't get me wrong, I'm not against fairway mowers, they make a wonderful job, the quality of cut is excellent and the fairways look lovely. Mind you, it makes no difference to 90% of the club members in the execution of the shot.

What I am against is that the look of fairways should be considered before the welfare of the greenkeeping staff. It is time that many of these clubs took a long hard look at themselves and asked the question: "How can we possibly ask our green staff to work in those conditions for that wage and would we do it?" It would be nice to hear of one club that said for £30,000 we could give each of our staff more money and help upgrade their facilities and conditions. I am not for a minute saying clubs should not buy fairway mowers, I will be buying one myself next year, but they should be bought when the time is right for a particular club, after all the main priorities have been taken care of. There is a time in the life of every club when it is big enough to give greater return. There is a time in the life of every club when it is big enough to give greater return.
If you are employed as a greenkeeper, at college studying greenkeeping, or involved in any way with the fine turf industry, then BIGGA membership could benefit you. To find out more about membership, fill in this card and send it to us today.

Yes, I'm interested in joining BIGGA. Please send me details of:

- Greenkeeper Membership
- Associate/Company Membership
- Student Membership

Name
Mailing address
Postcode
Home Tel:
Home Email:
Position at Golf Club/Company/College
Membership Number
Golf Club/Company/College
Work address
Postcode
Work Tel:
Work Fax:
Work Email:

British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF
Tel: 01347 833800    Fax: 01347 833801    Email: membership@bigga.co.uk    www.bigga.org.uk
Membership
BIGGA HOUSE
Aldwark
Alne
York
YO61 1UF
Once you get your TRUE-SURFACE® Vibratory rollers you will be able to:

True up your greens after aeration
Vibrate your sand in after topdressing
Roll instead of mowing after spraying
Keep your greens true after you stop cutting this season
Relax after all!

Book a FREE demo before you forget!

TRUE-SURFACE®
...makes true greens!™

GreenTek
0113 267 6000