Recruitment

Be in at the beginning!

With its 18th century style landscapes being revived and the original manor house under restoration, The Grove will be offering the highest standard Five Star accommodation, boasting 230 luxury bedrooms, conference & banqueting facilities and health spa. We are now concentrating on the preparation of our 7200 yard Kyle Phillips 18 hole championship golf course within the 350 acre estate for its opening in 2003 and require the following personnel:

FIRST ASSISTANT

This important position will require a professional and enthusiastic greenkeeper with at least 5 years hands-on experience. Reporting to the Head Greenkeeper you will have a practical knowledge of modern golf course maintenance equipment and have an understanding of the workings of a computerised irrigation system, together with a PA1,2 & 6 certificate in spraying.

The ideal candidate will also possess an NVQ 3 and have the ability to train, lead and motivate staff.

GREENKEEPERS

These positions require outstanding candidates who are NVQ 1 and 2 qualified. Self motivation, dedication, vision and the ability to learn new ideas are all essential requirements for these essential roles. Working out of a modern, state-of-the-art greenkeeping facility, you will be playing an important role in the setting up and maintenance of this superb golf course.

IRRIGATION TECHNICIAN

Your main responsibilities will be for the programming, operation and maintenance of the Rainbird Nimbus 2 irrigation system. You will have a minimum of five years experience and be fully versed with maintenance and operation of automatic irrigation systems. Knowledge of pumps and pumping systems would be a distinct advantage.

This position would ideally suit a hardworking individual who is flexible, hands on and has a love of the outdoors.

As a new and, as yet, unfinished course, these positions offer superb opportunities for successful candidates to establish themselves and their role in the long term future at The Grove. Although no accommodation is available, we offer excellent rates of pay, together with a real opportunity for promotion and progression within the company.

There is also an excellent service related benefits package which includes:
- Pension scheme, dental insurance and health care.

Please apply in writing to Phillip Chiverton, Golf Course Manager enclosing your CV to:

The Grove
Hempstead Road, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD17 3TP

Alternatively, e-mail the Golf Course Manager on phillip.chiverton@thegrovehotel.com

February 2002 Greenerkeeper International 61
New National Chairman, Richard Barker, enjoys his first engagements and looks forward to an enjoyable year in office.

.from February 2000

February 2000: BTME2000 review; Committed to Green interview; Rockey Park GC; Enginex; Chairman’s profile; Environmental Management.

March 2000: Cleobury Mortimer GC; Course Furniture; R&A Conference Report; Cutting heights; Avoncrop profile; Valderrama course; R&A; Environmental Management.

April 2000: Fortescue & Rosemary GC; Utility Vehicles; Irrigation; Seed breeding; Gen Professional profile.

May 2000: Ross-on-Wye GC; Top Dressing; Course Mapping; Compact Tractors.

June 2000: National Championship preview; Sonning; World Education Conference; Environmental Management; Mowers.

July 2000: Open Championship Preview; Douglas Dugald Court Case Report; Pest Control; Aventis profile; Course Conditioning.

August 2000: Open Championship review; Water Features; Sulfate preview; Charcoal; Mowers; Royal County Down; Grand Tour Scholarship.

September 2000: Blowers and Sweepers; Berkshire College Academy; National Championship roundup; Gordon McKillop interview; Winter health checks.

October 2000: Toro Awards Preview; Ronald Reagan; Irrigation; Sulfate Review; Pest Control; Webum GC.

November 2000: Grass Cutting Machinery; Clarendon GC; Drainage; National Championship review; Leatherjacket management.

December 2000: Toro Awards; Making the most of your Dealer; Budget Boosters; BTME2001 preview; BIGGA; Bernhards CGSA delegation preview.

January 2001: Communication Tyme; Turf dysfunction; Compass Golf Links; Environment Competition Winner - Dye GC; Talking Heads; Pest Control.

February 2001: BTME2001 preview; Winter Mowing; Irrigation; Broadstone GC; Hedging; Security.

March 2001: York GC; Greens Maintenance; Mowers; Narvay; Greens; Mowers; BIGGA Essay Winner; Grass Science profile.

April 2001: Lighting detection; Brackett Hill GC; CGSA report; Fenway Mowers; Irrigation; Sward renovation; BIGGA Essay winner; Turf Disease.

May 2001: Root and Mouth Disease Special report; Maintenance Facility report; Bunker Sand; ATVs; Rainbird Profile; Fairway Mowers; BIGGA2002 countdown; Electric powered machines.

June 2001: Stoke Park Club profile; Stuart Copley MG; Tractors; Leaft Sport Diseases; Take All Patch Construction.

July 2001: Royal Lytham profile; Teas Mowers; Pfortillen; Green Grassies; John Deere profile; Sandy McDowell; College Warning.

August 2001: Aerial Survey; Machrie GC profile; Rough Mowers; Sulfate Preview; Dr Alan George; environmental research; Hayter Profile; Potros; Open Championship review; Toro Student of the Year profile.

September 2001: Ryder Cup preview; Chalk Farm; Orange; BIGGA National Championship preview; Sandy McDowell; Machinery Maintenance; Soil Analysis; Wild Flowers.

October 2001: Major Award for Walter Woods; Royal Portrush GC; Portwest GC; Irrigation; Uplikers; Lizst collection systems; Scotswarf preview; Sulfate review.

November 2001: BIGGA National Championship review; Environmental Competition winner; Swinyer; Toro Awards Preview; Cutting regimes; Dyce GC.

December 2001: Toro Award Winners; Southern Galles GC; BTME preview; Specialty equipment; Thatch removal.

January 2002: Walton Heath profile; Greenkeeping in Denmark; Moving materials; A first for Andy Campbell; New products.

.Wow! What a week – Having just returned from Harragate I am now reflecting on what was another excellent BTME. With the workshop and conference delegates arriving on Sunday afternoon there was a real buzz in the Majestic Hotel as old friendships were renewed and new acquaintances made over the customary couple of pints.

Monday morning arrived too quickly and our week was underway. The format has changed somewhat from previous years with the chance to mix and match. Some delegates opted for one day at the conference and one day at a workshop while others opted for a two day workshop on Golf Course Design or a day at the Show which ran for three days instead of two and a half.

Monday evening saw the conference dinner with after dinner speaker Kevin Jones, a chest consultant, giving us an entertaining evening with stories about his past experiences in the health service. Fortunately for me, not being from Wales, I was excused from being picked upon, but Neil took it all in good spirit!

As I mentioned earlier the show ran from Tuesday to Thursday for three days this year. Each year the show continues to attract more exhibitors and this year saw the introduction of the Golf Club Show. It was well received by club officials and this is something we hope to develop in future years.

With attendance figures exceeding expectations, the buzz in Harragate continued and I was off to the Hayter dinner. I had been warned that it was a good evening, but that was an understatement, and to be asked to present the Dealer of the year award really put the icing on the cake.

With Wednesday night upon us, the Seminar Programme got underway alongside the show and another great day was had coming to a close with our AGM. Unfortunately this went on a little longer than anticipated with a lot of discussion on the proposed introduction of a minimum qualification. This was referred back for further consideration and will be reviewed by the Board of Management at its March meeting. Please read the magazine for further updates.

At the end of the meeting I was elected Chairman and I thank you all for my acceptance. I am very aware of my responsibilities and will endeavour to do my best for you. If any Section or Region would like me to visit during the next 12 months please don’t hesitate to contact me or HQ. May I also take this opportunity to thank Elliott Small and Jim Paton for their hard work on the Board over the past years and introduce you Ian McLeod, the Scottish representative, and George Brown, who will be my Vice Chairman. I look forward to working with you both.

But a big thank you must go to Clive Osgood. Clive has put a tremendous amount of hard work into the Association at the expense of his golf club and also his family life. I hope you enjoy your “Semi Retirement” but I will be asking your advice, Clive, over the next year.

So to Thursday, and the last day of the show. Well it was a little bit quieter but overall attendance figures were well up on previous years and Dr James Beard was bringing the seminar programme to an end. There was still more to come – yes the Banquet. This year the Banquet moved back to the Majestic with entertainment provided primarily by Brabins and Lizzie. I was a little unsure just what to expect but by the end of the meal I was witnessing a superb act which was totally different from anything I had seen before. The evening continued to the early hours with music from the Nightjars and FunTime Music Disco.

To conclude, I was pleased to see so many old friends and meet plenty of new ones including Tommy Witt and Jay Leach, respective Chairman of the American and Canadian Associations, it was also nice to see many overseas visitors with certainly an increase from Denmark. It’s great to think we play a major part in overseas education as well.

On the downside there were a couple of notable absentees, Jim Fry and Gordon Child, the latter having had an operation. I have spoken to both and we look forward to seeing them both back in action soon.

Wishing you both a speedy recovery!
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