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Hot Job Criteria

Hot Job is a new feature of the recruitment section in Greenkeeper International from March 2007.

In order to qualify for the title ‘Hot Job’, a vacancy must satisfy as many of the criteria below as possible:

The vacancy with the most points by the time of going to print each month becomes ‘Hot Job’ and will be displayed prominently in both the magazine and on the recruitment page of our website.

Booking deadline is approximately 20th of each month.

- Is pay within the recommended salary scale?
- Is a training schedule in place for this role?
- Is health insurance provided?
- Does the employer make pension contributions?
- Is paid time off given for BIGGA events (The Open, Harrogate Week, regional training)?
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- Is health insurance provided?
- Does the employer make pension contributions?
- Is paid time off given for BIGGA events (The Open, Harrogate Week, regional training)?

All candidates must apply in writing with full CV by Monday 16th July to:

The Secretary, Bathgate Golf Club
Edinburgh Road, Bathgate
West Lothian, EH48 1BA

Salary negotiable dependent on qualifications and experience.

The successful candidate will be required to:
- Possess all relevant qualifications to a minimum of NVQ/SVQ Level 3 in Golf Course Management or equivalent
- Or possess a portfolio of experience showing his achievements to date
- Or have a strong team leader with the ability to communicate at all levels
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JULY HOT JOB

GREENKEEPERS x 2

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Northop Golf Course is an 18-hole par -71 Championship Course with a driving range, Pro-Shop with teaching Pro’s and Function Suites set in 247 acres of mature woodland. We need 2 individuals to join our dedicated greenkeeper team and continue with our high standards and contribute to ongoing projects.

Greenkeeper NVQ level 3

• NQV level 3 with NVQ PA1, PA2 & PA6 certificates / 3-5 years experience
• Current spray certificates / Knowledge of machinery maintenance desirable

Greenkeeper NVQ level 2

• Minimum of 2 years work experience with exposure to all aspects of greenkeeping
• Outgoing and self motivated / Must have driver license

Please send a CV with covering letter to Shelly Barratt, Northop Golf and Country Club, Northop, North Wales. CH7 6WA.

Applications in writing + CV to : Mr. J. Windell, Wellow Golf Club, Ryedown Lane, East Wellow, Romsey, Hampshire. S051 6BD

WELLOW GOLF CLUB
DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

Required for a 27 hole Parkland Course

Applicants should have ideally obtained:
- 5 years experience in greenkeeping; NVQ Level 3; Current Spraying Certificates; Knowledge of machinery maintenance and strong supervisory / motivational skills.

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NVQ level 3 with PA1 PA2 PA6 certificate  
Minimum of 2 years experience with exposure to all aspects of greenkeeping  
Outgoing and self motivated  
Must have driver’s license

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**BATHGATE GOLF CLUB**  
**HEAD GREENKEEPER**

Bathgate Golf Club is a forward thinking Club with a tremendous history and due to the forthcoming retirement of our existing Head Greenkeeper we are seeking a competent and enthusiastic Course Manager.

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Chairman’s Column

The “Good Old Days”

Do you remember the “good old days”? One of the pleasures of being Chairman is meeting and listening to my peers. Sometimes retired or coming to the twilight of their time in greenkeeping and soon moving onto pastures new. Or will they? They drift off into the sunset and hang up their work boots never to be seen again? Well I can assure you, if my trips during the past months are anything to go by then nothing could be further from the truth.

It seems everywhere I go there is always at least one of those greenkeepers who we have all heard of and to whom we have looked up to for inspiration and guidance. They turn up to golf days and seminars and still enjoy the buzz of mixing it up with us comparatively young whippersnappers.

What I love best is their stories. With a quiet assurance and a passion, they openly share their life spent on courses up and down the country, I asked one what he missed from the good old days. “Young man,” he said, “the good old days my arse. You don’t know you are born today. Now when I was a lad…” He then drifted back through the drudgery of greenkeeping without logs, ventilated and secure buildings where we all, mostly, enjoy working from today.

One old greenkeeper told me about how he used to sit having his lunch on tubs of mercury and wait for the lorry to turn up so he could throw the rest away, or at least try. The lorry driver always met him at this slot, with a wobbly jelly of a golf course. Now we ground too wet and we could get the stone near to the job in hand. As I remember the driver wasn’t too eager to venture his nice clean lorry onto what could only be described as a wobbly jelly of a golf course. Now we had a vested interest in getting this stone as close to the offending drains as possible. We convinced the driver that he would be fine and there was no chance that he would get stuck. Well, he reversed his lorry, none of your beeping horns in those days, got about 30 feet off the roadway and duly got stuck up to his ankles in the soggy ground. There was nothing left but to tip him where he was and head off for the tractor and chain to pull him out.

The lorry duly turned up and we went over to meet the driver, hoping that the persistent rain over the last two months hadn’t made the ground too wet and we could get the stone near to the job in hand. As I remember the driver wasn’t too eager to venture his nice clean lorry onto what could only be described as a wobbly jelly of a golf course. Now we had a vested interest in getting this stone as close to the offending drains as possible. We convinced the driver that he would be fine and there was no chance that he would get stuck. Well, he reversed his lorry, none of your beeping horns in those days, got about 30 feet off the roadway and duly got stuck up to his ankles in the soggy ground. There was nothing left but to tip him where he was and head off for the tractor and chain to pull him out.

Our required stone was now so far from the open drains it to be wheel barrowed halfway across the course. It took us an eternity so long, in fact, that we must have worn out at least two pairs of work boots. What the experience gave us was to dig determination not to be beaten by anything and in the face of adversity rise to any challenge asked of us.

So to all those that share our passion for greenkeeping from a yonder year, I would say this - You are valued still and we enjoy as much, as I know you do, the exchange of stories. We thank you for the wonderful gift of sharing your life with us and long may it continue. And just reading what I have remembered from a part of my past made me smile. As you know, I’m still very young indeed and not nearly as accomplished as my peers.

As for the “good old days” - As I’m often told by those who have been there and done that, these are the good old days and when you have the chance to meet those coming to the twilight of their time in greenkeeping, enjoy their wonderful stories. Knowing where we have come from will make us all the richer and I’m sure we can share our lives with the next generation of whippersnappers.

The thing is, stories always get bigger in the telling and all the more pleasurable for that, those that are not filled with linear lengths on this occasion.

Billy McMillan

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One old greenkeeper told me about how he got home. “Young man,” he said, “the good old days. “One day I was on duty and we had a load of rejects (drainage stone) is on its way to the open drains to be wheel barrowed halfway across the course. It took us an eternity so long, in fact, that we must have worn out at least two pairs of work boots. What the experience gave us was the determination not to be beaten by anything and in the face of adversity rise to any challenge asked of us.

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