Meiklem Drainage Ltd

Gordon Brown officially opened the new purpose built premises of Meiklem Drainage Ltd, in Kelty, Fife, in his constituency while he was still Prime Minister last year.

Johan Meiklem Drainage Contractors Limited was formed in 1982 recognised widely now as Meiklem Drainage and Meiklem is always prepared to offer advice on drainage and groundworks at East End Park.

Dunfermline Athletic Football Club and hold a Corporate Box as full members of the Land Drainage Association.

The Company employs over 40 people with many staff having over 15 years service and seven with over 25 years service to the Company.

Meiklem has also recently installed the drainage at the Gleneagles.

Kingsbarns and Castle Golf Courses, St Andrews, Nairn Golf Club, Cornton Vale, Saughton, Polmont and currently Perth.

Remodelling & Alterations

1982 recognised widely now as Meiklem Drainage and Meiklem Drainage is near the top of most sports clubs list of expected expenditure and Meiklem is always prepared to offer advice on a proven track record stretching back over twenty-five years.

Gordon Brown officially opened the new purpose built

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Recruitment

WEST BYFLEET GOLF CLUB
Deputy Head Greenkeeper

West Byfleet, a private members’ club with 600 playing members, enjoys good financial stability and has a reputation as being friendly and well run, with a tradition of long service from its staff.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate high levels of forward thinking, enthusiasm and commitment, together with an eye for detail.

• Qualified to NVQ1 Level
• Current spraying certificates PA1/PA2 and chainsaw certificates preferred. First aid trained.
• A knowledge of current Health & Safety and environmental legislation.
• Experience in course machinery maintenance and irrigation systems.

Salary will be commensurate with the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate who will be required to work flexibly, including weekends. On site accommodation is provided.

All applications will be treated in confidence.

Please apply in writing with full c.v. and covering letter, stating present salary and salary expectations to

Ian Attoe, General Manager, West Byfleet Golf Club, Sheerwater Road, West Byfleet, KT14 6AA
Tel: 01932 343433 or email: ianattoe@wbgc.co.uk

Closing date for the receipt of applications is Friday, 22nd October 2010.

Head Greenkeeper

Applications are invited for the position of Head Greenkeeper at Shanklin & Sandown Golf Club situated on the Isle of Wight.

We are a financially sound private members club established for over 100 years, with 680 playing members. The course is on the county rota as well as the main venue for the International Island Games being held in 2011.

The ideal candidate will be fully versed in all aspects of greenkeeping and must have a ‘hands-on’ approach to golf course management preferably qualified to NVQ3 in greenkeeping. An ability to demonstrate the experience of implementing and working to a budget and course management policy document is essential. The applicant will appreciate the need for flexible working hours and will have the ability to manage, control, lead and develop the existing team of greenkeeping staff to deliver the full potential of this James Braid heathland course.

An attractive salary and benefits package will be available to the right candidate and assistance will be considered towards relocation expenses and initial accommodation requirements.

Applications with a full CV should be sent to:

The Manager, Shanklin & Sandown Golf Club, The Fairway, Lake, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, PO36 9PR or by email to: andy@ssgolfclub.com

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CROSSWORD MONSTER SUDOKO SQUIGGLY SUDOKO

Quick ‘Nine Hole’ Quiz Answers:

1. EH31 2EG - Muirfield
2. GU23 4LS – Wentworth
3. G83 8nt – Loch Lomond
4. BT56 8JQ – Royal Portrush
5. KY16 9JD – R&A
6. NP18 1HQ – Celtic Manor
7. IV25 3LW – Royal Dornoch
8. CT13 9PB – Royal St George’s
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Jobs...Not just for Greenkeepers

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Make sure that you get the right person for the job - call Kirstin today on 01347 833832.

“I wish to thank the team at BIGGA for their help and advice in placing our advert on the BIGGA website. The good response to the advert will allow us to employ someone who we feel is ideally suited for the job.”

Tony Hawes, Course Manager, Potters Bar Golf Club

The BIGGA/GCMA Safety Management System, sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen, has been developed to:

• Make golf clubs safer
• Introduce best practice
• Standardise Health & Safety throughout golf
• Reduce costs for golf clubs

Why do you need a Safety Management System?

Because:

• It incorporates all your legal requirements to comply with Health & Safety Legislation
• Clubs have responsibilities
• There are penalties for not complying – up to £20,000 fine and/or course closure
• Golf clubs are hazardous places to work

The Safety Management System is accessed through the Members area of the BIGGA website (www.bigga.org.uk) and the GCMA website (www.gcma.org.uk)
Recruitment

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Deputy Head Greenkeeper

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Applicants must be able to demonstrate high levels of forward thinking, enthusiasm and commitment, together with an eye for detail.

- Qualified to NVQ Level 3.
- Current spraying certificates PA1/PA2 & PA6 and chainsaw certificates preferred. First aid trained.
- Good team player with ability to lead and mentor others.
- Knowledge of current Health & Safety and Environmental legislation.
- Experienced in course machinery maintenance and irrigation systems.

Salary will be commensurate with the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate who will be required to work flexibly, including weekends. On site accommodation is provided.

All applications will be treated in confidence.

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Think back and remember how over the last 30 years, greenkeeping has improved both in the quality of the turf and grasses, and visually. The high standards to which you, the greenkeepers, maintain the golf courses throughout the years. Yes, all four seasons are now in play for the golfers.

The club members want to play all year round, and the travelling golfers, the visitors, also want to visit and play your golf courses throughout the year.

Visiting golfers bring more in terms to the golf clubs and also to the local areas. Yes, all things are about money and finances.

In 2010 it is not just the golf club finances that are tight it is worldwide.

The belts are pulled in, the course budgets are all adjusted and greenkeeping has to carry on.

Knowing many greenkeepers, as I do, I believe that the standards of greenkeeping will continue to improve throughout these very difficult times.

The standards of greenkeeping have improved beyond any expectations. You only need to view the TV footage which is shown regularly of events in the past.

Today we play on tees and fairways that are far better than some of the greens that are shown on those old films from 30 years ago.

Go back further and I can remember even bumpier courses, but then at those times we thought that the golf courses were great and some even fantastic.

I hope and pray that I am around in another 20-30 years to see the quality that you will achieve on your golf courses. How many more of you will be working in other countries around the world?

How many young greenkeepers will be preparing yourselves both educationally and in the workplace for the future in your given profession.

The world is a much smaller place now with all the modern technologies and fast travel.

Why does it take such a long time for a round of golf these days, when the tees, fairways, greens and all around a golf course is of a quality and condition which is so advanced and superior to those of 30 years ago when a round of golf lasted no longer than three hours 30 minutes.

The golf club members start their competitions earlier in the year and finish them later in the year. Your golf club needs the visitors and the company days to survive and more and more. You are maintaining your courses at competition standards for far longer periods throughout the years, 30 years ago there was not the amount of traffic on the courses as there is today.

You don't need me to tell you these facts. Every working hour down to the minute in the hours is now organised and programmed by your head greenkeeper/course manager to work and perform in all weathers and all conditions.

The greenkeepers’ buildings are also the workshop for the repairs and maintenance of almost all the machinery and equipment used on the golf course. The modern day machines and equipment are so far advanced, what next?

This has reminded me of the years long ago when I read “The Eagle” comics Dan Dare pilot of the future. Jet planes and space craft. Fantastic. Yes it has happened. Come on take a look into the future 60 years on and ask yourself what machinery and technolog-

My view of greenkeeping over the past 30 years or so...
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Fantastic. Yes it has happened. Come on take a look into the future 60 years on and ask yourself what machinery and technologies will the greenkeeper have to hand.

Hovering above the fairways, tees and greens with appers and laser cutting the turf to heights and standards that is beyond or thought at this moment in time 2010.

30 years ago it was very rare that the greenkeepers were involved in club meetings or discussing the golf course, green keeping methods, golf course presentation and the quality with the menbers and golfers.

Today the greenkeepers hold meetings/ seminars and evenings for discussions questions and answers, the greenkeepers have course walks and talks to answer the questions from the members.

Promoting the golf club is very important today, this is to bring in the visiting golfers bringing in additional revenue to sustain and maintain the improving qualities of the golf club and its golf course.

Showing the golf course and the club house on the web site and visiting good quality photographs to show how good your course is.

A few years ago a photographic competition was started in your BIGGA Magazine. The competition has now developed annu-