



YOUR LETTERS ARE NEEDED!

Send to: Scott MacCallum, Editor, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF, or email them to: scott@bigga.co.uk

A Positive Advertisement

The article "Looking After Your Sand" by Alistair Beggs which featured in the April edition of Greenkeeper International highlighted some common sense guidelines to bunker maintenance. However, the statement "if you do have problems with the construction and/or form of your hazards or they do not drain sufficiently then the first step must be to contact a golf course architect..." needs addressing. This statement clearly implies that greenkeepers are unable to undertake any kind of bunker reshaping or drainage improvements without the help of an architect: this is obviously not a reflection of reality.

While I accept that there is a place for golf course architects in the appropriate circumstance, the work we have undertaken at Highgate in recent years is, I feel, a positive advertisement for in-house renovations. I am happy to extend an open invitation to Mr Beggs, or indeed any greenkeeper, architect, consultant, etc, to come and cast a critical eye over the improvements we have made at this course.

I would be interested to know whether Mr Beggs would feel that "the first step" we should have made would have been to contact a golf course architect.

Richard Andrews, Highgate Golf Club

No Apology Needed

Joe Findlay has no need to apologise for his long-winded essay in your latest issue. After 30 years learning how to produce greens as good as those at Portrush, it would be a shame if he felt he could not use our magazine as a vehicle to pass on what he has learned to "youngsters" like me.

As I've mentioned before, it has been a tough learning experience for me to make the transition from parkland to links greenkeeping with only an open mind, some helpful and enthusiastic staff, an understanding boss and Jim Arthur's rantings to help me out, so any snippets of information people like Joe or "Chairman George" can send my way will always be gratefully received.

It is reassuring to note the similarities between the programmes Joe and I currently favour (although his is obviously more intensive as he has more wear to deal with, and a bigger budget to utilise), as we are both dealing with exactly the same weather and working with exactly the same sand (Portrush is only about 30 miles from Islay).

Anyone who feels they have anything to offer that can help their fellow greenkeepers should do what Joe has done and pass their ideas on - we cannot expect Scott to do ALL the work now, can we?

Simon Freeman, Head Greenkeeper, Machrie GC, Islay

Editor's Note: Like Simon, I would be delighted to hear from any greenkeeper who wishes to do an informative article along the lines of Joe's.

Thanks to Ransomes Jacobsen

I am thrilled to hear that I have been awarded a Ransomes Jacobsen Higher Education Scholarship. I am looking forward to investing it in the realisation of my dream: to be educated at Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland, which will result in an MSc grade in golf course architecture.

Thank you so much!

As a matter of course I will keep you informed on any progress and all relevant ins and outs.

Thank you once more for your generosity.

Cees van Nieuwenhuizen, The Netherlands

Thanks to All

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone I have been fortunate to have been involved with in my four years in the trade. To Drew Harkness and everybody at Sherriffs; everyone at John Deere, and all the UK dealers that I have met. The guys at Wiedenmann UK and all the companies I have dealt with.

Finally, a big thank you to all the customers who I have had the pleasure in dealing with. I will miss you all. Thanks a million.

Wullie Ness

Recruitment

FOYLE INTERNATIONAL GOLF CENTRE

12 ALDER ROAD, LONDONDERRY BT48 8DB, NORTHERN IRELAND

Invites applications for

HEAD GREENKEEPER

For

18 HOLE PARKLAND COURSE & 9 HOLE PAR 3

5 Years greenkeeping experience at senior level.

The successful applicant must hold PA1, PA2 & PA6 Certificates.

Telephone 02871 352222 for application form.

Completed application forms with C.V. to be returned by Wednesday 14th May 2003

Accommodation available if required.

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER



CARHOLME GOLF CLUB

Applications are required for the position of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Founded in 1906 Carholme Golf Club is a parkland course situated close to the City of Lincoln.

The successful applicant should possess the following.

- Appropriate qualifications and certificates
- Communication and leadership skills
- A comprehensive Knowledge of course maintenance machinery
- Sound knowledge of Health and Safety regulations
- Man-manager who can motivate and lead from the front
- Able to manage resource through good time management skills

Applications with full CV salary will be negotiable. Closing date 23 May 2003

Applications to: The Secretary, Carholme Golf Club, Carholme Road, Lincoln LN1 1SE

SOUTH BEDS GOLF CLUB



Luton, Bedfordshire
Established 1892



Invites applications for the post of **COURSE MANAGER**

South Beds is a busy Private Members Golf Club seeking to replace the present Course Manager who is leaving after 28 years of service.

Intrinsically a downland course, South Beds comprises 27 holes laid-out on chalk sub-soil which provides ideal playing conditions all year.

Plans are in-hand to enhance the challenge provided for the better golfer, whilst retaining the enjoyment experienced by others.

The successful candidate will play a major part in this project.

To be considered for this post you should hold appropriate qualifications, be well versed in all modern practices and be able to demonstrate a commitment to continual professional development. In addition, it is expected that you would be conversant with current Health & Safety aspects of greenkeeping and be capable of planning and budgeting for the maintenance of the course. Most importantly, you should be able to demonstrate management and motivational qualities, together with the ability to lead and develop the existing team.

Salary by negotiation

Closing date: 26th May 2003

To apply, please write, enclosing a full CV to:

Secretary/Manager, South Beds Golf Club,
Warden Hill Road, Luton, LU2 7AE



BLACKMOOR GOLF CLUB

Established 1913

Applicants are invited for the position of **HEAD GREENKEEPER**

at one of Hampshire's finest courses, home of the Selborne Salver and an Open Regional Qualifying course.

Candidates for this important position will be enthusiastic, appropriately qualified and experienced, have skills in preparing and managing budgets, be aware of current Health and Safety requirements and possess the ability to motivate, manage and work with a young team.

The successful candidate will report to the Secretary/Manager and salary will be negotiable.

Written applications, including full CV, should be sent to:

Mr A N Harris, Secretary/Manager, Blackmoor Golf Club,
Firgrove Road, Whitehill, Bordon, Hampshire GU35 9EH

Parks Services Unit

Head Greenkeeper (Towneley Park Golf Courses)

Scale 6 - SO1 (£19,185 - £22,689)

We are recruiting a working Head Greenkeeper to supervise maintenance of 3 golf courses located in the attractive setting of Towneley Park in the rural outskirts of Burnley.

Towneley Park covers 180 hectares of parkland and woodland surrounding Towneley Hall. The Park contains a mature 18-hole course (opened in 1932), a popular 9-hole course (opened in 1979) and a challenging 18-hole pitch and putt course (opened in 1930's). There is an active golf club and good clubhouse facilities and three golf shops operated as a concession.

You will be responsible for the maintenance of the courses, supervision of up to 8 permanent and seasonal green-keeping staff and have responsibility for materials and equipment budgets. You will also be responsible for supervising contractors, planning and implementing improvements to the courses and liaising with the Towneley Park Golf Club.

You must have fine turf and golf course and supervisory experience, together with a recognised qualification to NVQ 2/3 in fine turf or an equivalent qualification. Good interpersonal skills, the ability to manage and develop staff and control financial resources are also essential. We offer a 36.25 hour working week, generous holidays and an excellent pension scheme. Rented accommodation in a park lodge house may also be available if required.

For an application form and further details please contact:
Christine Crossley, Support and Member Services Unit,
20 Nicholas Street, Burnley, BB11 2AP Tel: 01282 425011 ext 2644

Minicom (uniphone) Tel: 01282 425011

For applications outside normal office hours - 01282 428235

CLOSING DATE: Monday 26th May 2003.

This post is suitable for Job Share

This Council operates a No Smoking Policy
An Equal Opportunity Employer



Burnley - Where Everyone Counts

SWEETWOODS PARK GOLF CLUB

Nr East Grinstead, Sussex

Established 1994

Require a **HEAD GREENKEEPER**

Sweetwoods Park is a stunningly beautiful busy Membership and PAYP course in the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, hosting televised events.

The successful applicant will have a minimum of NVQ3 and be a good communicator and motivator.

No existing accommodation is available, but arrangements may be possible.

Salary negotiable based on experience.

Contact: Peter Strand on: 01342 850087
or Cowden, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 7JN.