



**PORTERS PARK GOLF CLUB**  
RADLETT, HERTFORDSHIRE

## 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

## 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

## 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



## 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 c.v. including current salary to:

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

*Closing Date for applications is 21 September 2000*

## 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, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2QQ



## 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 course, 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, Wilmerhatch Lane,  
Epsom, Surrey KT18 7EW. Tel: 01372 229 282 (9am - 3pm).



## Feature listing from September '98

**September '98:** Nine holers – Tolladine and Fingle Glen, Turf, Steve Clement profile, Drainage, World Scientific Congress report

**October '98:** Saltex Review, BIGGA Retrospective, Stirling GC, Toro Awards Preview, Tree grants

**November '98:** Royal Opening, Ramside Hall GC, Gang Mowers, Hayter International report, Irrigation Systems

**December '98:** Toro Awards, Environment Awards, The Appliance of Science, Engines, Architects, BTME Preview

**January '99:** Pesticide Usage, Life in Colorado, Lyschott Heath GC, Worm Research, Stylo Matchmaker profile, Temporary Greens

**February '99:** Westerham GC; R&A questionnaire results; Finland; grass cutting; BTME99 Review; Bernhard and Co

**March '99:** Loch Lomond, Worm update, GrassRoots, Softspikes, Maintenance facilities, Environment review, Architecture

**April '99:** Carden Park, Telecommunications, Water Management, Rolawn, Seeds

**May '99:** Security, Bude and North Cornwall GC, Spraying Regulations, Jim Arthur, The Acid Theory, Amenity Technology profile

**June '99:** Thorpeness GC, Millennium Bug Busting, Irrigation, Scotts profile, Company adaptability

**July '99:** Carnoustie, Golf Course Furniture, Spike Research, Toro profile, BIGGA Silent Auction

**August '99:** Viscount Whitelaw tribute; Open review; Merrist Wood; Saltex preview; Turf; Trees; Grass Cutting; BIGGA Golf Day review; Redexim profile

**September '99:** Slaley Hall; Tyres; Spotlight on Thatch; Elmwood College Awards; National Championship preview

**October '99:** The Manor House, Castle Combe; Aeration; Saltex review; Mycorrhizas; Toro Award preview

**November '99:** Sir Michael Bonallack interview; The Pines GC; Oil; Bunkers; National Championship review

**December '99:** Agronomy; Security; Environment Competition Winner; Toro Award Winners

**January 2000:** Greens Construction; Awkward Jobs; Sandy McDivot; Agronomy; Toro Award review

**February 2000:** BTME2000 review; Committed to Green interview; Hookery Park GC; Engines; Chairman's profile; Environmental Management

**March 2000:** Cleobury Mortimer GC; Course Furniture; R&A Conference Report; Cutting heights; Avoncrop profile; Valderrama report; Westurf preview

**April 2000:** Fortrose & Rosemarkie GC; Utility Vehicles; Irrigation; Seed breeding; Gem Professional profile

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

**June 2000:** National Championship preview; Spraying; World Education Conference review; Environmental Management; Mowers

**July 2000:** Open Championship Preview; Dougal Duguid Court Case Report; Pest Control; Aventus profile; Course Conditioning

**August 2000:** Open Championship review; Water Features; Saltex preview; Charcoal; Malone GC; Royal County Down; Grand Tour Scholarship



# A memorable month



The view from the 12th tee on the new Lynedoch course at Murrayshall, in Perthshire is magnificent and I was fortunate to be able to savour it on the opening day of this beautiful new course. Designed by Hamilton Stutt and moulded into great condition by Ian MacMillan MG and his staff, this is a thinking course, no place for the slogger here and I would thoroughly recommend it to anyone.

My thanks to Mr A.C. Van Gils, the owner and a marvellous host, for my invitation to what was an excellent day. To Ian MacMillan, my thanks for your company and for all the interesting information on the course. I must say that the greens were in tremendous shape considering they are under a year old.

On Sunday July 16, I attended the Opening Ceremony of the World Junior Championships held at Craig GC in NE Fife. That was something to see as Sir Michael Bonallack opened the Championship with 75 youngsters from 75 different countries all lined up to listen to his welcoming words. There was a flag raising ceremony and instead of 75 different flags which could have been problematic, one flag had been made up with the flags of the 75 countries on it, what a souvenir that would be. What was just as impressive as that was when I returned on the Tuesday for the final day's play and prize giving ceremony. The play of these young people over a very tough course was of a very high standard as was their sportsmanship and the friendliness between themselves and also their hosts. I was privileged to be able to present the BIGGA trophy to Steven Jeppesen, from Sweden, and a name I will watch out for in the future.

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 eh! 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 when I was delighted to make a small presentation to Cecil George and Jimmy Neilson as this was their last Open as official BIGGA starters. They have officiated at every Open since we started in 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&A's 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 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's 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, not because club B along the road has one and their fairways are terrific. Certainly not before the green staff are well paid and have been provided with good facilities and conditions. A well paid, well equipped staff will always give greater return.

There is a time in the life of every problem when it is big enough to see yet small enough to solve



# MEMBERSHIP REQUEST CARD



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:**

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Membership**

Subscription includes magazine

**Associate/Company  
Membership**

Subscription includes magazine

**Student  
Membership**

Subscription includes magazine

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Golf Club/Company/College

Position at Club/Company/College

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Position at Golf Club/Company/College

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Golf Club/Company/College

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