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- Qualified to NVQ Level 2
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- 2 years experience preferable

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ga.org.uk

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Greenkeeper

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Regular players refer to our golf course as the most challenging and enjoyable course they play in South/South East England.

We still have work to do and since we acquired the business on 31st January 2005, we have been investing in the improvement of the facilities we offer.

In order to make this a truly great course we need to expand our dedicated team of Greenkeepers.

We are interested in receiving applications from both

QUALIFIED AND NON-QUALIFIED GREENKEEPERS

As employers, we are committed to help all our staff reach their full potential through continuous development and offering challenging opportunities.

In return, you will need to be hard working, enthusiastic and a team player. Flexibility is also important as you will be required to work some weekends. We are a rural location therefore it is important that you have your own transport.

Salaries are dependent on experience and qualifications.

To apply please contact the new owners Patrick or Belinda Kiely on (01306) 627555 or email Belinda@gattonmanor.co.uk

UNIVERSITY of GLASGOW

SPORT AND RECREATION SERVICE
GARSCUBE SPORTS COMPLEX

Head Groundsperson

£18,537 - £22,113

With extensive outdoor facilities and a wide customer base, we are looking for someone who can lead a team of ground staff and ensure delivery of a first class quality service.

You will have knowledge and experience of working in the grounds or greenkeeping industries and be a team player able to train, motivate and manage staff. You must be able to plan and prioritise work programmes and liaise with University suppliers. The post will be 'hands on' but will also require an element of administrative work. Good communication and people management skills are essential requirements of this post. Applicants with relevant experience and qualifications in either Groundsmanship or Greenkeeping will be considered for the post.

For an application pack, please see our website or write quoting Ref 11195/HRJ/S1 to the Recruitment Section, Human Resources Department, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ.

Closing date: 20 May 2005.

The University is committed to equality of opportunity in employment.



www.gla.ac.uk



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SPORTSTURF LECTURER/ASSESSOR

Due to continued expansion a full-time position is available for a motivated person who is willing to work as part of a team. You will teach sportsturf to students and support them through training. Candidates should possess N/SVQ level 3 in Sportsturf or equivalent and have current experience within the industry. Assessor qualifications and pesticide certification would be an advantage.

Send a copy of your CV to Lesley Lowrie, GOSTA Training, 50 Brook Street, Glasgow G40 2AB including details of current salary level.

Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL

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WE CAN HELP YOU FILL THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES:

Course Manager • Head Greenkeeper • Deputy Head Greenkeeper
Assistant Greenkeeper • Sales Representatives and Sales Managers
Engineers, Technicians and Mechanics



NORTH FORELAND GOLF CLUB

Applications are invited for the position of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Selected by the R&A as a British Open Qualifying Course and host to numerous Professional and Amateur events, means the role requires all areas of the golf course must be maintained and improved to a standard where it is recognised as one of the best presented and well kept courses in the southern region.

The successful applicant will need to be a good team leader and motivator, enthusiastic, hands on and committed.

Other requirements are:

- HNC/HND or appropriate vocational qualification
- Experience in the maintenance of downland courses
- Ensure machinery and equipment is well maintained and in working order
- Must be conversant with Health & Safety and COSHH regulations and practices
- Manage resources and exercise budgetary control
- The ability to carry out performance appraisals

The applicant must have sound understanding of modern and traditional practices and currently hold a senior position.

Salary and conditions are negotiable.

Applicants are requested to apply in writing or by email with a full C.V. to:

Tony Adams, General Manager, North Foreland Golf Club,
Convent Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 3PU.
Email: tony@northforeland.co.uk

Closing date for applications 19th June 2005

Recruitment



HARPENDEN GOLF CLUB

Invites applications for the following positions to expand its dedicated greenkeeping team

GREENKEEPER/ MECHANIC

Applicants should be fully qualified with at least five years practical golf course experience as well as fully conversant with a range of greenkeeping equipment, particularly Toro machinery and Bernhard grinders.

Salary £21k to £23k plus benefits subject to experience.

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be qualified to a minimum of NVQ level 2 or equivalent with PA1, PA2 and PA6 with at least three years practical golf course experience.

Salary £16k to £19k plus benefits subject to experience.

Applications in writing, with full CV, by 31st May 2005 to:
The General Manager, Harpenden Golf Club, Hammonds End,
Redbourn Lane, Harpenden, Herts AL5 2AX

COLNE VALLEY GOLF CLUB

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

We require an enthusiastic and motivated individual to take a supervisory role within our team to maintain our beautiful 18 Hole Parkland Course.

The successful applicant must have a minimum of 5 years working experience with NVQ2, PA1, 2 and 6.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:-
Tom Smith
Colne Valley Golf Club
Station Road, Earls Colne, Essex CO6 2LT
or email: info@colnevalleygolfclub.co.uk



Hessle Golf Club

has an immediate vacancy for an

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

The successful candidate will preferably have:

- 2-3 years experience of greenkeeping at a reputable golf club
- Qualifications to NVQ2 level or equivalent
- PA1, 2 and 6 would be an advantage
- Awareness of modern greenkeeping practices and current health and safety regulations
- Be self motivated and hard working

Apply in writing with CV to:
Derrick Pettit, Manager/Secretary, Hessle Golf Club,
Westfield Road, Raywell, Cottingham HU16 5YL

Closing date: Friday 27th May 2005.

You care for turf... we care for turf, but will you earn up to £40k next year?
...and £60k the year after.

There is no doubt the UK market for domestic lawn care has taken off in the last couple of years, and will continue to expand. The American market already exceeds \$29 billion dollars expenditure and the UK market is set to follow suit. There are a handful of Lawn Care franchises available in our sector, many have no formal training in turf care, or any course experience. Lawn Master is a company with a Unique difference. The majority of our staff are highly experienced, and we are the only professional lawn treatment company to have come through the ranks with qualified commercial staff with experience.

Lawn Master has set the standards in the last few years for unrivalled quality and adaptable feed programs. Lawn Master has always refused to use the 'one product' franchise method, which some franchises use because they are terrified of scorching lawns, or know no better. Our customer base runs into thousands, employing our services between our depots, and customers are content in the knowledge that they have real qualified staff dealing with their lawns, rather than an ex-bus driver or redundant bank manager.

The 'Lawn Master franchise masters pack' is the first of its kind to be offered in the UK. Since its launch in November 2004 we have opened two new areas run by fully qualified staff, to run along side our other outlets. The earnings potential is around £450 pounds per day per vehicle after business training.



What about turf knowledge experience?

Well you should already have a good idea how to treat lawns - just let us show you how to put your knowledge and training to a more profitable use.

The package includes:

- ✓ full business support
- ✓ in-depth software package
- ✓ training
- ✓ professional machines and equipment



Finance packages are available of up to 66% per cent of the cost of the franchise so you could start with as little as £7000.



Want more information? Then send or call for an info pack to:
Lawn Master, Turnpike House, St. Georges Road, St. George, Abergele, Conwy LL22 9BN

0845 60 22 054
www.lawnmaster.co.uk

Lawn master[®]
the lawn treatment service...

Recruiting? Perfect timing...

If you are looking to recruit new members to your team for the coming year, then **STOP!** Look no further!

The **GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT PAGES** are here to help you match the right person to the right job.

With a monthly circulation reaching over 9,000 people, targeted direct to your industry, you will be guaranteed to find a high calibre of candidates to fill your positions.

All adverts placed will go on to our website for a month **FREE OF CHARGE.** Plus all design work is included in the price.

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- 1/2 page = £910

Add 20% to the price if you want a colour advert and then...

Call **Amy** on **01347 833800**
to book your space

ELSHAM GOLF CLUB

Require a

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

The successful candidate must be hardworking, enthusiastic, motivated and have good communication skills.

Qualified to NVQ Level 3, PA1, PA2 & PA6 would be an advantage

Applications in writing by 24th May 2005 with full C.V. to:

The Manager, Elsham Golf Club, Barton Road,
Elsham, Brigg, North Lincolnshire DN20 0LS
email:manager@elshamgolfclub.co.uk Tel: 01652 680291

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER/MECHANIC ERLESTOKE GOLF CLUB

(Under new ownership)

Are seeking to employ a Greenkeeper/Mechanic.

The successful candidate will be fully qualified to NVQ level 2 or above, and hold the required Agricultural Machinery Maintenance Certificate or have a provable knowledge of equipment maintenance.

Please apply in writing, including your C.V. to:

Richard Gobardansingh, Erlestoke Golf Club
Erlestoke, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 5UB.



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Experienced & Trainee Amenity Sales Specialists Required

We currently operate throughout Northern England, the Midlands, East Anglia and the Welsh and Scottish borders and are looking to employ a representative to cover the midlands area. However, we are always looking for experienced, amenity professional in all areas mentioned above so please do apply.

Amenitywise offer outstanding career opportunities, particularly to those with management potential. You must be committed to providing good customer care as well as having first class technical knowledge of the amenity market.

Salary's are negotiable depending on qualifications and experience.

If this sounds interesting, **please apply in writing to** Stewart Jeffs, Amenitywise, Unit 5 Northgate Terrace Industrial Estate, Northern Road, Newark, NG24 2EU.
Tel. 0845 4569850. **Fax.** 0845 4569851

Pleasington Golf Club



Invite applications for a

COURSE MANAGER

Pleasington is an inland Championship Golf Course, currently on the list of the R&A as a Regional Qualifying venue for the Open Championship. It is an 18 hole Heath and Parkland course set amongst the rolling foothills of the Pennines in East Lancashire. Private Members Club. Par 71 6562yds (Blue Course).

The successful applicant must have the necessary experience and ability to manage, maintain and develop the course through leadership and the utilisation of the available resources.

The following skills, qualifications and experience are required:-

- Significant golf course management experience
- Professionally qualified as a Greenkeeper (NVQ Level 3 or equivalent & NPTC Spraying qualifications)
- Excellent Man Management and Leadership skills
- Health & Safety Awareness and Environmental Management Experience
- A sound working knowledge of machinery/equipment management.
- Ability to assist and work within an annual budgetary process

A competitive package is available to the successful candidate (Including accommodation if required)

Please apply in writing enclosing C.V. to:-

Trevor Ashton - Secretary/General Manager,

Pleasington Golf Club, Pleasington, Blackburn BB2 5JF

Tel: - 01254 202177 email secretary-manager@pleasington-golf.co.uk

Closing date for receipt of applications is - Friday 20th May 2005

Glendale, the 'green' business of Parkwood Holdings plc, has seen its recently established Glendale Golf division expand rapidly. In the Portsmouth area we now manage and maintain two of the City's Golf Courses. We would like to hear from suitably qualified and enthusiastic professionals for our Golf Division and existing Grounds Contracts. All positions are available for an immediate start.

Head Green Keeper

£14,872 - £18,096

Reporting to the Contract Manager, you will take responsibility for the day to day running and use of the grounds. This includes preparation and maintenance to a required standard, particularly of the greens and fairways, through reactive and planned maintenance programmes, as well as the supervision of sporting programmes.

It is essential that you have a full understanding of Health & Safety regulations and promote safe working practices at all times.

With at least 5 years' experience as a Groundsman or Green Keeper, a recognised qualification in a sports turf or golf industry is desirable. You should have a keen eye for detail and insist on exceptional standards of quality.

Green Keeper

£11,440 - £15,496

Assisting the Head Green Keeper to achieve the above remit, you will have some experience in golf course maintenance, a keen eye for detail and ideally a recognised qualification in a sports turf or golf industry.

If you believe you have the skills and experience required for either of the above posts, please contact Mr Tod Hale on 07850 228405, who is available to discuss these opportunities further or contact Lisa Day on 02392 650532 for an application form.

Alternatively, e-mail us at portsmouth@glendale-services.co.uk

Closing date: 3rd June 2005

Glendale

www.glendale-services.co.uk

Glendale

GOLF

Glendale is an equal opportunities employer

Think Green - Think Glendale

Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager

Rare and outstanding opportunity to construct and maintain a world-class championship golf course

Copenhagen

Around 200 hectares of parkland and forest, situated 20 km north-west of Copenhagen has to be transformed into two of the finest championship golf courses in the world.

Leading international golf course architect Robert Trent Jones II has designed two 18 hole courses for the site, which will be built to the highest European and international standards, suitable for future championship tournaments. Naturally there will also be a driving range, a training academy and superb clubhouse facilities.

Initially you'll work with the senior management team, the architect and the contractors on the construction of the course, advising on types of grass, drainage systems, etc, followed by selecting machinery, equipment and recruiting sufficient staff to achieve the highest quality standards. After that you'll control the 'grow in' phase, as well as the long-term management and maintenance of the courses. All work will be carried out with the greatest respect for the environment and the existing biotypes.

You should have the appropriate professional qualifications to at least NVQ Level 3 with AP 1, 2 & 6 spraying certificates, and preferably an

HNC/HND or Degree. More importantly you must have at least 10 years' greenkeeping experience with 3-5 years as a Head Greenkeeper or Course Manager, ideally at a championship course. Some experience of new course construction as well as forestry and parkland management, preferably in a Northern European climate, would be most beneficial.

You must be strong on leadership, people management, controlling substantial budgets, as well as the purchasing and use of modern machinery and computerised irrigation systems. Well developed communicating, organising, planning and team building skills are essential prerequisites.

If you think you measure up to this fantastic opportunity, please send a detailed CV with a covering letter including your current remuneration package, to: David Dewhirst, Recruitment Consultant, Work Communications Limited, 2 The Courtyard, Warwick Road, Solihull, West Midlands B91 3DA. Ideally please email him through: julia.sandham@workcomms.com

work
● ● ● ● ●



Require

EXPERIENCED GREENKEEPERS

The Club

We are a brand new Nicklaus designed Golf course, situated on the South Wales coast.

We are to host the Wales Ladies Championship of Europe in 2005, 2006 and 2007 and we seek high calibre persons to join our dedicated team of 12.

Candidates

Must be capable and preferably accustomed to working to a very high standard. Experience of 'grow in' maintenance a distinct advantage, but not essential. You will be ambitious, self-motivated, and have a keen eye for detail.

We offer a salary of £16,000 pa plus overtime.

Please apply to: J Robinson, Course Manager,
Machynys Peninsula Golf & Country Club,
Nicklaus Avenue, Llanelli. SA15 2DG



A Joint Venture Group of Companies



GREAT BARR GOLF CLUB LTD

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

The Deputy Head Greenkeeper would work closely with the Head Greenkeeper and deputise in his absence.

The position would suit a candidate who:

- Has a minimum 5 years experience in Greenkeeping.
- Would be qualified to HNC or NVQ level 3 with PA1, PA2 & PA6.
- Have experience of current Health & Safety regulations.
- Show knowledge in Machinery & Irrigation maintenance.
- Be enthusiastic, highly motivated & committed.

Please apply in writing with full CV including current salary to:

Mrs D. Smith, Club Secretary, Great Barr Golf Club Ltd.
Chapel Lane, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7BA Tel: 0121 3584376

OLD FOLD MANOR GOLF CLUB

Require a

DEPUTY COURSE MANAGER

Qualified to NVQ3 or equivalent

PA 1, PA 2 and PA 6 necessary

Salary to CGS Scale

Application in writing with C.V. by 20th May to:

Ian Semple, Old Fold Manor Golf Club,
Hadley Green, Barnet EN5 4QN



BLUNDELLS HILL golf club

Blundells Lane Rainhill Merseyside L35 6NA

(Established 1994)

Blundells Hill Golf Club is looking for an experienced

Head Greenkeeper

Blundells Hill is 11 Years Old, and has already developed into what is now regarded to be one of the best courses on Merseyside. The Course is built on gently sloping sandstone which provides excellent drainage, enabling the course to be played throughout the year.

Blundells Hill is a proprietary course and the Head Greenkeeper would report to the Directors who are keen to see Blundells Hill continue to Progress.

The preferred candidate must be versed in all aspects of course maintenance and construction and, as well as having the technical knowledge, must be able to lead a young team of highly motivated and qualified staff. The Candidate ideally would be 28-35 years old and have at least 5 years experience in golf course management, be physically fit and have the drive to take Blundells Hill to the top. The successful candidate would be taking over a well managed and modern facility where the equipment is constantly being updated.

All applications will be treated with total confidentiality.

Applications in writing to Philip McKie by the 20th May.

We also have vacancies for an Assistant Greenkeeper and a Part Time Gardener.



AREA SALES REPRESENTATIVE/MANAGER WEST OF SCOTLAND

AMENITY & SPORTS TURF DIVISION

A vacancy has arisen for an ambitious person to sell the leading brands in the industry, namely Barenbrug, Bayer, Pentagon, Scotts, Headland, Farmura, Fleet and many others including Stewarts own products, Turf, Kelpie, and Groundcare Services. A unique business proposition offering the winning candidate an unrivalled opportunity.

A positive attitude, enthusiasm, determination and great people skills are rated more highly than technical ability and experience. We will train you in one and you will gain the other. Does this description fit? Are you keen to develop yourself and to join a dynamic, progressive and professional team? Here is your chance. Apply now.

We also welcome confidential enquiries from experienced sales people looking for a fresh challenge with prospects for promotion.

Apply with your CV and covering letter by post, email, fax or give me a call:

Kenny Archibald, Sales Manager, Stewartsturf, Mayfield, Dalkeith, EH22 4BZ
email: kenny@stewart.co.uk; fax: 0131 663 0651; mob:07778 524 187



Dedicated to turf management

BIGGA's Fantastic Outdoor Range

BIGGA currently have a great stock of outdoor clothing at fantastically low prices for all of its members. BIGGA's new range includes jackets, fleeces, trousers and waterproof suits. All products are available in numerous sizes and colours and can be purchased by contacting Rachael Duffy on 01347 833800 at BIGGA HQ.

1. The Highlander Cargo Suit is the whole package. The suit features a coated micro fibre shell and waterproof breathable lining, with two cargo style pockets, plus two pockets on the trousers. The suit comes in M, L, XL & XXL. £55



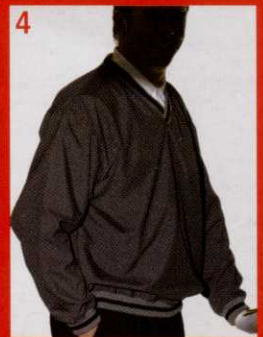
**PHONE
01347
833800
to
order!**

2. The Tour Suit, which comes in either a Weatherbeater or Full Zipper style (pictured), has a waterproof outer fabric, which is fully lined. The Weatherbeater jacket is a short zipped pullover style with two pockets and has an adjustable draw cord waist. It also contains zip off half sleeves. The trousers come with a three pocket styling. The Full Zipper version comes with a full length covered zipper on the jacket and the trousers have velcro adjustable bottoms. Jacket size ranges from S - XXL and the trousers come in 27", 29", 31" & 33". The suits come in a choice of colours. £130

3. This does exactly what it says on the tin. The Four Seasons Breaker is just that, perfect to wear all year round. This item is a multi option pullover style top with a short zip and elasticated draw cord. This breaker zips off in two places to create three different garments, full sleeve, 1/2 sleeve or a sleeveless top. Available in a multitude of colours and sizes. £26



4. When it blows, it really does blow and the Windbreaker ensures that you don't feel any of the resulting chill. This stylish top features a soft Teflon coated microfibre outer coat and is a pullover style, with high v-neck and two side pockets. It comes in navy, black or charcoal. Sizes S - XXL. £25



5&6. This top, which is Teflon coated and contains a soft waterproof breathable lining system, comes in two different styles. The Sport Weatherbeater (5) has an adjustable draw cord and is a short zipped pullover style. The Sports Jacket (6) is a blouson style with a full covered zip. Both come in a variety of colours and sizes are available from S - XXL. £42



7. The Reversible Waistcoat has two pockets both sides, is fully reversible and has an adjustable elasticised draw cord. Teflon coated, this top comes in black and grey or navy and stone (as pictured), with sizes ranging from M - XXL. £22.50

8 The Gear Crew Neck Fleece is ideal for work and play, is fashionable and practical. Available in S, M and L. Colours red, navy and grey. £22

9. If you truly want to be protected from all the elements then look no further than the Outerwear Jacket. This strong jacket is a acrylic coated waterproof, has a full zip with storm flap, and concealed hood. £40

10. These smart, yet tough, polo shirts are made with a fabric that actively pulls moisture away from the skin by rapid evaporation. The Dry Gear shirt is just £16 and is available in white, with either blue, green or red collar trim. The Nailshead polo shirt is moderately priced at £19.50.



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Feature listing from May 2003

May 2003; Cardrona Golf & Country Club; Poa Annual; Rough Mowers; Mole Control; Rootzone; Green Construction

June 2003; Irrigation; Ransomes Jacobsen Scholarships; Fertiliser; Fairway Mowers

July 2003; Irrigation Water; Greens Mowers; Bent Grasses; Course Management; Rakes

August 2003; Aeration; Open Review; Saltex Preview; Waste Water; Toro Student of the Year

September 2003; Hanbury Manor; Irrigation; Disease; Integrated Pest Management; Communication

October 2003; Construction Machinery; Pay Recommendations; Saltex Review; Pesticide Legislation; Finance

November 2003; Temple GC; Trees; Environment Competition Results; Sandy McDivot; Drainage

December 2003; BTME & ClubHouse Preview; Downfield GC; Compact Tractors; Architecture; Bio-tech

January 2004; Ipswich GC Profile; Grass Seed; Environment Competition Awards; Utility Vehicles (sit in)

February 2004; Harrogate Review 2004; Tyneside GC; Utility Vehicles (sit on); Irrigation

March 2004; R&A Best Practice; Trentham Park GC; Drainage; Spraying

April 2004; Know your Rules; Tournament Preparation; Landmarks in Greenkeeping; Security

May 2004; Goodwood Club; Seed or Turf?; Biological Product Survey; Water Features; Recycling; BIGGA Environment Competition

June 2004; Fairy Rings; Biologicals; The Grove; Kubota Profile; Turf; Sand and Rootzone

July 2004; Royal Troon Open Preview; Mowing, Disease Analysis

August 2004; Neil Thomas Memorial Golf Day; Open review; Royal Cinque Ports; Irrigation; Mowers (2); Saltex Preview; Best Practice; Top Dressing

September 2004; Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Preview; Ravensworth Golf Club; Turf Disease; Royal Holloway College; Tractors; The Greener Approach to Greenkeeping

October 2004; STRI 75th Anniversary; Kenwick Park GC; Ecology; John Deere National Team Championship; Best Practice; Top Dressing; Saltex Review; Aeration

November 2004; Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Final; The BIGGA National Championship; Comrie GC; CV Advice; Drainage; Construction; Fences

December 2004; BTME & ClubHouse Preview; Henley GC; Grass Identification; Trees; Environmental Winner; BIGGA Delegation; Interview Advice; College Listings

January 2005; Sir Michael Bonallack; Parkstone GC; Machinery Servicing; Ransomes Jacobsen Scholarship; Recycled Products; John Deere Team Championship; Tees; Negotiation Advice

February 2005; Harrogate 2005 Review; Meet the Chairman; Environmental Competition; Tyres; Coombe Hill GC

March 2005; Alwoodley GC; Difficult Areas; Drainage; Irrigation; Greens

April 2005; Augusta Syndrome; Thornhill GC; Difficult Areas Part 2; Turf Tonics; BIGGA Delegation; Fescue Grass

Chairman's Column



'Can ya tell me where we're heading'

As Chairman, my duty is to steer the ship for 12 months until the Vice Chairman takes over the helm. There are two essential things you need to know when steering a ship. One is where your destination is and the other is the best route to get there. I am rapidly finding out that our destination is not at all clear in all aspects and that 12 months is not long enough to find the best way to reach it.

My task over the rest of my Chairmanship will therefore be to try to get a better picture of where the membership would like us to go and for the Board to lay down markers as a guide for the future. To this end we are reviewing current policy in an effort to have specific aims and objectives for the next five to 10 years for the Chief Executive and his team to fulfil within the specified timescale. Rather like at the golf club, if there are no aims, objectives and policy or they are not adequately reviewed then much resource will be wasted by ever changing committees and personnel.

Up until now, our main goal has been to raise the profile of greenkeepers and our Association within the industry to gain recognition and respect through the education of Course Managers in particular. This has been tremendously successful and we now have a strong Association with a powerful voice. The question now is, what do we do with that strong foundation? What are we going to build on it?

There are extremes of opinion on this matter and I have my own personal view. These are not the views that matter however. The views that matter are the majority views of the bulk of the membership. My responsibility, as Chairman, is to try to satisfy as many members as possible, while readily acknowledging that it is impossible to satisfy them all.

Another responsibility as Chairman is to stimulate debate so that a consensus view can be arrived at. To this end I would like to briefly outline my own philosophy on just two of our many pressing concerns. I stress that these are personal opinions and are not to be taken as any indication of policy. They are merely a starting point for debate and, though I am sure they will ruffle a few feathers, I am secure in the knowledge that a Chairman who did not occasionally ruffle a few feathers never achieved anything.

I would put my main priority at the moment as the need for greater support for core greenkeepers at local level. I would tip the balance in favour of Section and Region activity and education in an effort to secure early involvement and interaction of members and a higher profile for BIGGA. The best tool for recruitment of new members is happy current members and retention rates will be high if we are seen to be active in assisting where our help is needed most.

At the same time we must continue to improve our professional image. While we have a stipulated NVQ Level 2 designation as a qualified greenkeeper member, we do not have any specified certification for a Course Supervisor

member or a Course Manager member. I would like to see, at some stage, separate categories of membership for each progressive stage in our careers, with defined qualifications and subscription rates to match.

It is very noticeable that you cannot practice as a golf professional unless you are a qualified member of the PGA. Currently anyone can operate as a Golf Course Manager without any qualification. Rather paradoxically this will begin to work against those who are technically gifted and can produce fantastic golf courses but have no formal qualification.

They will be the ones who are more likely to miss out, as formal qualifications in all industries become increasingly the norm. I would consider such a trend as a sad loss to the profession as a whole. Making all members certified through a standard minimum qualification would level the playing field and improve the professional status of us all.

Incidentally, just to throw in a current topic of debate, I do not see Master Greenkeeper as the best title for any future Course Manager qualification. The MG scheme was brought in to enable individuals to improve their performance and gain recognition. It also resulted in standards of training and staff welfare on MG run courses being driven up and so benefited other greenkeepers. It has much to commend it and as an MG myself I have much admiration for those who have achieved it.

My own opinion is though, that 15 years on, the title Master Greenkeeper is less than helpful. It sounds archaic and does not best describe what Course Managers do. We do not have Master Architects or Master Secretaries or Master Agronomists and even the titles Master Butcher and Master Baker are fast fading. I stress again that I do not question the validity of the award but do have reservations about the name. I can hear the feathers ruffling from here!

Having said all that, I believe that our Association will ultimately be judged not by the successes of its individually gifted members, whoever they may be, but by the manner in which it assists those members who need its support the most.

Kerran Daly
Chairman

Take a closer look...

Heritage moves outwards and upwards within the leaf blade.

Heritage stops the spread of disease that exists prior to spraying.

Lasting residual activity keeps Heritage working longer.

Heritage is absorbed readily into the leaf and moves both systemically and translaminarily.

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Heritage moves into emerging leaves that were not present during the initial application.

Turf roots absorb Heritage and move it throughout the plant.

...only Heritage protects from the inside, so your turf looks good on the outside.

The turf fungicide that will control Take-All patch and Fusarium.

- Proven and unparalleled preventative and early curative action
- Protects each and every blade of grass including the roots and new growth
- Enters turfgrass through the leaf, stem and root system
- Low risk environmental and toxicological profile
- For use on all grass species

 **Heritage**
Fungicide

Designed by nature and perfected by chemistry

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 **Scotts**

Bringing quality to play