

**SOUTH WEST
& SOUTH WALES**

SOUTH WEST/WALES SEMINAR 2005

This year's South West and South Wales Regional Seminar, 'The Big Debate', will take place on Tuesday November 22 2005 at Cannington College, Bridgewater. The theme for the Seminar will be the use of fungicides and pesticides in golf course presentation and the effects of future legislation.

The speakers for the day are Euan Grant, Head Greenkeeper at St Andrews; Kenny MacKay, Course Manager at The Forest Of Arden; Frank Ainsworth, Course Manager at Hilton Templepatrick, Belfast; Andy Campbell, Course Manager at Carden Park; Jay Dobson, PSD Agronomy Ltd. These speakers will make the day both informative and interesting.

Booking details and information will be sent to Head Greenkeepers/Course Managers in the Region. Should any of you require any further information you can contact Jane Jones, Regional Administrator, on 01454 270850 or mobile 07841948110.

South West

Not all that much to report this month - but there probably will be next month. Watch this space. Early August saw the Scotts Management Trophy played at my club, Minchinhampton. We couldn't use the championship Cherington Course, due to the necessity of a two-tee start, but it seemed to me that the Avening Course didn't do too badly as a substitute. Thanks for all the nice comments about the greens - very much appreciated. Even when I putted clean off the front of the 5th green from about 15 feet past the stick, I still thought - ah, Nice pace!

The greens were cut with Locke "V" reels mounted on a Toro 3250 set at 3mm. We rolled as well with Greensward true surface rollers. The stimpmeter was actually about 11 - yes, OK, there is a fair bit of Poa, but it's not all poa by any means - there's plenty of rye and moss as well! The Locke V reels are spring loaded against the bottom blades. They cut (and sharpen) as conventional spiral cylinders, but only need checking for cut once a month rather than every other day. This is particularly important for us as we are often trying to get 10 machines out through the door at 6am in the morning and its nice to know that the greens reels are OK.

Dave Meharg, at Synergy Products, has been really helpful with backup, advice and parts. We generally feed the greens with granular 14.0.14 once in the spring and once in summer, and with liquid N at monthly or regular intervals during the remainder of the season. This seems to suit the greens - we hardly ever close them - had the odd half day on temps last winter, that only when the frost was coming out.

The Kendleshire sent their standard strong team and weren't disappointed with a well played 86 points, from Yeovil and Lilley Brook. Thanks to Scotts and Minchinhampton for their sponsorship and courtesy.

The Section team went off to St. Pierre on August 18 to mix it with the South Wales Section. Yours truly wasn't able to be there owing to the sudden illness of my father, who sadly died a couple of days later. Thanks to all those who sent condolences, much appreciated. It's a funny time, you feel almost vulnerable with the person you looked up to the most in life, suddenly removed from the top of the tree. I'll get used to it.

Finally, Wayne Vincent, from Cotswold Hills, got in touch with an amusing anecdote on the return from his holiday last month. While he and the family were away sunning themselves in the Costas, the mother-in-law came round and started doing a bit of tidying in the garden. The first Wayne knew of it was when he got back, jet lagged and tired, to be confronted with a huge pile of drying garden refuse & branches, right at the bottom of the garden. Several favourite bushes of his were completely shredded, but, in order to preserve family harmony he was prepared to make allowances.

Of course, lounging on the decking, quaffing a couple of cold beers, after a while, hey, that pile doesn't look so bad, but the wife had different ideas and ordered him to burn the lot before nightfall, or else! So, armed with firelighters, and, bearing in mind the proximity of the neighbours' fence, an extinguisher and hosepipe, he set a fire. Yes, the fence did have a couple of scares and needed to be doused, but all in all a good job done.

The first inkling he had that owing to the prevailing breeze and convection from the fire, some of the glowing embers might have floated high across the garden and come back to earth well away, was the next day when his daughter jumped onto her beloved trampoline, only to go straight through what was left of the canvas and ended up on her backside on the floor.

"Over a £100 that cost me," moaned Wayne. "It would have been a hell of a lot cheaper to have hired a shredder." Probably been cheaper to have bought one mate, but who wants to rub salt into the wound. Keep it coming. Tel: 01453 837355, Mobile: 07768 394593, email: paul.worster@tesco.net.

Paul Worster

South Wales

I hope your courses are standing up well to play, is it just me or are we all getting some serious play on our courses this year. Just in from the course, it took a serious lightning strike tonight, a large Silver birch tree looks like it had been blown up from the inside, irrigation cable in tatters, valve assembly blown from the main box, turf debris all over the course and a hole in my 7th fairway and still some members were reluctant to come in as they had a good score going, crazy! At the moment I am in the process of pricing a new irrigation system, conspiracy theorists believe I had something to do with it, to get them to agree with a replacement system, like I have that much influence.

Results from the match versus South West, at St Pierre, played over the Mathern course, are as follows. South Wales won 3 matches to 2. Good turn out from both Sections, thanks to all for turning up and representing your Sections, we even had subs. Russell Anderson and I had an early bath, resoundingly stuffed 6 and 4, fortunately our team responded better.

The weather was fantastic, catering excellent, course in good shape, many thanks to the Course Manager, Stuart Wood. He was told we were booked to play on the Old Course, his team worked hard preparing the Old Course, only to find out later we were playing over the Mathern course, no problem as it was in good shape anyway. Many thanks to St Pierre for allowing us to host our annual match there again and to Scotts for providing the prizes for Nearest the Pin and Longest Drive winners. Thanks to Ceri Richards for representing Scotts through Avoncrop, also to James Rees, from Inturf Wales, for our sponsored team shirts.

Apologies from a number of key people, who would have liked to be there at St Pierre, included Jane Jones, our Regional Administrator. This fixture clashed with another, John Keenaghan, from the South West Region, and our Match Captain, Andy Roach, who is injured, hope you are feeling better, it gives us all a chance to win the Longest Drive competitions.

On a serious note the Section would like to wish Andy Roach a speedy recovery, looks like he will require an operation to relieve a trapped nerve on his back, he will be out of action for a while, at work and at Section level.

Longest Drive winner was Rob Davies and Nearest the Pin winner was Paul Jenkins. Both from the South West Section.

Rigby Taylor results in. Mark Wilshire and I were due to play Emyr and partner, apparently he made some poor excuse not to play on that day due to his 25th wedding anniversary. Fair enough, we organised another date, unfortunately Emyr has done his back in and has had to give us the match. Hope the Physio is working and you are feeling better. Peter Lacey & Steve Mills had a bye. Adrian Panks & G. Humphries beat Kerry Jones & Jamie Probert. All the latest results in so far, some pairings are well over the deadline for the second round completion.

Dates to remember include the 2005 BIGGA Regional South West and South Wales Seminar at Cannington College, on November 22. Speakers are as follows: Euan Grant, St Andrews; Kenneth Mackay, Forest of Arden; Andy Campbell, Carden Park; Frank Ainsworth, Hilton Temple Patrick, Belfast; Jay Dobson, Agronomist. The theme is fertiliser and pesticide use in relation to their application with regard to the management of their own courses. It's a good line up, so for further details or enquires please contact Jane Jones (RA) on 01454 270850 or 07841 948110.

This year's AGM is at Raglan Parc Golf Club, on October 20, at 11am. This is followed by our autumn golf competition, teeing off at 1pm. Last year's minutes will be available on the day, an agenda will be sent out with the details of the autumn competition entry form. Please try and attend the AGM as it gives you a chance to heckle the Secretary and I can bow out gracefully.

The 53rd Annual Dinner of the Wales branch of the IOG is to be held on Friday

October 7 in the Cathedral Suite at the Glamorgan County Cricket ground, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, at 7.30pm for 8pm. The dinner will be followed by a presentation of awards, grand prize draw and a social evening with a disco. Any Section member wishing to attend with their wives or partners, please get in touch with Peter Lacey for details.

I believe the BIGGA Golf Environmental Competition is at the final judging stages and the winner will be announced soon. We had only three golf courses from Wales last year, with Garnett Park winning for our Region. It costs nothing and in addition you will receive a free visit from Bob Taylor or Lee Penrose, Ecologists from the STRI. To get one of these highly experienced and knowledgeable guys out to your course for a consultation normally costs a small fortune, by entering it costs nothing and they are open to questions and will offer good advice.

I entered last year and was surprised to hear that even the smallest of changes to our management practices can have a huge influence to the ecology and conservation of our course to the flora, fauna and wildlife.

Congratulations to Celtic Manor Resort on the successful, made for television event, the All Star Cup, which played over the Roman Road course, and also to Mychynys Peninsula Golf Club for hosting the European Ladies Open, both courses looked great and were given great reviews. Bridgewater College has merged with Cannington College and congratulations to Huw Parry on his appointment as Head of the Greenkeeping Department.

Any news please get in touch on 07725 040878.

Angus Macleod

Devon & Cornwall

In the March issue of Greenkeeper International this year I reported that Andy Parker, the Head Greenkeeper at The Downs Crediton Golf Course, near Exeter, had increased his greenkeeping skills by becoming a marine salvage expert. Well guess what? He is at it again, he has now furthered his talents by becoming a Shepherd. It appears that at the end of August some cattle rustlers tried to steal some sheep from a farmers field near to the course. Yes you know what is coming next, the rustlers broke down a gate and instead of the sheep taking a left turn they went in the opposite direction, onto the course all 150 of them.

If this wasn't enough the rustlers tried to round them up, and in doing so drove over some of the greens. Having some members on the green is bad enough but sheep as well, especially when we are in a busy time of the season for club competitions. As Andy said, every cloud has a silver lining - he at least procured some organic fertiliser free of charge.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Section to congratulate Andy and his bride, who got married on September 24, providing of course he survived his stag night. Watch this space, I wonder how long it will be before Andy is shepherding his own little flock.

Very little news to report this month, however I would like to remind members the following dates to enter into their diaries as follows. The first Section meeting will be held at Mullion Golf Club on Wednesday October 12. Thursday November 3 is at Padbrook Park Golf Club and is a Soil Science Workshop. Wednesday November 16 is at Saunton Golf Club and is the AGM. Tuesday November 22 is the Regional Seminar at Cannington College. Very shortly I will have the fixture cards printed for this autumn and next spring, which all members will receive in the post.

Very little news to report this month, so if any member has any interesting news for the future please do not hesitate to contact me.
Donovan O Hunt.

CHECK OUT THE EVENTS PAGE ON THE BIGGA WEBSITE FOR AN UP TO DATE LIST OF ALL THE HAPPENINGS IN YOUR SECTION AND REGION.

From Tournaments to Seminars, AGM's to Dinners it's all covered at www.bigga.org.uk.

If you have a BIGGA event that you wish to place on the Events Page contact Gareth at BIGGA HOUSE on gareth@bigga.co.uk or 01347 833800

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A QUICK NINE HOLES

- Brian Noble
- Denton
- Three - Frank Lampard, Claude Makelele and John Terry
- Jake LaMotta
- Seven
- Jean Alexander, who played Hilda Ogden in Coronation Street, according to a TV Times poll.
- Atletico Madrid
- Felicity Huffman, who plays Lynette Scavo
- Zersenay Tadesse

ANAGRAM

- I CHEW A LEMON - MICHAEL OWEN
CIRCLE THEM SHEEP - PETER SCHMEICHEL

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



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1	2	8	3	7	5	9	4	6
6	3	7	9	1	4	5	8	2
7	1	3	4	2	9	8	6	5
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8	9	5	6	3	1	4	2	7
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ON PAGE 57**

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With a total of 7 years experience at
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I have Pesticide and First Aid certificates, along with a sound
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I am a mature, self motivated individual who works well as part
of a team whilst working to the highest of standards.

Should you have a suitable vacancy then
please contact George Alexiou on:
01278 671816 Mobile 07773162374

Recruitment

Copt Heath Golf Club



Applicants are invited for the position of

Greenkeeper

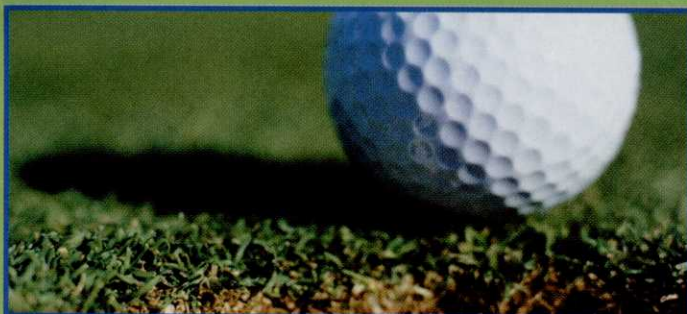
at this renowned Midland Golf Course.

The successful applicant will be an ambitious and enthusiastic person
joining an established team. Applicants should ideally be experienced
and hold a minimum qualification of NVQ Level 2, those currently studying for
this will not be excluded. They should also possess PA1, PA2 & PA6 spraying
certificates and a Chain saw qualification would be an advantage.

Salary and conditions of employment are negotiable.

Apply in writing, by 31st October 2005, with full CV to:

The Course Manager, Copt Heath Golf Club,
1220 Warwick Road, Knowle, Solihull B93 9LN



COURSE MANAGER'S POSITION

GOLF COURSE MANAGER at HAMPTON COURT PALACE GOLF CLUB in London.

This is an exciting opportunity to join Europe's largest golf course management company and to help further develop this 100 year old course next to Hampton Court Palace.

Applicants must have a proven track record to lead and work with a committed greens staff team and to help further develop and improve this historic course. The successful applicant should have all the necessary experience and ability to maintain a private members club to a high standard.



HAMPTON COURT PALACE
GOLF CLUB

Applicants for the position should have the following:

- NVQ3 or similar plus spraying qualifications
- A sound knowledge of irrigation systems & machinery
- Health & Safety Awareness
- Excellent man management & leadership skills
- Ability to work within and understand budgets

Salary by negotiation.

Apply in writing by Friday 21st October with full CV to:

Laurence W. Pithie
Group Golf Courses Manager
Crown Golf
Blue Mountain Golf Centre
Wood Lane, Binfield
Berks RG42 4EX
or
E-mail l.pithie@crown-golf.co.uk

FLACKWELL HEATH GOLF CLUB

Flackwell Heath Golf Club is a well established 18 hole private members Club situated near the town of High Wycombe

To compliment our Team operating from a well equipped and recently completed purpose built Greenkeepers facility, we have immediate vacancies for a

MECHANIC AND AN ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Applicants should possess, or be working towards, the appropriate qualifications and have at least two years experience of golf course maintenance. A mechanical background would be an advantage.

Remuneration commensurate with experience.

Applicants should apply in writing to the Secretary / Manager, enclosing a full C. V. and details of existing salary and benefits.

Flackwell Heath Golf Club, Treadaway Road,
Flackwell Heath, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP10 9PE



DEPUTY COURSE MANAGER'S POSITION

CROWN GOLF require a DEPUTY GOLF COURSE MANAGER at OAK PARK GOLF CLUB.

Oak Park is a 27 hole course near Farnham in Surrey, and consists of an undulating mix of parkland and woodland.

The position within Europe's largest golf management company in Europe will suit an ambitious, dedicated professional who has the ability to help maintain and further develop this course.

Applicants for the position should have the following:

- A minimum of 5 years experience in golf course maintenance
- NVQ2 or similar plus appropriate spraying qualifications
- A working knowledge of irrigation systems & machinery
- Health & Safety Awareness
- Good communication skills

Salary by negotiation.

Apply in writing by Friday 21st October with full CV to:

Vince Ley
Golf Courses Manager
Oak Park Golf Club
Heath Lane, Crondall
Farnham, Surrey GU10 5PB
or
E-mail oakpark@crown-golf.co.uk



OAK PARK
GOLF CLUB



The Richmond Golf Club

Requires an

Assistant Course Manager

for our prestigious 18 hole course.

We are looking for the right candidate that has attributes that will help enhance the management and presentation of the golf course operations. Reporting to the Course Manager, the successful applicant will play a pivotal part in the daily management of the course and help improve the existing high standards.

He or she will need to demonstrate to all staff their positive and progressive attitude to their work. You will be responsible for the daily management of the golf course through consultation from the course manager and will be expected to lead by example.

We would ideally expect the candidate to have, but not necessarily have all

- NVQ level 3 or HNC qualifications
- Spraying qualifications including knap sack and mounted sprayers.
- Chainsaw certificates
- Computer skills
- Working knowledge of irrigation systems
- General good knowledge and understanding of turf maintenance
- A working knowledge of Health & Safety regulations would help.

The club can offer an attractive salary, onsite family accommodation, pension scheme and other company benefits.

Closing date for applications: 31 October 2005.

Written applications with a copy of your CV to:

Lee Strutt, Course Manager

The Richmond Golf Club, Sudbrook Lane, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 7AS

E-mail: leestrutt@richmondgolfclub.co.uk

Recruitment



Romiley Golf Club

Romiley Golf Club, founded in 1897 is an 18 hole picturesque course with a reputation of being one of the finest and most demanding in Cheshire, now has a vacancy for:

HEAD GREENKEEPER

The successful candidate will work closely with the Greens Committee and have the vision and creativity to further improve and develop this established course.

Applicants should have the following:

- Good man management and leadership skills and the ability to work within approved budgets
- Recognised greenkeeping qualifications - minimum NVQ level 3, PA1, PA2 and PA6 spraying certificates
- Mechanical skills to ensure our substantial inventory of machinery are well maintained
- Sound knowledge of irrigation systems
- Organisational ability to prepare work programmes and meet deadlines
- Full Compliance with current Health & Safety legislation, to include risk assessments

A competitive salary and excellent benefits are being offered.

This is an ideal opportunity for a dedicated and enthusiastic individual.

Closing date Friday 28th October.

Applications in writing with CV should be made to:

C.C. Harrison, Greens Chairman, Romiley Golf Club, Goosehouse Green, Romiley, Stockport, SK6 4LJ

Tel: 0161 430 2392 or email: office@romileygolfclub.org



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DEPUTY COURSE MANAGER

Salary Negotiable (40 hours per week)

A vacancy exists for a Deputy Course Manager to work at Elmwood College's 18 hole Golf Course.

Reporting to the Course Manager, the successful applicant would be expected to assist in the management of staff and resources, in addition to undertaking routine greenkeeping tasks. Instruction of students, providing feedback on course condition, student / staff performance is an integral part of the job and the post holder would be expected to deputise in the absence of the Course Manager.

The course is undertaking a major construction remodelling project to allow the development of a golf academy, and driving range. Construction experience is desirable but not essential.

Applicants should be educated to SVQ III / HNC/D or equivalent in a related subject and must possess at least five years working experience on golf courses.

Applicant should hold relevant spraying certificates.

Applicants should have appropriate assessor awards or a willingness to study towards them.

For further details and application forms please contact Elmwood College on 01334 658823

Closing date for applications is Monday 24th October 2005

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You should have the relevant qualifications and experience, together with a recognised teaching qualification (or willingness to undertake the appropriate training, for which support will be given). "A" Unit assessor awards will need to be undertaken if you do not already possess them, and an understanding of the NVQ Awards system is desirable. In addition, you will be an effective team member with a high level of interpersonal, communication and organisational skills.

For further details and an application form, please telephone 020 8394 3160 (out of hours answer phone) quoting the appropriate reference number, email: humanresources@nescot.ac.uk or visit the Nescot website www.nescot.ac.uk/jobs

Completed applications should be returned to the Directorate of Human Resources, Nescot, Reigate Road, Ewell, Surrey KT17 3DS by 17 October 2005.



PINNER HILL GOLF CLUB

Invites applications for the following posts:-

HEAD GREENKEEPER

The successful applicant will be responsible for the day to day management of the course and its continuing development.

They will possess the following attributes:-

- Ideally HND in golf course management or equivalent qualifications
- In depth knowledge of turf management, irrigation, drainage & equipment maintenance
- Spraying and Chainsaw certificates essential
- Up to date knowledge of Health & Safety Legislation
- Strong supervisory & management skills
- Completion of assessors training course advantageous

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

The successful applicant would work closely with the Head Greenkeeper.

The position would be suited to a candidate who has the following:-

- A minimum of 5 years experience in greenkeeping
- Would be qualified to HNC or NVQ level 3 with spraying certificates
- Have current knowledge of Health & Safety Regulations
- Have knowledge in machinery and irrigation maintenance
- Be enthusiastic, highly motivated and ambitious

A competitive package is available to the successful applicants.

Applications in writing together with a full CV to:

Mr J Duffy, General Manager, Pinner Hill Golf Club, Pinner Hill, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 3YA Or email to pinnerhillgc@UK2.net



SUNNINGDALE GOLF CLUB

require

Head Greenkeeper

New Course (designed by Harry Colt, 1923)
Reporting to Courses and Estates Manager

- Minimum 5 years' golf course experience
- Qualified to NVQ3 or equivalent preferred, but not essential
- Spraying certificates PA 1, 2 & 6
- Strong supervisory and communication skills
- Knowledge of IT and keyboard skills preferred, but not essential
- Salary negotiable according to experience and qualifications

Assistant Head Greenkeeper

New Course (designed by Harry Colt, 1923)
Reporting to Head Greenkeeper

- Minimum 5 years' golf course experience
- Qualified to NVQ2 or equivalent preferred, but not essential
- Spraying certificates PA1, 2 & 6
- Strong supervisory and communication skills
- Salary negotiable according to experience and qualifications

Applicants should be self motivated, committed and hardworking as well as having the necessary experience and ability to maintain the amenities of a World Top 50 golf club, host of the Open Championship International Final Qualifying - Europe, 2006 & 2007 and the Women's British Open 2008.

Please apply in writing or email with full CV to:
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Closing date for Applicants: 31st October 2005

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We are offering the opportunity for individuals experienced with this type of equipment to develop a career in sales and become either our Northern Area Manager, taking over from the current successful incumbent, who is retiring, covering the North of England and Scotland or our South-Eastern Area Manager, covering East Anglia and the Southeast. **We will provide full sales training and on-going support and guidance** to the successful applicants.

Perhaps you are currently using this type of equipment as a green keeper and believe you have an aptitude for sales? We believe self-confidence, strong organisational skills and an appreciation of the products you are selling are the basis for a successful career in sales. As an Area Manager you will focus on building effective long-term relationships with our Dealers and on identifying and developing new business in order to achieve your sales targets. This is a great opportunity to take the first step into sales by joining a successful company with a portfolio of branded equipment

To find out more visit our website www.saxonind.co.uk

If you think you have the personal ambition and drive to develop a career in sales please send your CV and salary details to Ian Kerry, Horticultural Sales Director, Saxon Industries, Everland Road, Hungerford, Berks RG17 ODX e-mail ian.kerry@saxonind.co.uk



Aylesbury Park Golf Club

Deputy Head Greenkeeper

Aylesbury Park Golf Club is currently seeking someone to join their greenkeeping department. Applicants must have a minimum of NVQ Level 2 qualification together with PA1, PA2, PA6 spraying certificates and will need to be able to demonstrate self-motivation and experience in all aspects of course maintenance.

Reporting directly to the Course Manager, this is an excellent development opportunity for individuals wishing to pursue a career in Greenkeeping.

Please apply in writing enclosing your CV together with details of your current salary to: Dale Hand, Course Manager, Aylesbury Park Golf Club Ltd, Andrews Way, Aylesbury, Bucks HP17 8QQ

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

required at

Bradford Golf Club (Hawksworth)

Has an immediate vacancy for a greenkeeper to join the existing team of five.

The right candidate will hold a minimum of NVQ 2 or equivalent as well as good knowledge of the game of golf.

Ideally the candidate will be enthusiastic, committed and have a high level of motivation.

Competitive rates of pay with training opportunities exist for the right candidate

Please apply in writing by 4th November to:

David Thackray, Head Greenkeeper, Bradford Golf Club,
Awksworth Lane, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 8NP Tel: 01943 875570