

## St. Thomas's Priory Golf Club

are looking for a **Head Greenkeeper**.

This post requires a well disciplined dedicated professional who possesses the following qualifications-

- NVQ3 or equivalent
- All relevant spraying certificates (Pa1, Pa2, Pa6)
- Sound knowledge of machinery
- Good communication skills

The successful applicant will be a highly motivated individual, with sound green keeping experience, able to be part of a team with a strong desire to succeed in a progressive business.

Please send CVs to

Ray Rudd, St. Thomas's Priory Golf Club  
Armitage Park, Rugeley, Staffs  
WS15 1ED

or email: [bigga0808@st-thomas-golfclub.co.uk](mailto:bigga0808@st-thomas-golfclub.co.uk)



## Clandon Regis Golf Club require an Assistant Greenkeeper

The candidate must have a minimum of 2 years experience and ideally possess an NVQ level 2 qualification.

Spraying certificates beneficial ( PA1, PA2 and PA6 )

The successful candidate should be highly motivated and enthusiastic to join our hard working, friendly team.

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

**Darren Wales – Course Manager**  
Clandon Regis Golf Club  
Epsom Road, West Clandon, Surrey  
GU4 7TT

01483 – 224888

[office@clandonregis-golfclub.co.uk](mailto:office@clandonregis-golfclub.co.uk)



## MECHANIC

### & GREENKEEPER REQUIRED

MECHANIC required to join experienced team at privately owned club. To work and maintain modern fleet of machinery. Applicants should possess sound knowledge of servicing, grinding and H & S regulations; will also be required to carry out course maintenance as and when required. Well equipped workshop and attractive salary is on offer to the successful candidate.

GREENKEEPER with at least 1 years experience required to join hardworking and dedicated team. Applicants should possess the normal qualifications associated with the position. Full training will be given alongside personal development programme.

Please apply in writing with C.V. to:

Stewart McMillan, Mill Ride Golf Club,

Ascot. SL5 8LT or e-mail [s.mcmillan@mill-ride.com](mailto:s.mcmillan@mill-ride.com)



## Deputy Course Manager South Essex Golf Centre

Applicants for the position require the following  
NVQ2 and NVQ3  
Spraying certificates  
Sound knowledge of Irrigation systems  
Supervisory Skills  
Knowledge of Health and Safety Regulations

Apply in writing with CV, by 7/9/08 to

Peter Dawson, Course Manager

Brentwood Road, Herongate Brentwood, Essex CM13 3LW



AMENITY (FINE TURF DIVISION)

## Technical Sales

### SOUTH EAST

Vitax, a well established, privately owned business supplying a comprehensive range of quality products to the sports turf market, has an exciting opportunity for a Representative to take over an established distributor/end-user customer portfolio in the South East.

Quality, cost effective products & solutions for our customers has made Vitax a highly respected brand in the amenity industry. To continue this commitment a new division dedicated to the fine Turf greenkeeping/groundsmanship industry is being introduced.

Candidates must have proven success in a sales role or an in-depth knowledge of the sports turf industry and the candidate should be able to communicate effectively at all levels. The post carries a competitive remuneration package and drive and ambition will ensure further success in this interesting commercial environment.

If you feel you have the necessary skills, experience and enthusiasm to succeed in this role, please send your CV to:

Joe Crawley, Vitax Ltd.  
Owen Street, Coalville, Leics LE67 3DE

Tel: 01530 510060 Fax: 01530 510299  
Email: [marketing@vitax.co.uk](mailto:marketing@vitax.co.uk)



Online jobs go to

[www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

For instant online  
advertising please contact

Kirstin on 01347 833 832

Part month £300

Full month £500

The website is updated  
regularly with new vacancies

Get online now!

# Chairman's Column

## A Week to Remember

It was an honour to be Chairman at this year's Open Championship, where I saw a great diversity with our guys in the profession of greenkeeping. I thought the Royal Birkdale team did an outstanding job and all the hard work in the run up to the event certainly paid off. The quality of turf produced in such poor conditions was exceptional. Talking of the weather, where has the summer season gone? Only a few days of high temperatures.

As I write this article we are enjoying a few more decent days toward the end of July and I hope we are in for an Indian summer, September to October, I hope that is not too much to ask.

I arrived at The Open on Monday night to meet with the BIGGA HQ team, before heading off to the course. On Tuesday I went to see the marquee and then helped with organising the Support Team's uniform. There were some big crowds on the practice days and some of the best weather of the week.

I attended the Association of Golf Writers' Dinner Tuesday night. Scott MacCallum, John Pemberton and I met with a lot of familiar faces throughout the world of golf. All the talk was about the injury to Padraig Harrington and would he be able to defend his title, how ironic that turned out to be.

Padraig collected the AGW Golfer of the Year award, Peter Alliss collected the Lifetime Achievement Award and, as usual, had some very entertaining stories and good things to say in his acceptance speech. We then had Nick Faldo, Ryder Cup Captain, discussing the upcoming matches with the USA later this year. All in all, a good night networking within the industry.

On Wednesday morning we were off to the R&A with John Pemberton and David Golding to discuss future investment in greenkeeping training. We then spent a few hours on the course, there seemed to be lots of spectators around on the Wednesday. By mid afternoon it was back to the hotel to organise uniform as members of the Support Team were due to arrive for their 5 o'clock meeting.

Scott did all the introductions, set out rules for the week with instructions for how the R&A and the Royal Birkdale team wanted the bunkers raking for the week.

That evening I attended PGA of Europe Awards Dinner, a good networking opportunity within the industry, and it was fitting as there was our own Gary Alliss, Head Professional at the Belfry, accepting his Master Professional Award. Gary gave a great acceptance speech - reflecting a similar humour to his dad really. He's also been named PGA Cup Captain this year.

It was then on to the first round, horrendous conditions between 6am and lunch. Anybody who was exposed to it suffered. The winds were terrible and the high scoring reflecting this and whether you were greenkeeping, scoring, or simply spectating it was hard going. The BIGGA marquee was busy as people were tending to take cover. The day improved as the weather changed during the afternoon, crowds seemed to grow and it was a very big day.

On Friday the weather improved, as did the golf, although with still strong winds and showers there were some great golf scores, 65, Villegas, birdies last 5 holes, 14 - 18. Unbelievable!

It was good to meet up with a lot of the guys from the Support Team, some old faces and some new - it's always great to meet new people in the industry. I caught the last bus back from the course with the divoters and waiting for the cut to be made so the team could figure shifts. 83 players made the cut and a very high 9+ score.

On Saturday there was a wet start to the day, high winds, creating tough conditions for golf it was great to see Greg Norman turning back the



clock and in an incredible display throughout the week, managed to take a two shot lead.

The marquee was busy and guests were popping in. I had an early finish on Saturday and got back to hotel to catch up with some more people.

On Sunday, the final day of a long week and a fitting end to the tournament, Padraig Harrington produced a fantastic back 9 - the best score of the day.

We gathered the Support Team together at the end of the championship for a picture and said a big thank you to the guys who supported the event, especially for giving up their own personal time, holidays etc. There was a great mix of young and old greenkeepers there. It all went very well.

Also to the Birkdale guys, to Chris Whittle and his team, this was a fantastic event in very trying conditions, and I think the greenkeeping profession was held in very high regard by the end of the week.

I hope to see some more new faces at Turnberry in 2009.

Your next issue of GI will be with you by September 7th  
Visit our website for a full archive of BIGGA magazine issues at [www.bigga.co.uk](http://www.bigga.co.uk)



# A tool to groom your bottom line – Toro Financing.

For more than 90 years, Toro has partnered with turf care professionals like you to create the world's most appealing landscapes. Toro is committed to providing innovative, reliable equipment to make your job easier. Now Toro introduces a product to help your bottom line: Toro Financing. Designed specifically for turf care professionals, Toro Financing can help you acquire the equipment you need to create picturesque, playable landscapes – and stay on-budget.

TORO Commercial, Irrigation and Consumer Products are distributed by Lely (UK) Limited  
St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 1QH. Tel: 01480 226800 Email: [toro.info.uk@lely.com](mailto:toro.info.uk@lely.com)

TORO Commercial and Irrigation Products are distributed by Lely Ireland Limited, Kilboggin  
Nurney, Co. Kildare. Tel: 00 353 (0)45 526170 Email: [turfcaresales.ie@lely.com](mailto:turfcaresales.ie@lely.com) [www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com)



**TORO**

**Count on it.**