There can't have been too many occasions in the last 30 years that have witnessed the scale of flooding we experienced at the end of October and beginning of November. It was truly horrific and a large proportion of the population suffered to some degree or another.

At the sharp end, and that included a number of BIGGA staff, homes were flooded and inundable damage done. Not to mention the loss of custom for many shops and businesses in flood-affected towns and villages. Further down the scale were those people whose routes to work were blocked, and down further to those people who had to cancel weekend trips or recreational pursuits. All in all, a sizable percentage of the British population were affected.

As Elliott Sumall says in his "As I see it..." column golf courses are not the top priority when compared to people's homes but members will no doubt expect to get back on their courses as soon as is possible, if not sooner, to work out their frustrations on a lump of balata.

I suppose it leads to the pointed question. How tall should the posts for "Course Closed" signs be to keep them visible above water lines?

Regular work schedules go out of the window, winter programmes shelved and the thought of the effort required to bring a course back to its best after the floods have gone is enough to bring grown men to their knees. Which is exactly where those Course Managers, Head Greenkeepers and their teams earn their stripes.

Clearly up here, from a greenkeeper's point of view, ensuring that stabilised areas are roped off and that course furniture is retrieved and repaired can be a thankless task. Particularly if conducted under leaden skies, in the certain knowledge that with what looked like a short, medium and long term and the problems...