I've only just started column writing but already I'm making it complicated for myself. This is a two-parter. The first is writing at home before I head off for the GCSSA Conference and Show and then, when I get to Texas, I'll compile the second part. I didn't believe it was possible to get a game of golf in two days. That's been followed by a sharp frost and as I sit here, we've got an open course. Now we've got a sunny morning and members are closed. Understandably they can't open the course. Now we've got an open course. Now we've got a sunny morning and members are closed. Understandably they can't open the course. Now we've got an open course. Now we've got a sunny morning and members are closed. Understandably they can't open the course.

Friday is an awesome place in every way - I think that's the phrase you use in those parts and the GCSSA Show, which this year celebrated its 75th anniversary is an incredible occasion.

Our presence at the Show has been very much appreciated by everyone on this side of the Atlantic and our booth has been very busy. It is interesting that the thing which attracts most attention is our Master Greenkeeper Scheme which is very highly thought of by American Superintendents. Almost every conversation we have had at some stage gets round to talking about Master Greenkeeper and it just proves what an excellent programme it is for us.

One of the highlights of the week for me was the keynote speech by General "Stormin" Norman Schwarzkopf of Gulf War fame who talked about what it took to be a great leader.

Funnily enough only last year I remember him saying at a Board meeting that he wanted more work to do. Well, I think we'll have fixed that for him over the next couple of years.

Our new Board member is David Walden, from Peterborough, who is very much a greenkeeper's greenkeeper in every sense of the word. I know he has been a tireless worker for the Association at Section and Regional level and, as a former Greenkeeper of the Year, he will bring many skills to his role on the Board.

Part 2.

Well that's it for this month. I'm off to put the finishing touches to the paper I'm giving at the Canadian Conference and Show in Vancouver.

Clive Osgood