There are some jobs that nobody in their right mind would ever touch with a barge pole.

It would be fair to say, for example, that I never had even the slightest inclination to apply for the role of Chief Shoe Cleaner for Insole Marcos.

I mention this here for the simple reason that eight months ago, when I accepted the invitation to become Greens Director at my local golf club, Welwyn Garden City GC, at least a dozen of my friends told me that I must have lost my marbles.

Long-standing acquaintances were particularly perplexed because they knew that about 20 years ago I had fulfilled a similar role at a previous club in Scotland and so automatically assumed that I should have known better than to agree.

I have numerous golfing acquaintances who would tell you they would rather have all their teeth removed without an anaesthetic than to become the Greens Director or Greens Convenor at their golf club but I'm not one of them and I can confirm nothing has happened over the last eight months to make me change my mind. Indeed, I have enjoyed the role immensely. I'm not sure our excellent Course Manager, Brett Cox, and his hard-working team would be quite as enthusiastic but, hopefully, they would agree I have done my bit and, much more importantly, let them get on with theirs.

In fact, I can assure you, my dear Reader, that my performance as Greens Director has been so good that the entire team at Board or Committee level. Sometimes, perhaps during spells of inclement weather or, for example, while a concerted effort is being made to rid the greens of meadow grass, the Course Director will have to act as a buffer between the Greenkeeper and irate members. That is inevitable, not to mention uncomfortable. However, for the rest of the time, when the course is deemed to be in good condition, the same Course Director can bask in praise he so richly deserves.

It is not rocket science, I can assure you, and it can be made even less problematical if every effort is made to tell members in advance when vertidraining, hollow coring and other such work is to be done.

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