

Greenside Comment...



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MERGER OF MAJOR TITLES

September is the usual month companies choose to make their announcements to the amenity turf press about product innovations, takeover bids, staff changes or other news likely to attract immediate attention from the ferreting scribes at Windsor's Sports and Leisure Exhibition.

This year the roles were reversed and it is the publishers themselves who created the talking point of the Show.

Golf Greenkeeping, published for the past six years, by Wharfedale Publications Ltd. will be amalgamated with The Golf Course, the official publication of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers' Association, with effect from the November issue.

This rationalisation has been welcomed by both the Executive and Directors of BIGGA, as well as manufacturers and distributors of golf course equipment in Britain.

It is seen as a major step forward for the developing Greenkeepers' Association, as The Golf Course will now be

published monthly, instead of ten issues a year. The size of the publication will be greatly increased, regular features and interviews are planned with golf course managers, in depth coverage of current technical subjects, plus all the up-to-date regional news from the North of Scotland to the West Country.

The re-launched magazine will now be published from the same stable as the highly acclaimed Turf Management, steered to success by the one time editor of Golf Greenkeeping, Stanley Ellison.

It is with a great deal of pleasure I can also announce that as part of the agreed merger of Golf Greenkeeping with The Golf Course, I am joining the newly formed publishing company as Executive Editor, to continue the role I have played and so much enjoyed for the past seven years.

It is no exaggeration to say I have made many friends among greenkeepers, manufacturers, agronomists, architects and those in education from literally the four corners of the globe,

since taking over as Editor of Golf Greenkeeping in 1982.

Those who witnessed the television coverage of the European Open at Sunningdale last month could not have failed to be impressed by the truly magnificent presentation of Jack McMillan's rolling acres. Although some may believe the fairies came out of the woods to paint the fairways in green stripes, our readers will realise the dedication and effort that was made to prepare an arena fit for gladiators.

As Course Manager, Jack personally received the accolades, but he is the first to pay tribute to the enthusiasm of his greenstaff, together with the army of volunteers, as well as neighbouring head greenkeepers and the industry who lent equipment. It was a co-ordinated effort in every sense of the word.

To be involved in reporting their achievements is a labour of love and one in which I shall continue to welcome with enthusiasm in the new launch of — The Golf Course.

See you next month!

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