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# Sign Of The Times

The last few weeks have seen a number of greenkeeper conferences staged throughout the UK all the Associations having held successful meetings covering a wide range of topics. It is not surprising that such conferences are popular, for they offer the delegate an opportunity of listening to informative papers and by bringing together large numbers of greenkeepers (there were over 200 at the Elmwood College conference) the exchange of information outside the hall is considerable.

A further sign of progress is the number of greenkeepers delivering well researched papers in a highly articulate manner. In the four years since the first EIGGA residential conference the number of greenkeeper speakers has risen from none to fifteen, who spoke over the three days at Warwick University, and by common consent these were amongst the best presented.

Whilst there will always be a need for expert advice it is gratifying to note the number of greenkeepers who not only have the courage to stand before a large audience but also have the confidence in their ability as professional turf managers to share their experiences with their fellows, mistakes included.

The Warwick conference was a sell-out with several disappointed applicants being turned away. This must bode well for the future of the entire greenkeeping profession when the conference hall is full and no one even thought of slipping away for a round of golf.

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## The Course Management Trophy

It is proposed to hold an inaugural meeting of an Open BOWMAKER Competition over 36 holes for the Course Management Trophy at Hankley Common Golf Club on 5th August 1986. The competition will be for club teams consisting of the Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper, Club Secretary and Committee Member responsible for the golf course. The entry fee will be £36 per team covering a snack lunch, dinner and prizes. Entry forms will be made available on application from Mr D. Lee, Secretary, Hankley Common Golf Club, Ilford, Nr. Farnham, Surrey.

The competition is the brainchild of John Harris — a member of the Hankley Common Management Committee — and is aimed at bringing together those responsible for maintaining and improving the golf course for a competitive and social day away from the pressures of their own club environment. It is hoped that the competition will become an annual event in the greenkeeping calendar.

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## Our Cover

The famous 16th at Cypress Point Golf Club — a timely reminder for all Club Members that even in the United States not every course, has to look like AUGUSTA NATIONAL.