

# This issue

MARCH 1987

Front cover: The somewhat daunting view from the 1st tee at the Desert Highlands Golf Club, designed by Jack Nicklaus, near Scottsdale, Arizona. *Greenkeeper* was there to attend the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's 58th conference and show.

---

## BY THE TIME I GOT TO PHOENIX 7

The British contingent of luminaries included *Greenkeeper* publisher Michael Coffey who reports on the show and conference. Dr Peter Hayes of the STRI relates his impressions of the golf courses on page 8

---

## OUT ON THE COURSE 10

John Campbell travelled to the south coast to meet Peter Negus, head greenkeeper at Willingdon GC, on the downs near Eastbourne

---

## NEWS & VIEWS 14 & 18

From the sections, plus a novel line in communications, courtesy of a Netherlands reader

---

## DEEP IN DEBT IN THE DESERT 20



Golf can lead to financial ruin in Arizona...

---

## BOOKS FOR GREENKEEPERS AND GREEN COMMITTEES 22

Part 3 - Basic sciences by Eddie Park

---

## NOTEBOOK 26

Our comprehensive news service

---

## PESTICIDE LEGISLATION AND THE GOLF CLUB 32

Peter Wisbey, course manager at North Foreland GC, Kent, joins in The Great Debate

---

## APPOINTMENTS 35

All the best jobs are in *Greenkeeper*

---

## BUYERS' GUIDE 39

---

**Publisher:** Fore Golf Publications Ltd

**Managing Director:** Michael Coffey

**Editor:** Robin Stewart

**Contributors:** Jim Arthur, John Campbell, David Jones, Jack McMillan, Eddie Park, Donald Steel, Peter Wisbey and Walter Woods

All advertising matter, editorial copy and correspondence should be sent to: *Greenkeeper*, 121-123 High Street, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex CO12 3AP. Tel: 0255 507526

Subscription rates:

UK—£18 USA—\$45 Continent—£30 Eire—IR £23

*Greenkeeper* is published ten times a year. Printed in England by J.B.

Offset, Marks Tey, Colchester, Essex.

Copyright: Fore Golf Publications Ltd 1987

## BIGGA Progress To Date...

As reported in our January/February issue a number of meetings have been held by the new association's board of management. The main subject under discussion has been the appointment of a General Administrator, now that the post has been widely advertised the preliminary selection procedure is in the hands of management consultants, who it is hoped, will produce a short list of suitable candidates during April. Interviews will then take place with the members of the board of management, resulting in an appointment. Assuming he has to give notice the successful candidate will take up his post before June. The board of management have already confirmed that subscription renewals will not be sent out until the association's office, to be housed in the STRI's headquarters at Bingley, is fully operational. A certain amount of disquiet has been voiced by "members" at the lack of information regarding the association, cancellation of the annual conference, the priority given to the annual golf tournament, the absence of an identity or logo and problems with regional finance. It must be remembered that the BIGGA hopes to be a highly professional organisation and as such it must be properly set up. There is an agreed constitution and the appointment of a professional to run its affairs is eagerly awaited. This all takes time and there will be only one opportunity to launch this venture successfully, so it is well to adopt a 'slow but sure' approach. In the meantime the board of management, which can only meet at monthly intervals, is doing all it can in the time available.

The adoption of a magazine by BIGGA is also under review with the management consultants drawing up a tender document, which it is understood will go to not only those publications devoted to greenkeeping but also to national golfing magazines.

In the meantime educational events at a local level continue to be well supported throughout the country as is the annual greenkeepers dinner at Walton Heath this month which will provide many "members" in the south of England with the opportunity of reviewing ..... progress to date.

• • • • •

Congratulations are in order for Kevin Munt on his appointment as Course Manager to the Wentworth Club. Kevin who is a BIGGA board of management member and was the first chairman of EIGGA in 1984 is moving south, after less than a year, from Royal Dornoch. He was previously course manager at Hankley Common. Wentworth will pose a considerable challenge as there are plans for a third course to be added to the East and West (the famous Burma Road), this course much favoured for televised tournaments is not without its problems. The club have also recently appointed Dr. Peter Hayes, director of the STRI as their adviser.