

As I see it...

BY DEAN CLEAVER
BIGGA CHAIRMAN

Since becoming Chairman in January I've travelled up and down the length of the country and I've often been asked by members why don't I have a regular piece in the magazine.

Well, in response to that I will now have a regular column in *Greenkeeper International* and I am looking forward to sharing with you a few of the experiences I have during my year in office and my thoughts on some of the matters which concern us all as greenkeepers.

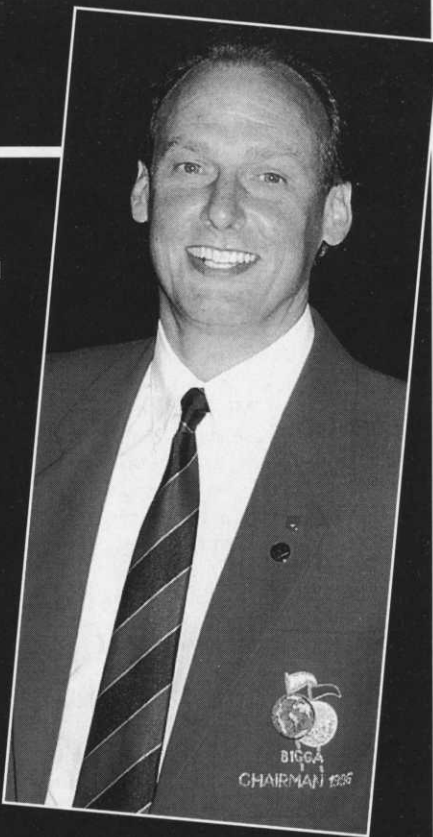
In the past month I've had the pleasure of attending two Hayter Regional Finals. My visit to Royal Aberdeen, where Sam Morrison and his team do a wonderful job, was my fourth visit north of the border since January and as ever the hospitality was second to none. Benton Hall, which unfortunately I was unable to play but which looked superb, was my first visit to the South East Region.

It was also the first chance I had to meet our new Sales and Marketing Manager James McEvoy. I am sure he is going to be a superb addition to the staff and I hope that you will support him in the many new ideas he will bring to the Association.

The June Board Meeting was further proof of the success of the new Constitution with the reduced board working well. It also marked the first meeting for new Board member David Milbourne – another good signing!

It's hard to believe that we are already in June. Looking at my first six months, a high point has been the success of FEGGA – the Federation of European Golf Greenkeeper Associations – and I was honoured to be elected Chairman. FEGGA's success will be a major step forward for the industry.

This month I am looking forward to The Open at Royal Lytham and St Annes and I would like to take this opportunity to wish Jimmy MacDonald and his team every success for the week.



NEWS



Peter Bell rings the Jacobsen changes

Jacobsen E-Z-GO's new General Manager has not taken long to get up to speed in his new role.

In the few weeks since taking over the chair in the company's Kettering office vacated by Rene Orban, who moved to Kubota, Peter Bell, pictured, has already initiated a number of new marketing activities including the "you won't have to pay 'Whole in One'" scheme, based on Ford Motor Company's Options plan, which gives flexible finance options on the LF 3810 fairway mower.

"I have joined Jacobsen at a

very exciting time as our new European operation takes shape. I am one of a team of people committed to confirming Jacobsen's position as a global player in the market place," said Peter, who joined Jacobsen from his previous position as Sales Director of Karcher.

"Our traditional market sector has become exceedingly competitive and I think it is important to look to new opportunities that exist for our product range across a wide variety of market sectors."

Greenkeeper wins Duke's top award

Warren Jones, assistant at Northenden GC in Manchester, has just achieved his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

Among the activities 25 year-old Warren did to achieve the prestigious award were abseiling, working at a local hospital, working backstage with a drama group, undertaking an expedition to Snowdonia and attending a three week outward bound

course in the Lake District.

He also won a competition to build a raft which was then used to win a race against another group.

Warren received his award from the Duke of Edinburgh at St James's Palace.

