Rain Bird fly into Renewable Energy with New Product Manager Iain Macpherson

Rain Bird has recently entered the Renewable Energy market, with their newly appointed European Energy Product Manager; Iain Macpherson.

Iain has a long felt belief that golf courses needed to look at cost, particularly in irrigation. Electricity is a large running cost of irrigation pumps and club houses, and must be reduced to 15% last year – a serious impact on any club's finances. Iain adds: Feed in Tariff (FiT) backed by the government offers incentives, that are importantly index locked, and certainly make Britain presently the envy of this worldwide developing industry.

The UK is committed to a 15% carbon reduction and with 60% of the wind across Europe crossing Britain – why wouldn't we try to make use of a free energy that year on year is consistent, non-destructive and adding to a carbon neutral green preferred way of life?

In 2010 global investment in new Renewable energy projects exceeded investment in new fossil fuels plants for the first time. Europe; particularly Germany and Denmark, have lead the way, however we are at on the best opportunity on this side to take advantage. “China are putting up 36 turbines a day - is everybody else wrong? Iain thinks not.

“The Rain Bird turbine proposal is the size of an oak tree. It specific in its target of delivery in low of electricity; appropriate to your average European sized golf club.

“We take care of the planning, its installation and servicing and importantly to clubs… it’s plug in any flavour”, says Iain. Iain can be contacted on 07712 631467 / 01777 818919, or e-mail: imacpherson@rainbird.eu

What’s your number?

Our regular and random profile of an industry figure continues with this month’s lucky number...

Name: Andrew Pickup
Company: Stourton Forestry
Position: Consultant & Company Manager
How long have you been in the industry? A very busy four years
How did you get into it? From an early age Parcels trees and the outdoors, so I decided to study Forestry at the University of Wales, Bangor. When I joined Stourton Forestry they had an established reputation as specialists in trees on golf courses and my involvement has grown from there.

What other jobs have you done?

In my student days I spent several summers working outdoors, including plenty of grass cutting, landscaping and gardening.

What do you like about your current job?

I get to visit and work on some amazing sites, from nationally renowned golf courses to private woodlands and estates that the general public doesn’t usually get to see. I particularly enjoy watching sites develop over the years - people often think they will never see the benefits of tree planting in their lifetime, but even after just a few years, young trees can make a real impact.

What changes have you seen during your time in the industry?

The biggest change in the past four years has been the demand for fuel as fuel - we’ve seen the wholesale price of round timber for fireswood almost double. Even relatively small volumes of timber that were once a waste product are now in high demand.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy relaxing with animals and family, playing tennis and tending my allotment.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

I’m definitely in the woodland management sector for the long haul, as to exactly what and where, you’ll have to watch this space!

Who do you consider best friends in the industry?

I’m delighted to work with anyone who has a shared love of trees and the foresight to invest now for future generations.

What do you consider to be your lucky number? 122

Andrew has picked Barry. Barry from Grindon