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WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER?



Name: David Jenkins
Company: DJ Turfcare Equipment Ltd
Position: Managing Director

How long have you been in the industry?
 "35 years."

How did you get into it?

"I was a Sales Engineer with a Company manufacturing instruments when I was approached by a magazine called Parks & Sportsgrounds to become their Advertisement Manager. I spent five years in publishing and was then recruited to head up sales & marketing for Jacobsen machines in the UK."

What others jobs have you done?

"I originally served an apprenticeship as an instrument maker which is rather strange because when I finished, I immediately went into the Merchant Navy as a Ship's Engineer. The two jobs could hardly be more different. I eventually returned to the instrument making industry as a Sales Engineer and as I have said, was recruited from there into publishing."

What do you like about your current job?

"The thing I love most about this industry, and particularly my current job, is the opportunity to mix with people who have their feet firmly planted on the ground, i.e. they are involved in growing grass."

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

"Industry changes over the last 35 years have been enormous. The first time I visited the IOG Show, which was then called Motts Park, all sorts of people had different machines, many of their own design and making. In particular I recall Rocky Rochford (Peter Rochford's father) who in those days manufactured his own Turf Cutter. Rocky owned a brown bowler hat which is something I have never seen before or since. I think he used it as his trademark."

What do you like to do in your spare time?

"I have two children and five grandchildren. It is quite fascinating watching grandchildren grow up - you are inclined to take more notice of their development than you did with your own kids. I am also a Lay Reader at our local Church."

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

"At my age that is a stupid question."

Who do you consider to be your best friends in the industry?

"This is a wonderful industry to be in. I count it a great privilege that I have enjoyed it for so long and consider all those I have met throughout the years to be colleagues, friends and people who I have been glad to rely on."

What do you consider to be your lucky number?

"I am afraid I do not believe in luck."

David picked no. 56, Rob Donald, Whitehorse Contractors