

Assistant Profile

Each month we take a light hearted look into the life of an assistant greenkeeper...

Fairweather greenkeeper Ben is an avid Gers fan and is waiting for this magazine to come out to enjoy his greatest claim to fame!



Name : Ben Peters
Age : 20
Club : Ratho Park Golf Club
Position : Assistant Greenkeeper

1. How long have you been greenkeeping?

Three years at Ratho and one year full time at Oatridge college.

2. What was it about the career that attracted you?

Enjoyed working outdoors.

3. If you weren't a greenkeeper what do you think you'd be?

In the Army.

4. Which task do you most enjoy?

Hand cutting greens, leaves a good finish.

5. Which task do you least enjoy?

Strimming bunkers.

6. What one thing - other than a pay rise- would improve the greenkeeper's lot?

Less rain and more sunshine for working in.

7. Hobbies?

Going to the gym, running, watching football, socialising.

8. Favourite band?

Kings of Leon, David Guetta, Black Eyed Peas.

9. Which team do you support?

Glasgow Rangers.

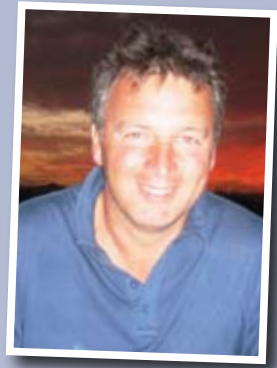
10. What is your claim to fame?

Being in the Greenkeeper International Magazine!

What's your number?

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

Nigel Wyatt of MJ Abbott comes under the spotlight



1. What is your position within the company?

Contracts Director, MJ Abbott Limited

2. How long have you been in the industry?

31 years

3. How did you get into it?

I left school at 16 and started working for Mike Abbott. It was the lure of all that machinery! After a year I attended courses at Lackham College in Chippenham with the view to becoming a farm manager. On completion Mike was keen to get me back. The rest, as they say, is history!

4. What other jobs have you done?

I worked on my father's farm and delivered milk. We used to bottle our own milk. I still have some glass milk bottles with my grandfather's name on them, ET Wyatt & Sons.

5. What do you like about your current job?

I relish a challenge and every project we're involved in poses its own challenges. I like the variety of work, travelling and visiting interesting places, and meeting people.

6. What changes have you seen in the industry?

We work with the agricultural community in the South West but our staff work across the UK and overseas. The industry has become tightly regulated and from H&S safeguards to being CHAS registered, there's a lot more to being a good contractor now. Tools and machinery have come in that enable us to do a better job. When this hasn't happened, our workshop has built or modified kit.

7. What do you like to do in your spare time?

I get out and ride my motorbike, an Aprilia RSVR Factory - it's fast! Equally enjoyable is a Saturday morning visit to the local butcher...on my retro scooter...very Jamie Oliver!

8. Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

I'd love to have a smallholding, a Range Rover and a Porsche! Dreams aside, I'll probably still be at MJ Abbott!

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

I've made many friends but without doubt, my wife.

10. What do you consider to be your lucky number?

Anything over a million!

11. Pick a number.

48

Nigel has picked Tim Webb of Tacit