

Our Elgin

Welcome to our new 'Our Elgin' website feature where we bring you Q&A interviews from individuals associated with the club, from on the course to off it. We hope you enjoy hearing different stories from your club.

First up is David Rumbles, who has enjoyed a busy summer of activity...

David, what is your job title and how long have you been doing it?

I'm Deputy Head Greenkeeper and I have been in this role for two years now.

How much do you enjoy the role?

I'm very proud of the fact I achieved Deputy at the age of 22, I very much enjoy my role. This can be a challenging role from time to time, but I feel it is all a learning process.

What is your favourite part of the job?

My favourite part of the job is repairs. I like taking something that isn't working or broken and getting it back in working order. I enjoy being part of a team that wants to drive the golf course to a higher level.

What have been your career highlights to date?

I received an R&A scholarship in 2009, which I am very proud of. I have volunteered at seven European Tour and R&A events so far, one of which was in South Africa and another being a Major championship. I hope to keep volunteering throughout my career.

You were working this summer at The Amateur Championship and The Ricoh Women's British Open. Outline those experiences.

I worked The Amateur Championships at Murcar and Royal Aberdeen in June this year through my R&A Scholarship. This was a great experience as I knew a lot of the volunteers there, but it gave me a chance to work alongside them and get to know them better.

The Ricoh Women's British Open at Royal Lytham & St Annes in August was different as I didn't know anyone I was going to work with. This wasn't a problem as everyone was very welcoming. That was the first Major competition I have helped out at, but hopefully won't be the last.

Do working at such events bring extra pressure? Any notable celebrity meetings?

I wouldn't say they bring extra pressure, it's the unknown when you arrive, but they do bring 4am starts and 10pm finishes! Being accepted as part of a team straight away makes it really enjoyable, and I have made some great friendships along the way.

I have had a few player meetings down the years. Phil Mickelson came down to the greenkeeping sheds at the Scottish Open at Castle Stuart. I had a good chat with Ken Brown at Royal Lytham and I also briefly met Gary Player in South Africa.

How big a part has Elgin GC been in your life?

Elgin has been a huge part of my career. I have been at Elgin for a total of five years now and for the last two Elgin GC has been my life. The work doesn't just stop when your shift is over, I'm often still working or studying when I get home.

What would you say to people who may be keen on joining Elgin GC?

Elgin is one of the best inland courses in the north of Scotland, it is a long challenging test of golf. Elgin isn't just keen to improve the golf course but to encourage wildlife and do our bit for the environment. Elgin also has a warm welcoming clubhouse with a great view of the 18th.

What are your hopes for the future, personally?

I would like to be in a Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager position for a good few years before eventually going on to study golf course architecture.

Follow more from David on Twitter [@DavidR_EGC](#)