

Meet the Team

Course department- Rowlands Castle Golf Club

This document was put together during the Coronavirus partial lock-down. Hair dressers and Barbers are not open for business when the photos were taken - Please excuse the hair!

Photo's were taken on a camera phone, at a safe distance of 2 meters.

A small questionnaire was handed out to each member of staff to gather some information about them – I hope you find this of interest and I hope this breathes a bit of life into the people you see on your course!

One of the questions is – What are you listening to? I guess you have seen the team use headphones when on machines. This is encouraged as its linked to our phones so we are always reachable when on the course. However, please don't think we're being rude as we are always approachable!

Welcome to the Greenkeeping team – in no particular order –



Kevin Hensman

Acting Head Greenkeeper

Time at club – Just over 16 years in total. I started in 2001, I then left in 2004 to travel and re-joined in 2007.

Favourite Job – Setting up for competitions.

Least favourite Job – Decorating 😊. On the course; it has to be moving tee markers. So much time for so little reward!

Favourite piece of kit – Greens hand mower

Favourite RCGC hole – 8th

What are you listening to? – 9 times out of 10 – nothing, but I use them so I can hear the phone ring! They also provide a bit of ear protection from the machines. On the odd occasion they are on, its BBC 6 music, podcasts, or an audiobook.

What things do you enjoy out of work? – I enjoy golf (18 handicap), cycling and keeping fit in general. I enjoy cooking dinners for the family, watching films, listening to music and meeting up with friends.



Graeme Barnsley

Greenkeeper

Time at club – 1yr 1 month

Favourite Job – Cutting tees

Least favourite Job – Haven't got one! I have come from managing marinas. I made the change to greenkeeping and it's been great! The transition to greenkeeping has been helped by the team. They have been very patient with me as well as taking the time to explain and teach. Having played golf for 30 years I never knew so much went into the golf course, I have a new appreciation for greenkeeping.

Favourite piece of kit – Sidewinder – semi rough mower

Favourite RCGC hole – 16th

What are you listening to? – Radio 2 – Jeremy Vine!

What things do you enjoy out of work? Playing golf (handicap 18)



Dave Appleton

1st Assistant Greenkeeper

Time at club – 2 years (24 years in greenkeeping)

Favourite Job – Helping to create a golf course to be proud of. Tree maintenance. I just like being in a team and being part of the banter between the guys. It makes for a very funny and interesting day at work!

Least favourite Job – Raking bunkers – they are so time consuming!

Favourite piece of kit – Chainsaw!

Favourite RCGC hole – Hole 13

What are you listening to? – I don't wear headphones!

What things do you enjoy out of work? – I enjoy listening to 70's and 80's music, the best decades! I have an interest in flora and fauna around the course. I also have recently started paddle boarding.



Mike Ray

Assistant Greenkeeper

Time at club – 1yr 3 months

Favourite Job – Cutting approaches

Least favourite Job – Cutting semi rough

Favourite piece of kit – The new Tractor with front loader

Favourite RCGC hole – 12th

What are you listening to? – Sold down the river – The Zodiacs (that's my band!!)

What things do you enjoy out of work? I have been playing drums for 14 years. I have been in a few bands but The Zodiacs are the best! Check out our song on Spotify!



Jack Slade

1st Assistant Greenkeeper

Time at club – 1yr 6 months

Favourite Job – Cutting Semi rough

Least favourite Job – Cutting tees

Favourite piece of kit – The big rough mower!

Favourite RCGC hole – 14th

What are you listening to? – Audiobooks

What things do you enjoy out of work? Mountain biking, photography and learning new things.



Harvey Sims

Assistant Greenkeeper

Time at club – 3 ½ Years but have been a member for 5 years

Favourite Job – Greenkeeping as a whole is my favourite job! Being around my hobby every day and producing top quality surfaces for all the membership and guests – including myself 😊 I really enjoy the mechanical side of greenkeeping, setting machines up for cutting and also fixing the irrigation system.

Least favourite Job – Repairing other people’s pitch marks 😞

Favourite piece of kit – I enjoy all bits of kit we are so lucky to have but all the guys would probably tell you that I do enjoy a good tractor job, like veti-draining!

Favourite RCGC hole – I have two... the 13th because I believe it has the most character but I equally enjoy the 18th

What are you listening to? – I mostly listen to comedy podcasts. I sometimes listen to audiobooks.

What things do you enjoy out of work? I enjoy mountain biking (trail riding) when I’m not playing golf! (handicap 11)