

CPA Profile – John B. White

Vital Statistics

Name John B. White
Age 37
Title Managing Director
Company JBW Consultants
Qualification FCPA

Being A CPA

Why did you choose the CPA qualification / accountancy route?

At 17 years of age, it is difficult to choose a career. I had an aptitude for figures and an interest in business. My late father's accountant recommended the accountancy route and offered me summer employment. I haven't looked back since.

How did you become a CPA?

I chose a full-time study option with Cork IT (then Cork RTC). In 1989 CPA full-time courses were offered for the Formation 1 and 2 levels and the Professional 1 level. I had just 16 hours per week of classes for three years. Naturally, there was some time for leisure activities!

How has being a CPA benefited your career so far?

I chose a career in practice and have found it very rewarding. The CPA qualification has helped to give an insight into not just the accounting issues but also the taxation and management issues affecting business.

Your Career

What was your first job?

Selling fresh strawberries, at the side of the road, during my summer holidays. I made £17 per week. The season only lasted three weeks and it usually rained. The good olde days!

What's the best career decision you've made?

Establishing my own accounting and consultancy practice in Dungarvan.

What's the most rewarding aspect of your job?

Client satisfaction.

What was the biggest lesson you learnt in your career to date?

My firm's maxim is "Listening, Thinking, Delivering". All problems, and lessons to be learned, can be solved by this process.

Life

What motto do you live by?

“A business that makes nothing but money is a poor business” (*Henry Ford*)

What’s the trait you most admire in others?

Ambition

Which words or phrases do you most overuse?

“Waterford will win the Liam McCarthy Cup THIS year”.

If you were starting all over again what would you do differently?

Nothing.

What’s the last book you read?

When Bubbles Burst by John P. Calverley (see review)

If you had 3 wishes, what would they be?

1. That Waterford would win the Liam McCarthy Cup THIS year
2. That Waterford would win the Liam McCarthy Cup THIS year
3. Can I have three more wishes?