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The newsletter of St Andrews Links Junior Golf Association

Visit to Gleneagles

Twelve SALJGA members were fortunate enough to take advantage of an offer from ClubGolf to play golf at Gleneagles, the venue for the 2014 Ryder Cup.

Luke Stephens, Rory Johnstone, Jack Kerr, Neil McLeod, Iona Byers, Brynja Duthie, Caelan Laesecke, Holly Niven, Tom Constance, Matthew Todd, Euan Dawson and Rowan Currie played the nine hole PGA National Academy Course. The team found it more challenging than the Balgove Course, with some quite long holes and punishing rough, but thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Thanks to ClubGolf for the tee times, to Gleneagles for providing memento bags and to Matt Stephens, Alan Kerr, Sam



SALJGA members outside the Dormy Clubhouse

Byers, John Duthie, Alastair Dawson and Matthew's grandad Jock for their help on the day.

Meet a Volunteer - Norrie Hutcheon



I am a member of Leven Golfing Society and have been playing golf for over 40 years. I started volunteering with SALJGA six years ago and have returned every year since then. My claim to fame is playing two rounds with Lee Westwood in the Leven Amateur Gold Medal in 1993 - he won and went on to greater things. I am still working in a bank!

Since enrolling as a coach, I have been impressed by the quality of the training and by the way the organisation is run. To me, the most important element in it all is that the children have fun while they learn. At the end of each session, we ask the children what they have learnt and hearing their answers makes me feel valued as a coach.

The children also like to have some fun during the coaching sessions - a favourite trick is to swap name badges to try to confuse the coaches! They are also very eager when it comes to retrieving their balls, running across the course at great speeds and although we may not have a future Rory McIlroy among us, we do have some potential Usain Bolts!

All in all, SALJGA provides local children with a great opportunity to learn to play golf in an enjoyable way and I look forward to continuing as a coach in years to come.



Focus on SALJGA
Ben Kinsley

What made you take up golf?

My grandmothers side of the family the Auchterlonies have always played golf and it must be in the blood as I was swinging a club at 18 months.

What is your ambition in golf?

To be the best I can be and try and enjoy the game.

If you could be a famous golfer who would it be and why?

Jim Furyk because he is unique.

Who would you like to play with in an ideal fourball and why?

Michael McIntyre, Seve, and Tiger Woods.

What are your other hobbies apart from golf?

All sports really but enjoy playing football, badminton, tennis, and table tennis.



Check out the latest apparel range from St Andrews Links - our very own Kids Range!

St Andrews Links is the only golf venue in Europe to stock a dedicated Children's golf range with pieces ranging from leisure wear to technical garments.

The collection features a variety of stylish colours from pastel pinks to shocking orange all bearing the St Andrews Links logo or wording.

Since golfers start young in St Andrews, sizes are available from just 3 months with our cute collection of baby bodysuits.

Products available in the main range include t-shirts, shorts, skirts, caps and jackets all available up to 11-12 years.

The new collection is available in the Old Course shop and online at www.standrews.org.uk/shop



WORKING FOR GOLF





Dutch Courage

SALJGA welcomed a group of Dutch golfers to St Andrews as part of an exchange programme. A 25 strong party of children aged between 8 and 19 from Golf Club Zwolle in the Netherlands played golf and received coaching from the St Andrews Links Golf Academy instructors.

The idea for the exchange came from Scot David Love, the professional at GC Zwolle, who visited the Links last year to learn more about SALJGA. During the exchange visit, some of the Dutch children stayed with their SALJGA counterparts and the rest in a local hotel.

The Dutch boys and girls played the SALJGA boys on the Strathrym Course for the Ajax Trophy which was won by Lewis Hazel with an impressive score of 63 nett. The following day the more capable Dutch golfers played the SALJGA boys in a match for the Jubilee. The other Dutch youngsters enjoyed a less stressful round on the Strathrym. SALJGA took advantage of their Links experience to win the match by 3 points to 1.

The SALJGA exchange partners, Oliver and Sholto Cocris, Matthew McAnaw, Cameron Campbell, Lewis Hazel and Zack Bedford are now really looking forward to the reciprocal visit to Zwolle in September.

The Balgove Medals for the Under 12s have been tremendously successful again this year which have been expanded to include the first Balgove Finals, entry for which is earned through success in qualifying Medals.

So far this year we have enjoyed an excellent exchange trip by young golfers from Zwolle in the Netherlands, victory over St Leonards and a halved series with Cupar GC plus a brilliant trip to Gleneagles courtesy of ClubGolf. We have also enjoyed the personal success of Ewan Scott with his victory in the Scottish Youths Championship at Ladybank in May.

Make sure you take advantage of the SALJGA balls at the range and keep swinging through the summer.

Nick Randerson
Junior Golf Coordinator



Dutch youngsters learn the St Andrews Way



Dutch Party

SALJGA win out against St Leonards

Team SALJGA enjoyed a convincing 3 1/2 points to 1/2 victory over an international team from St Leonards School.

Captain Ally McDougall and partner Keith Bowman led the way with a closely fought win by 2 holes over Christian Schwieter and Inigo Pena. Oliver Cocris and Kyle Finlayson won another very tight match by 1 hole from Sven Haferkamp and Daniel Behrendt. Jemma Brown and Romy Niven sealed the SALJGA win after cruising to victory by 6 and 5 against Raphael Mintz and Julian Lessing. Sean Cowan was disadvantaged



by having to play with the oldest player to ever represent SALJGA when Junior Co-ordinator Nick Randerson was required to make up the team after a last minute call off. Sean managed to hold the pairing together to earn a 1/2 point against Felix Mueller and Julius von Selchow. All the players were treated to an excellent meal in the Eden Clubhouse after the match courtesy of St Leonards School.



Learning the Fundamentals

The SALJGA Fundamental class of 2012 finished its season with a Texas Scramble on the short game area of the Golf Practice Centre. Ten SALJGA youngsters took part in the six-week coaching programme devised and conducted by Janet Thompson with help from Brendan Duffy, Craig MacMillan and Hannah Robb. The kids did some co-ordination exercises before learning the basics of golf using plastic SNAG golf equipment and tennis type balls. The group comprised Mate Cseke, Ruairidh Cunningham, Archie Duncan, Honor Fraser, Bailey King, Logan McPherson, Keir Paterson, Dashiell Sharpe, Markus Van Zyl and Jack Webster. The idea was to prepare them for learning with real clubs and playing on the Balgove in future and above all for them to enjoy the game. Each of the kids received a certificate from Janet Thompson at the end of the programme.

Share of the spoils with Cupar

It was a real game of two halves in the annual SALJGA versus Cupar Juniors match. SALJGA won the home leg on the Balgove Course by five points to one but Cupar turned the tables to win the second leg 4 1/2 to 1 1/2. The match was contested by two teams of 12 boys and girls who were 12 years old and under and do not

hold an official CONGU handicap. The SALJGA players taking part were Rowan Currie, Lyall Constable, Beth Constance, Emma Rickman, Korben Niven, Callum Reid, Rory Seymour, Euan Dawson, Gregg Proctor, Craig Morris, Max Garland, Griffin Levy, Scott Reid, Tom Constance, Jack Turner, Caelan Laesecke and Iona Byers.



Cupar and SALJGA TEAMS

Film crew adds glamour to Hot Chocolate Day

Some of the SALJGA girls enjoyed a golf day with difference when a German film crew arrived to film the Hot Chocolate event. The crew were from the ARD TV network (the German BBC) and were filming for a travel documentary about the things that Scotland is famous for such as golf.

They were desperate to film youngsters playing at the Home of Golf and Catherine Wilson and Romy Niven, in particular, had starring roles when they had to show the presenter Franck Jahn how to play golf.

The nine-hole Texas Scramble was won by the 'Tee Birdies',



Brynja Duthie, Chloe Hazel, Lucia Mackenzie and Iona Byers, with a score of 46. Tara McKean, Emily Findlay and Rebecca Scott returned an outstanding score of 36. Despite having to contend with cameras and microphones Romy and Catherine still carded an impressive score of 37.



Nick Randerson with Duncan Weir of the R&A

The R&A pledges funding to SALJGA

The success of the SALJGA programme has been recognised by The R&A which has pledged to continue its support with £75,000 of funding over the next five years.

The R&A has been a committed supporter of SALJGA since it was formed in 2001 and sees it as a key element in the development of junior golf in St Andrews.

Duncan Weir, the Director of Golf Development at The R&A, said, "We have supported SALJGA since the beginning and are delighted with the success it has had in giving access to the game to youngsters in St Andrews. Ten years on we are now starting to see the fruits of the programme. There have never been more boys and girls from this area playing in county and national events. SALJGA is one of the most effective programmes of its kind anywhere and we are pleased to give it our continued support."

Nick Randerson, Junior Golf Co-ordinator at St Andrews Links Trust, said, "This is extremely welcome backing from The R&A which will assist us in continuing to develop the junior golf programme in St Andrews in the years to come."

COMPETITION RESULTS

WINTER GROUP

Renwick Trophy	Winner Kyle Ferguson	Runner-up Lewis Hazel
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MINI-TOUR - HANDICAPS 13 AND ABOVE

Tait Salver (Boys)	Div 1 Winner Sam Heggie	Div 2 Winner Jack Kerr
Tait Salver (Girls)	Romy Niven	
McArthur Salver	Owen McManus	Jack Kerr
Kirkcaldy Trophy	Christopher Fleming	Grant Keracher

CHALLENGE TOUR - HANDICAPS 12 AND BELOW

Wilson Trophy	Winner Zack Bedford	Lowest Gross Zack Bedford
Room Medal	Ryan McManus	Ryan McManus
McGregor Trophy	Owen McManus	Conor MacCallum

Ewan's success continues

Congratulations to Ewan Scott on his victory in Gold Data Lab Youths' Open Amateur Stroke Play Championship at Ladybank Golf Club. Sixteen year old Ewan added the national title to the English under 14 title he won in 2009 and followed up on his excellent second place finish in the Scottish Boys' Championship at Murcar Links. He won by three shots from fellow Scottish Boys' Squad member Bradley Neil. Ewan joined SALJGA when it was founded in 2001 and has benefited from the coaching and support he received.



Ewan Scott