



# LINKS NEWS

## The Newsletter of St Andrews Links

# Dunbar takes Links Trophy

**I**rish eyes were smiling at the conclusion of the 2009 St Andrews Links Trophy when teenager Alan Dunbar fought off challenges from England, Wales, Scotland and Australia to claim the prestigious title.

The 19 year-old from the Rathmore Club in Portrush shot a final round 70 for a two under par total of 285, a shot ahead of Englishman Matt Haines, to win the trophy which was sponsored for the first time by St Andrews Links' global partner Allianz. Dunbar entered the final round trailing the co-leaders, Welshman Rhys Enoch and Scotsman Paul O'Hara by two. The deficit had stretched to four and three shots respectively by the turn but Dunbar turned on the style to come home in three under.

As Enoch and O'Hara dropped shots on the 11th, 12th and 13th holes, Dunbar and Haines played themselves back into contention and the Irishman's birdies at 14 and 16 took him level with Enoch and then ahead for the first time when the Welshman from Truro bogeyed the 15th.

The 17th Road Hole, as it so often does, bared its teeth with Dunbar, Enoch and Haines all dropping shots and O'Hara posting a double bogey. With a one shot lead down the last Dunbar made his victory secure by playing a wedge shot to seven feet and draining the putt for a closing birdie. Enoch finished two shots back on 287 and O'Hara on 288 level with Luke Goddard from Hendon and Australian Daniel Nisbet.

A delighted Dunbar told the media, "It's my



● Allan Dunbar tees off on the Old Course and (inset) with the trophy.

first time at St Andrews and it's been pretty special. It's a big event at an unbelievable place and to win is huge for me, especially in a Walker Cup year."

Dunbar's victory was all the more impressive for the fact that he was originally a reserve and was called in as a replacement on the Monday prior to the tournament which was played over the New Course and the Old Course.

Playing at the Home of Golf for the first time can be a daunting experience, particularly in the cold and windy conditions that prevailed on the final day, but the young Irishman is no stranger to links golf and used his experience of being a member of the winning Irish side in the Home Internationals at Muirfield in 2008

to good effect.

Dunbar's success followed hard on the heels of his compatriot Shane Lowry's victory in the Irish Open on the European Tour and Niall Kearney's triumph at the Brabazon Trophy to cap a fine early summer for Irish golf.

The result was not so positive for the Scots with Wallace Booth the highest finisher after O'Hara on 296. Ross Kellett, Steven McEwan and Michael Stewart finished well down the field and defending champion Keir McNicoll joined Gavin Dear in missing the cut.

Rising Italian star, 16 year-old Matteo Manassero made a fine debut in the event finishing seven shots back on 292.



## Course UPDATE

### Old Course

Hydrojecting work will take place on greens and also high spots of fairways to allow water penetration of these areas. We will be overseeding selected areas of greens to increase fescue content. There will be a light application of liquid fertilizer to greens and surrounds to stimulate growth and improve the appearance of the surface. As we move into September we will be concentrating on presentation for the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship.

### New and Jubilee Courses

July and August are busy times for tournaments on the courses so most of the work will be on the preparation and fine tuning of the surfaces. After the tournaments are finished selected overseeding of some greens will take place along with scarifying some of the teeing area.

### Eden Course

Work will be mostly routine with aeration, topdressing and wetting agent applications taking place on the greens. As we approach the August tournaments the focus will move more towards course preparation. A similar programme of works will extend to the chipping area of the GPC while the landing area of the driving range will be overseeded.

### Strathtyrum and Balgove Courses

As well as routine preparation of the golf course for play much of the focus is on ensuring specific areas of rough are kept in check to allow other golfers to enjoy the game without having to endlessly search for golf balls. Similar to the other courses, time will be spent on removing ragwort from the roughs as this is a particularly noxious weed which landowners have a legal duty to control.

### The Castle Course

Work will continue with overseeding and topdressing to selected areas on fairways along with topdressing greens and aprons every three weeks to maintain surface levels and firmness. Spot treating works will take place in all areas to control weeds. Traffic routes will be aerated to relieve compaction and help prevent wear. Greens, tees and aprons will be sprayed with wetting agent.

## Kylie retains St Rule Trophy



**S**cotland's Kylie Walker joined a select club when she became only the third person to retain the St Rule Trophy in its 26-year history.

The 23 year-old from Buchanan Castle recorded an excellent nine under par total of 218 for the 54 hole contest played over the New Course and the Old Course.

Kylie celebrated after achieving a two shot victory over Carly Booth of Comrie. Pamela Prestwell of Bothwell Castle finished third with a score of 225. Kylie, Pamela and Louise Kenny took the team honours for Scotland.

Kylie followed in the footsteps of fellow Scots, Christine Middleton (1988-89) and Catriona Matthew (1993-94), in retaining the trophy. Previous winners have also included Annika Sorenstam, Krystle Caithness and Melissa Reid.

## St Andrews Links captures Harrington Trophy



St Andrews Links Management Committee (LMC) defeated their counterparts from Carnoustie Golf Links 3-2 in a close fought match over the Old Course. A new trophy donated by Carnoustie Open Champion Padraig Harrington was the prize for the first time for the annual match. A delighted Dr John Mills, chairman of St Andrews LMC (left), received the trophy from his opposite number at Carnoustie, Gordon Murray.



## HOLES IN ONE

It has been a summer of aces at St Andrews Links. St Andrews Golf Club member **Euan Black** used his seven iron to hole in one on the 8th of the Old Course on 23 May. Two days later **Simon Rawson** from York found the hole with his three-iron on the 17th of the New Course. **Jose Marcelino** from Spain saw his ball fall into the hole at the 17th of The Castle Course on 29 May. A day later, **John Ballantyne** of the St Andrews Golf Club holed in one on the 17th of the New on 30 May. **Milan Sopko** from Slovakia rattled the can on the 16th of the Strathtyrum Course on 31 May.

**Ben Jamieson** of the New Golf Club wielded his 9 iron to hole out on the 13th of the Jubilee on 1 June. On his first visit to Scotland, **Riley McDonough** from New York used his seven iron to find the hole on the 17th of The Castle Course. On 10 June, it was the turn of **Margie Logan** of the St Rule Club to ace the 16th of the Strathtyrum. During the St Andrews Links Trophy, **Liam Burns** from Sundridge Park holed out on the 9th of the New on 5 June. It was a double at The Castle on 20 June when **Javier Alino** from Spain and **Luis Alberto Faria Sanda** from Venezuela both aced the 10th hole. **Kim Keble-White** of St Andrews tamed the 5th hole of the Eden with his seven iron on 25 June.

The 10th of the Eden was conquered in one by the five iron of **Gill Unick** from Glasgow on 4 July. **Peter Higgins**, of the New Golf Club, hit it straight in with a five iron on the 5th of the Jubilee on 8 July. **Alan Constable** struck the ball in the hole with a four iron hybrid at the 8th of the Eden Course on 11 July. **Patrick Whitham** from Sheffield holed out on the 5th of the Jubilee with an eight iron on 16 July. While **Glen Fullard** from RAF Leuchars was holing in one with a five iron on the 15th of the Eden on 25 July, **Peter Dickson** from Aberdeen was doing the same at the third hole of the Balgove Course with his seven iron. On 27 July, **Raymond Cook** from North Carolina found the hole on the 11th of the Old Course with his five iron. On 28 July, **Professor Iain McDougall** of the St Andrews Golf Club used his seven iron to hole out on the 5th of the Jubilee and on the 11th of the Old it was the turn of **Rick Sirvaitis** from Connecticut to hole out with his nine iron.

On 3 August, **Elliot Wilson** from Berwick on Tweed was down in one on the 15th of the Eden. A day later **David Pook** from California made it lucky 13th at The Castle when he found the cup with an eight iron.

## Course Information

### Green Fees (to 19 October)

	Adult	Under 16
Old Course	£130	£130
The Castle Course	£117.50	£59
New Course	£65	£32
Jubilee Course	£65	£32
Eden Course	£40	£20
Strathtyrum Course	£25	£12
Balgove Course	£12	£4

### Tickets

Three and seven day tickets are available for all courses except the Old.

3-Day £145 (adult) £72 (junior)

7-Day £290 (adult) £145 (junior)

Castle Course £40 (adult) £20 (junior) surcharge

Balgove Course only

3-Day £21 (adult) £6 (junior)

7-Day £42 (adult) £12 (junior)

### Opening Times

For full details about clubhouse opening times please contact 01334 466666.

### Equipment Hire

Steel and graphite clubs and shoes can be hired from the shops in the Clubhouses. Telephone 01334 466666.

## PLAYING THE LINKS

Starting times on all six 18 hole courses may be booked in advance but not for Saturday play, except on The Castle Course (subject to availability). Applications may be made by letter, phone, fax or email. The Reservations Office is open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm with the exception of Thursdays, when it opens at 9.30am. A minimum of two golfers should apply and pre-paid green fees are non-refundable. Tee times can also be reserved through LinksNet, the Links Trust's online booking service. Visit [www.standrews.org.uk](http://www.standrews.org.uk) for details.

### Old Course (6721 yards, par 72)

First played on around 1400 and naturally formed, the Old Course regularly hosts The Open Championship. Like all the Links courses it is public. It is open Monday-Saturday all year and the playing interval is ten minutes. The handicap limit is 24 for men and 36 for ladies and a valid certificate has to be shown to the starter. Please check in with the starter at least 20 minutes before your tee time. Visiting golfers wishing to park at the Links Clubhouse should allow 25 minutes before their tee time and take the free shuttle buggy to the starter's box beside the first tee. Single players can join in a two or three ball by approaching the starter in the first instance.

### Advance reservations

Applications will be taken on or after the first Wednesday in September for the following year. Please apply to [reservations@standrews.org.uk](mailto:reservations@standrews.org.uk).

### Ballot

Every day except Sunday a ballot or draw takes place for a number of times on the following day on the Old Course. The Saturday draw is for play on Monday. You can enter by phone (01334 466666) or in person the morning before you wish to play and the ballot is drawn after 2pm. The results are announced on [www.standrews.org.uk](http://www.standrews.org.uk)

### The Castle Course (6759 yards, par 71)

The seventh course at the Home of Golf. Spectacular views from a cliff top site. Online bookings through [www.standrews.org.uk](http://www.standrews.org.uk)

### New Course (6625 yards, par 71)

Laid out by Old Tom Morris, this course was paid for by the Royal & Ancient Golf Club and opened in 1895. It is open every day, there is no handicap limit, and the playing interval is eight minutes. The order of play is determined by arrival on the first tee. Locals have priority between 5pm and 6pm. Online bookings through [www.standrews.org.uk](http://www.standrews.org.uk)

### Jubilee Course (6742 yards, par 72)

Opened as a 12 hole course in 1897, the Jubilee was extended to 18 holes in 1905. It is the Links course nearest to the sea at St Andrews and is used regularly for championship events. It is open every day and there is no handicap limit. Tee times can be booked by phone or in person the day before play. Locals have priority between 8.00-9.30am and 1.30-2.30pm. Online bookings through [www.standrews.org.uk](http://www.standrews.org.uk)

### Eden Course (6250 yards, par 70)

Designed by Harry S Colt and opened in 1914, the Eden is one of the most popular courses on the Links. It is open every day and there is no handicap limit. Tee times can be booked by phone or in person the day before play. Online bookings through [www.standrews.org.uk](http://www.standrews.org.uk)

### Strathtyrum Course (5620 yards, par 69)

Shorter and less testing than the other courses, the Strathtyrum opened in 1993. It is ideal for high handicappers although the bunkers are cunningly placed and the greens undulating. It is open every day and there is no handicap limit. Tee times can be booked the day before play. Online bookings through [www.standrews.org.uk](http://www.standrews.org.uk)

### Balgove Course (1520 yards, par 30)

It is open every day and times cannot be booked in advance – simply turn up and play. The green fee is the same for nine or 18 holes.



## The Clubhouses



**St Andrews Links has three superb clubhouses, the Links, Eden and Castle clubhouses, which are all open to the public. With first class facilities and ample parking, the clubhouses are an excellent stop for both golfers and non-golfers.**

Experienced reception staff are available to give information on all aspects of golf in St Andrews and the rest of Fife.

The Links Clubhouse is a short buggy ride from the first tee of the Old Course and next to the first tees of the New and Jubilee Courses. It has a large and welcoming reception area, spacious locker rooms, lounge

and dining room with a bar, and an extensive shop.

The Eden Clubhouse is near the Golf Practice Centre and is ideally situated for golfers playing the Eden, Strathtyrum or Balgove Courses. There is a special room for junior golfers.

The Castle Clubhouse (above) overlooks the ninth and eighteenth greens of The Castle Course and features spectacular cliff top views.

All clubhouses offer varying menus with a choice of daily specials. Private parties and buffets for club dinners, celebrations and other special occasions are also welcome in the Links and Eden Clubhouses.

All changing rooms are spacious and well

equipped with lockers and overnight secure storage for golf clubs. Clubs can be cleaned using ultrasonic club cleaning equipment.

A wide range of golfwear, accessories and gifts branded with official St Andrews Links logos can be obtained from the Links Clubhouse shop, the shop behind the 18th green of the Old Course and The Old Course Shop beside the 18th fairway. Castle Course merchandise is available in the Castle Clubhouse. Golf clubs and shoes can also be hired from the Clubhouses.

The Links and Eden clubhouses are open all year every day except Christmas Day, the Castle Clubhouse opens until 1 November.

## About the LINKS

### Soft Spikes

Golfers are encouraged to wear shoes with plastic cleats or 'soft spikes' which do less damage than metal spikes to the greens.

### Caddies

Caddies for the six Links courses can be hired through the caddie manager (tel: 01334 466633). For The Castle Course call the caddie assistant (01334 464513). Only caddies registered with the Links Trust may be used on a professional basis and caddie availability cannot be guaranteed. Caddies are paid in cash on satisfactory completion of the round and tips are at the golfer's discretion. Caddie fee is £40.

### Trolleys

Battery powered trolleys (£12) or manually operated trolleys (£4) are available for hire from the starters and caddie pavilions. On the Old Course, trolleys can only be used after 12noon between the months of April and October unless there are no caddies available.

### Buggies

Two person buggies or golf carts can be hired subject to availability on the New, Jubilee, Strathtyrum and Castle courses by golfers who are either senior citizens or medical certificate holders. Hire is £18 for visitors and £10 for all yearly ticket holders.

### Practice Centre

- St Andrews Links Golf Academy
- Floodlit driving range.
- 22 covered and 32 open bays.
- Special area for pitching, putting and bunker practice.
- Open every day from 7am.
- Last bucket of balls dispensed at 8pm.

To find out more ☎ 01334 474489

**SINCE 1974 St Andrews Links Trust, a charitable organisation created by an Act of Parliament, has overseen the management and preservation of the Links.**

Now the largest golf complex in Europe, it is responsible for about 900 acres comprising six 18 hole golf courses and one nine hole course, two turf nurseries, three greenkeeping centres, an extensive Golf Practice Centre and Academy, three clubhouses and four shops.

All surpluses are reinvested into the maintenance of the courses and the facilities.

St Andrews Links Trust  
Pilmour House, St Andrews  
Fife KY16 9SF

All enquiries telephone: 01334 466666

Links Clubhouse Fax 01334 466664

Reservations Fax 01334 477036

Administration Fax 01334 479555

Website [www.standrews.org.uk](http://www.standrews.org.uk)

Email: [enquiries@standrews.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@standrews.org.uk)

## MAP of the LINKS

