



## 400 Years of Golf at Dornoch 2016

*“About this toun( along the sea coast) ther are the fairest and largest linkes,( or green feilds), of any pairt of Scotland, fit for archery, goffing, ryding, and all other exercise: they doe surpasse the fields of Montrose or St Andrews.”*

Sir Robert Gordon

[www.royaldornoch.com](http://www.royaldornoch.com)

## Join Us

**Join us to celebrate 400 years of Golf at Dornoch, its development, relationship with the community and the creation of a vibrant town.**

Dornoch has a long history and heritage of close cultural connection to golf and the club has been looking at the role golf and sport has played within Dornoch and the wider area.

**Through a series of golf competitions, community events and talks we will create a yearlong festival that will have something for everyone.**

Royal Dornoch Golf Club, the community, schools, local organisations and churches have worked together to create a vibrant and fun filled yearlong celebration of golf starting on 2nd January 2016. We invite you to join us for a creative, stimulating and fun programme of events.

## Here is your Festival

At the heart of the celebration of golf – (2 January 2016 to 16 October 2016) are four main strands, golf competitions and showcases, community and people, business and culture, talks and historic presentations. Every event will bring a unique perspective on the impact Golf has had on the town and region.

Each month we will have a special event at Royal Dornoch Golf Club in partnership with the community and open to the public, as well as special events throughout the community and town.





## Programme of Events

Visitors, locals and golfers will be able to enjoy talks on new discoveries about golf in the area; attend music and art exhibitions.

### Opening

The 400 years of golf tees off on the 2nd of January 2016 at 9.30am, with the Captain of Royal Dornoch “driving in” using a special hand crafted hickory club and feathery ball. The special flag will be raised and an East of the burn versus West of the burn match will follow, which is open to everyone, members and visitors.

### Spring

The heritage of tartan, tweed and crafts will be celebrated in a number of events including Fibrefest 2016 [www.fibrefest.org.uk](http://www.fibrefest.org.uk).

### Summer

Our summer programme brings town and club together with an exhibition match featuring world renowned professional golfers followed by a celebratory gala dinner. A themed Street Party will be held on Saturday 13th August at the end of the 103rd Carnegie Shield golf week, this will showcase the 400 years of golf played in Dornoch, featuring food, music and costumes over the period. There will be exhibitions and displays throughout the year including contributions from many local groups including the Historylinks, Flowers & Fairs and The Festival Week. A number of music and culture events ensuring the diversity and heritage of the area are woven into the festival.

### Autumn

The year will be rounded off with visits from the Royal Clubs around the world in September and the Club Captain sinking the final putt, using the hickory club and feathery ball on the 18th green to bring the celebrations to a conclusion at the Captain’s Weekend in October.



# Programme of Events

<b>January 2nd</b>	Drive In and East V West of burn match.
<b>March</b>	A month long celebration of tartan, tweed and crafts including Fibre Fest 2016.
<b>April</b>	International conference – “Firths and Fjords” followed by a display on fishing and livelihoods at Historylinks.
<b>May</b>	Culture, music and ceilidh events in Dornoch.
<b>May 18th – 20th</b>	Royal Dornoch v Country Club of North Carolina V Donald Ross Society V Atlanta Athletic Club.
<b>May 26th</b>	Hickory Match v British Golf Collectors Society.
<b>May 27th – 29th</b>	Captain’s Invitational Members & Guests Weekend.
<b>June</b>	Education and Exercise – Talks, presentations on 400 years in Dornoch.
<b>June</b>	Book festival – including Embo genealogy exhibition in Dornoch.
<b>June 20th - 24th</b>	Northern Open
<b>July 1st</b>	Ladies 400 Year Inter Club Match.
<b>July 5th</b>	400 Years Gala Dinner.
<b>August</b>	Highland Gathering and The Festival Week ensure that there will always be something on in the town and club.
<b>August 13th</b>	103rd Carnegie Shield Final & 400 Year Street Party.
<b>September</b>	Celebration of Food with a series of culinary events throughout the town, local restaurants and the club house.
<b>September 5th – 9th</b>	World Royal Club Visit & Matches.
<b>October</b>	Archaeological and timespan events within and around the town.
<b>October 14th - 16th</b>	Captain’s Weekend and Putt Out.
<b>November</b>	Whisky festival – a fond farewell to the historic year with a toast and chance to enjoy a dram or two.



**Keep up to date**

**[www.dornoch400.com](http://www.dornoch400.com)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Dornoch400](https://www.facebook.com/Dornoch400)**

**Twitter: [@Dornoch400](https://twitter.com/Dornoch400)**

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announcements and updates from now  
and throughout 2016**



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**[www.royaldornoch.com](http://www.royaldornoch.com)**

