

For Immediate Release

Press enquiries should be directed to:

Press Officer

+44 (0) 131 228 5824

+44 (0) 772 558 9353

press@1672golf.co.uk

Worldwide Invitation to Golfers: The Club at The World's Oldest Golf Course celebrates 150th Anniversary of the 1st Open Champion with four day event

2010 marks another milestone in golf history as The Open Championship celebrates its 150th Anniversary in July.

Musselburgh Old Course Golf Club (MOCGC), the club at the world's oldest golf course, is hosting the official Scottish Golf Heritage Festival, a golf tournament and festival celebration on July 9–12, 2010. The tournament, open to golfers worldwide, will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first Open Champion Willie Park Senior.

Musselburgh Old Course at Musselburgh Links is officially recognised by Guinness World Records as the oldest surviving golf course in the world, and was host to six Open Championships between 1874 and 1889.

Born in Musselburgh, Scotland, Willie Park Senior (1834–1903) is remembered as one of the greatest golfers of history. In 1860 Park beat a field of eight, including Old Tom Morris, to win the inaugural Open Championship. He won again in 1863, 1866 and 1875 and was runner up four times.

The four day tournament takes place less than a week before the 2010 Open and will be attended by Tony Jacklin, Ryder Cup, British and US Open winner. Commenting on his involvement Jacklin said 'I am delighted to be attending this event at the world's oldest golf course, to celebrate Willie Park's remarkable achievement and unite with the people of Musselburgh and golfers worldwide. In 2005 I had the honour of introducing him at his induction into World Golf Hall of Fame. I am thrilled at the prospect of playing at his home course. I hope golfers sit up and take notice of how important Musselburgh was to the formation of the game we all enjoy today.'

This is a unique opportunity for golf enthusiasts to play three challenging and scenic courses in East Lothian (Royal Musselburgh, Longniddry and Musselburgh Old Course) as well as immerse themselves in Scottish culture and history. Competitors will help us celebrate the unique achievement of the legendary Willie Park Senior says Robin McGregor, CEO of 1672 Golf Management Solutions Ltd, event organiser and Secretary of the MOCGC. In addition to giving participating golfers a quality golfing experience we also have a traditional line-up of entertainment including a Whisky tasting evening, ceilidh and a gala dinner and awards ceremony.

On the final day of the competition, 12th July, spectators, participants and the public will be amazed and delighted by David Edwards, premier Trick Golf Show Entertainer, and will be able to watch competition golfers, including Tony Jacklin, play with traditional hickory clubs and participate in what will prove to be a fantastic free day out for the whole family.

1672 Golf Director Kenny Craig added We intend to showcase East Lothian at its very best during our festival day on July 12th. Spectators will be entertained by many off-course activities, including MOCGC member David Edwards spectacular golf trick show, golf history tours of the clubhouse and surrounding area and a tented village for local East Lothian producers to show off their superb range of products. There will be no charge for those wishing to just come along and enjoy the activities. It will be a superb family and community day out and everyone is welcome, including non-golfers.

Early bird registration for the tournament is currently priced at £399, space is limited and early booking is recommended to avoid disappointment. For full competition details, itinerary and registration forms visit www.golfworldsoldest.co.uk.

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1672 Golf Management Solutions Ltd. Attention: Press Officer 10 Balcarres Road Musselburgh, East Lothian Scotland, EH21 7SD Tel: +44 (0)131 228 5824 Fax: +44 (0)131 653 1770 Mobile: 0772 5589 353 press@1672golf.co.uk www.mocgc.co.uk www.golfworldsoldest.co.uk
Musselburgh Old Course Golf Club Attention: Robin McGregor 10 Balcarres Road Musselburgh EH21 7SD Tel: +44(0)131 665 6981 Fax: +44(0)131 653 1770 Mobile: +44(0)771 4610549 secretary@mocgc.com www.mocgc.co.uk www.golfworldsoldest.co.uk