

## **#Our Elgin**

*After her recent appearance in the Duke of York Young Champions Trophy at Castle Stuart, we continue the 'Our Elgin' website features with Sarah Westwood.*

*The 16-year-old is enjoying her golf, especially within the ladies' section, and hopes to act as an inspiration to encourage more young girls along to the club...*

### **Sarah, how long have you played golf for?**

I started when I was about eight, but I only started playing competitions about three years ago. My handicap is down to five, I got cut quite a lot this year. I've won medals at the club and also won the handicap event in the ladies' club championship earlier this year.

### **Why have you played the sport more in the last few years?**

I'm just really interested in it now, and really enjoying it. Everyone that plays seems to be so nice and good fun, so it's good.

### **Who do you play with?**

I'm one of the few girls, but the ladies section is amazing and they are really nice to me. The ladies are always interested in how I'm getting on, really buzzing for me, which is really nice. I also play for the Northern Counties and there are girls within that. I won the Northern Counties girls scratch this year, too.

### **How did your appearance in the Duke of York event, a big international golf tournament for boys and girls, come about?**

As it was played at Castle Stuart, the club asked the organisers if they could have two local players play in it who have done well – so they picked one girl and one boy. I was lucky enough to be picked, along with Calum Scott from Nairn. I was very excited to play in it.

I didn't feel that nervous, but I didn't play at all like I have played the whole season. The weather was also not great at all, really windy. I learnt where my weaknesses are and it really showed over a course like Castle Stuart. I know where I can improve, which helped me. It was an amazing experience, including the dinner before the event and the presentation at the end with the Duke of York. I really enjoyed it.

### **Where do you see your golf going?**

I'm taking a gap year after leaving school to work on my golf. I'm also working at WHSmith. I'm looking into going to Elmwood College to go into golf coaching. I like the idea of that, so we will see how things go.

### **How much do you enjoy Elgin GC?**

I really like the ladies' section and it would be nice to have more junior girls involved. The club are trying as much as they can and I would perhaps like to help out with the coaching. Maybe if the young girls see that a girl is doing pretty well they may want to get involved too. Many of the top men players at Elgin are very interested in my golf as well.

Follow more from Sarah on Twitter @sarahwestwood\_