



Sandwich Life Association Golf Print By Michael Brown

Michael Brown

Sold



REF: 29439

Height: 22.5 cm (8.9")

Width: 36 cm (14.2")

Framed Height: 44.5 cm (17.5")

Framed Width: 58 cm (22.8")

Framed Depth: 58 cm (22.8")

Description

Michael Brown Life Association Golf Photogravure.

A golf photogravure after Michael Brown: Golf Tournament At Sandwich - Match Between J.H. Taylor And D. Rolland, 15th June 1894, from his famous series of scenes commissioned by the Life Association of Scotland for their calendars. This was published for the 1895 calendar and is of the match play tournament arranged by the St George's Golf Club. It was held on the following Thursday and Friday after the 34th Open Golf Championship (also held at Sandwich) and was between eight amateurs and eight professional players. Douglas Rolland reached the final in which he defeated J H Taylor by 2 and 1, Douglas Rolland can be seen in the final, putting on the 18th green in this wonderful golf print. The print is in its original period oak frame with a 'Key to the picture' on the reverse and lists the many famous golfers who were there watching the match. The last image is a copy of the key which is a little clearer to read. Some of the golfers present were:- W Auchterlonie, A Herd, HH Hilton, B Sayers, Horace Hutchinson, FG Tait, A Kirkcaldy, A Simpson, Charlie Hunter, John Ball Jr, W Park, Tom Morris & JH Taylor.

The Life Association of Scotland was established in 1838 in Edinburgh. In the late 1800's golf courses were being established all over Scotland and the financial community set up the Insurance & Banking Golf Club on the Duddingston estate in 1895, beneath the spectacular backdrop of the extinct volcano, Arthur's Seat. To mark the opening of the extended Club House, Michael Brown was commissioned to paint a scene from an exhibition golf match at the Club. The 1899 Life Association of Scotland calendar used this image as its center piece. It was such a marketing success Brown was then commissioned to annually paint a golfing picture until 1916, prints were made of these originals and glued to the cardboard calendar that the Life Association of Scotland produced. Brown's original paintings adorned the walls of the Edinburgh head office for many years.

Taken from the 'Earlsferry Thistle Golf Club' website:-

Douglas Rolland (1861-1914), John Erskine Stewart Douglas Rolland was born in Kilconquhar, Fife in 1861 and was a stonemason prior to becoming a golf professional. He was also a cousin of James Braid. His first golf club as with the Simpson brothers and James Braid was Earlsferry Thistle. Douglas Rolland played for the Thistle Golf Club for a number of years and won the Club's oldest trophy the Burgh Medal five times in 1877, 1888, 1882, 1883 and 1884. Bernard Darwin's 1952 biography of James Braid makes several references to Douglas Rolland and golf matches he was involved in. Darwin describes Rolland as one of the most famous of golf's uncrowned kings. In a match in 1884 Rolland and Jack Simpson from the Thistle defeated the scratch pairing of Horace Hutchinson and Leslie Balfour at St Andrews both in morning and afternoon rounds. Around the same time a challenge was issued from Hoylake Golf Club from the friends of Amateur John Ball (Open Champion in 1890) backing him to play any amateur a home and away match. The challenge was taken up by Douglas Rolland who won 9 up at Elie and added further to his lead at Hoylake. Another 36-hole match was pl...