



Hickory Shafted Gourlay Putter

Sold



REF: 27071

Height: 89 cm (35")

Description

Vintage Short Hosel Gourlay Putter.

A fine quality hickory shafted putter with a polished leather grip and an unusually short hosel produced by Gourlay, Carnoustie. The club head is shaped very similar to the Arthur Brown and Harry Vardon putter having a very low profile. The face comes to a slight point where the toe rounds down to meet the sole and has a triangular line and dot pattern, the back being rounded. Stamped on the club head the 'Crescent Moon & Star' cleek mark of the Gourlay forge, the word 'Gourlay', 'Teacher', warranted hand forged and the oval clubmakers stamp of 'J.C. Smith & Son, Monifieth'. The club has been re-shafted sometime in its life with a hickory shaft stamped 'Forgan, St. Andrews'.

The Gourlay family came from Carnoustie and both father and son were named James. The Gourlay's made clubs for many years and forged many club heads for Robert Simpson and other club makers. These heads can be identified by the Gourlay cleek marks of the 'anchor', 'moon & star' or 'horseshoe'.

J.C. Smith & Son was a family firm founded in 1870 west of Carnoustie, near the Monifieth Links. J.C. Smith (1832 - 1907) worked at the local foundry and made clubs in his spare time. He made fine quality clubs and demand was so great that he started his own club making business. In the late 1890's his son Robert D. Smith 'Bob' took over the business making and selling clubs to the locals around Dundee, Monifieth and Carnoustie. Bob was a fine golfer playing in local competitions but preferred club making. After his father died he changed the name stamp to R.D. Smith and continued the business until 1930.