

CHESHIRE COUNTY GOLF PARTNERSHIP

Press release

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For immediate release

CAPTION: Chester's Town Crier David Mitchell (picture 1) gives golf a go on the putting mat at the Chester Marathon watched by Cheshire Golf Partnership events co-ordinator Gavin Johnson, while Chester Football Club's mascot also joined in the fun (picture 2).

CHESHIRE'S drive to encourage more people to get into golf has plenty to shout about – thanks to Chester's Town Crier.

David Mitchell, who delivers regular proclamations in the city during the summer months, joined in the fun when the Cheshire County Golf Partnership showcased what the sport has to offer at the Chester Marathon.

The race – which attracts a field of 5,000 runners – starts and finishes at Chester racecourse, close to the city centre.

The Get into golf event is part of a wide-range of activities being staged in the county to promote the health and social benefits of the sport and to make it as easy as possible for people to find a route into trying the game and moving on to become future golf club members.

Cheshire CGP development officer Craig Thomas saddled up to join the cycletta event in Tatton Park.

Cheshire Cycletta was the biggest of five being held around the country, with more than 800 female cyclists taking part who were supported by family and friends.

The team from the Cheshire CGP also visited the Chester Academy to offer golf as part of a mini Olympics being held for staff.

Says Craig Thomas, Cheshire CGP development officer: "These events are a great platform to show what golf has to offer to a wider audience of people – many of whom are already interested in sport and living a healthy and active life.

"It is a chance to inform people of the many schemes which make it even easier – and cheaper – to receive top class coaching from the county's professionals, who can then help someone develop their playing skills and create a pathway into potential golf club membership.

“We had a lot of interest at all the events in what golf can offer and hopefully this will help change people’s perceptions of the sport and encourage them to give it a go.”

Says Melanie Flude, regional development officer for England Golf: “It is important golf adopts a proactive approach to spreading the message about how much fun it can be as well as the health and social benefits associated with a regular round of golf in the fresh air.

“These events are a chance to move away from the obvious places to promote the sport and to engage with a different audience.”

Get into golf is a national campaign to inspire new golfers run by the England Golf Partnership through its network of County Golf Partnerships, which work to grow the game.

Get into golf opportunities include free or low-cost beginner courses with PGA professionals. They are a fun and sociable way to start golf – and a great way to make new friends.

To find your nearest centre visit getintogolf.org and look at the activity map or call 0800 118 2766

For more details on the work of the Cheshire CGP visit www.cheshiregolfpartnership.com

The England Golf Partnership (EGP) brings together the amateur governing body, England Golf and the PGA, to grow the game with the support of the Golf Foundation and Sport England.

County Golf Partnerships, involving the county men’s women’s and professional organisations, are part of the EGP’s Whole Sport Plan for golf and an integral part of its vision to make England the world’s leading golf nation by 2020.

In Cheshire the partnership is supported by the Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs, the Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association and the Cheshire and North Wales PGA.

For more details of the activities in Cheshire visit www.cheshiregolfpartnership.com

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