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Time capsule burial to mark end of anniversary year for Dornoch golf

ROYAL Dornoch Golf Club (RDGC) has buried a time capsule near the 18th green on the world famous course.

The capsule, which is not to be opened until 2116, was placed in a hole in the ground at the start of a path that leads from the green to the clubhouse.

The burial ceremony took place on Monday, January 2, following the East of the Burn v West of the Burn match.

RDGC general manager Neil Hampton said the event marked the end of a prestigious year for the club which celebrated 400 years of golf in 2016.

He added that the choice of items to put in the time capsule had caused some interesting discussions among club members.

He said: "Our older members thought about the changes that had happened in their lifetimes while younger members thought about the developments they were likely to see over the next 100 years."

In the end the container was filled with items marking the year-long celebrations such as a pin flag signed by all the Royal Dornoch staff.

Also included were electronic media printed images of the events and also of those who attended - professional golfers, celebrities, club members and local residents.

And there was also one very important item which golf club managers particularly wanted to put in - a copy of



RDGC captain Alan Ramsey puts a copy of the Northern Times into the capsule.

the Northern Times containing a report on the 400 year celebrations.

Local youth groups were also included in the time capsule initiative.

Lynne Mahoney, curator of Dornoch museum, Historylinks, worked with

local Brownies and Boys Brigade members on a collage that has been rolled up and put inside the cylinder.

The collage is a visual depiction of the organisations the children belong to and also of what life is like for them in 2016.

It also outlines the children's predictions for life in 2116.

Joan Bishop, chairwoman of Dornoch Area Community Interest Company (DACIC) said: "2016 has been a wonderful year for us here in Dornoch. Royal Dornoch Golf Club's celebrations and the embracing of the event by the local business, local people, schools and organisation have created such a positive sense of community. If we capture that in the Capsule it will be brilliant."

The spot chosen for the capsule means that all who play the championship course over the next 100 years, will walk over it.

A plaque has been placed above it, with instructions for the box to be opened in 100 years.

Mr Hampton said: "We hope that many of the youngest involved will be there to open the capsule when Royal Dornoch and the community celebrate 500 years of golf in Dornoch."

Royal Dornoch Golf Club was founded in the late 19th Century as a private members Club, and was given the Royal title by King Edward VII in 1906 but records show that golf was informally played on the links as far back as 1616.