



Rudding Park

YOUNG FUNDRAISERS TO PLAY RUDDING PARK AS PART OF NATIONWIDE GOLF MARATHON IN AID OF MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE



On Thursday 18 September 2008, Durham student Charlie Thomson, 21, will play the Championship Hawtree course at Rudding Park as part of a five-day nationwide 'Golf Marathon' to raise money for the Motor Neurone Disease Association. Together with an old school friend, Tom Newman, also 21, the pair will be playing 18 holes of golf, at ten different courses, in ten different counties from 15-19 September, testing their golfing skills, fitness and mental toughness.

Charlie's Uncle suffered from Motor Neurone Disease, a devastating terminal disease that leaves people unable to walk, talk or feed themselves. After witnessing the devastation of MND personally, Charlie and Tom, both from Esher, decided to raise money to help others who are currently living with the disease. They are attempting to raise in excess of £2000 through donations for the MND Association on their Just Giving website.

After teeing off in Hampshire, they will be making their way up the country, via Harrogate's Rudding Park, before teeing off at the tenth course in Fife, Scotland, four days later. By playing at courses across the country they are hoping to raise considerable awareness about the MND Association and the amazing support they give to sufferers throughout the UK. All of the golf courses have sponsored the pair to play at their respective clubs and corporate sponsorship will be covering the running costs of the event thus every single penny raised will go directly to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Despite the fundraising incentive, Charlie admits that there is an intense rivalry between the two, 'Tom and I play golf together regularly and while our main aim with the Golf Marathon is to raise as much money as possible we will both be desperate to come out with the lowest score by the end of the week!'

PHOTO/INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY: Charlie and Tom will be teeing off on Rudding Park's Hawtree course at 9.30am on Thursday 18 September 2008

*Donations to this cause can be made at www.justgiving.com/jamieandbructhomson
or for more information please visit www.mndgolfmarathon.com*

Notes to Editors:

For high resolution photography or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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Background on Motor Neurone Disease

- *MND is a rapidly progressive, fatal disease that can affect any adult at any time. The cause of MND is unknown and there is no cure.*
- *The disease leaves people unable to walk, talk or feed themselves, but the intellect and the senses are usually unaffected.*
- *It affects around 5,000 people in the UK at any one time. Half will die within 14 months of diagnosis.*
- *The MND Association co-ordinates support, guidance and advice for people affected by MND, while promoting research into causes, treatments and a cure.*

For further information on the MND Association please contact Louise Carter, PR & Media Officer, on 01604 611843 or email louise.carter@mndassociation.org