

Cluny Clays joins forces with clubgolf.

Aspiring young golfers in the Glenrothes and Kirkcaldy area have the perfect opportunity to take up the game after Cluny Clays joined forces with **clubgolf**.

The new addition of Cluny Clays adds another essential link in the chain in providing Fife children the opportunity to learn and play golf.

*"We'd heard some good reports about **clubgolf** from other Pros who are involved," said Cluny Clays' Pro, Colin Mitchell.*

*"We had tried other junior programmes before but **clubgolf** has got such a good structure, which takes children right through a pathway from complete beginner that we thought it would be the best way to go."*

Colin has already gone the extra mile this year by teaching **clubgolf**'s introductory game, first**clubgolf**, in eight local schools, in his own time. One of the schools, Auchtertool Primary School, enjoyed the experience so much that it now brings its children to Cluny Clays for **clubgolf** Stage 1 coaching on Wednesday afternoons.

During October Cluny Clays opened its **clubgolf** Stage 1 coaching course for local children and 17 children signed up. It is another encouraging sign that golf amongst children is on the up.

clubgolf Stage 1 is normally delivered by qualified volunteer coaches. Cluny Clays is an exception in that its PGA Pro, Colin Mitchell, is giving the coaching. With the golf season effectively over, having a covered facility means the coaching can continue through the winter.

"We are starting by teaching Stage 1 but because I am a Pro I can potentially coach children to the advanced stages," said Colin. "Because 17 of our bays are under cover we have the ideal set up to coach children at any time of the year and in any weather. Our 9-hole course is perfect for children and we will be putting in junior tees next year, so children will have their own course. We also plan to keep the coaching going year round."

clubgolf offers a new approach to junior golf development and Cluny Clays shares a growing view of juniors' importance in the game. *"Children are the future of the game,"* said Colin. *"Getting so many children involved in golf at such a young age never happened before so our aim is to encourage children to play and keep them interested and developing. By teaching them good habits and the right skills they will have a game for life."*