

## **Freddie TAIT at the 'Big Room'**

A truly memorable evening to sit in the 'Big room' at the R&A , steeped in the rich traditions of golf, relaxing in leather chairs, surrounded by oil portraits of the famed and enjoy an enthralling account of Freddie Tait. What a marvellous personality and highly accomplished golfer, winning many famous amateur national trophies and innumerable R&A trophies, undoubtedly Scotland's greatest amateur. This splendid meeting was arranged by R&A member Major Colin Innes, lately of the Black Watch who knew the speaker - Steve Lunderstedt, former Secretary, Kimberley Golf Club, RSA.

Steve gave a marvellous and fascinating talk, liberally illustrated with slides of correspondence, his various trophies and places associated with Freddie - St Andrews, the Black Watch, the Boer War and his present grave in Kimberley. Sitting under Lorimer's famous painting of Freddie on the Old Course with his beloved dog - the ever faithful 'Nails', it was a real pleasure to listen to Steve, clearly an authoritative expert who is publishing a revised biography in two years time.

Some 50 R&A members and guests greatly enjoyed the evening, among them Willie Tait, a great nephew with other family members, golfers from

Luffness New and two stalwarts from BGCS – Philip Trewett and Graeme Lennie. The Freddie Tait Medal and much memorabilia were on display.

Excellent wine and a lavish finger buffet concluded a magnificent evening, only to be ruined the following day when Scotland were trounced by South Africa at Murrayfield, no doubt to Steve's delight. 'Bunker Baird' and 'Palm Tree' are not expecting a recall for Scotland!!

Well done Steve and many thanks for coming to St Andrews.

'Palm Tree' aka Jake Davidson

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